

## West Sussex County Council

### Proposed Executive Decision for **22 February 2019** call-in deadline **5 p.m. on 5 March 2019**

The following proposed decision has been endorsed by the Cabinet Member and will come into effect at the end of the call-in period unless the call-in procedure is activated.

<b>Decision Title &amp; Ref No:</b>	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development funding bid for the Downs Link HI28 18/19
<b>Cabinet Member responsible for Decision</b>	Mr Elkins - Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure
<b>West Sussex Plan priority</b>	A Prosperous Place
<b>Electoral Divisions</b>	All Divisions
<b>Key Decision</b>	Yes
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) finances the European Union's contribution to rural development programmes. West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) submitted an expression of interest in 2018 which was received favorably and approval is now being sought to submit a formal application and to deliver various works along the Downs Link.</p> <p>The Downs Link is an off-road Public Right of Way and the work delivered, if the bid is successful, will enable surfacing improvements along five sections as well as improved signage and interpretation. The funding, if secured, will improve a Public Right of Way that is popular for walking and cycling and is used for both commuting and leisure. It is anticipated that the increase in use, following the improvements, will increase support to local businesses from visitors.</p>
<b>Decision</b>	<p>The Cabinet Member has approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) the submission of the grant funding application for £612,000 to European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) for improvements to the Public Right of Way and promoted route, the Downs Link as described in the report;</li><li>2) the use of existing S106 and Highways Maintenance Block funding in 2019/20 to match fund the bid, as detailed in paragraphs 4.3-4.4.; and</li><li>3) the delegation of authority to the Director of Highways and Transport to a) enter into the necessary legal agreements with the funding body if the bid is successful and b) commence the procurement process</li></ol>

	and award associated contracts to deliver the work.
<b>Interest and nature of interest declared</b>	None
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<b>Background Papers</b>	See report for details