

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet

**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010

**SUBJECT:** Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme

**WARDS AFFECTED:** Ainsdale, Birkdale, Blundellsands, Birkdale, Cambridge, Church, Harrington, Manor, Ravenmeols, Meols.

**REPORT OF:** Leisure and Tourism Director

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Dave McAleavy, Head of Coast and Countryside 0151 934 2961/2377  
W M Moody, Team Leader Environmental Regeneration 0151 934 3608

**EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL:** No

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY:**

To notify Cabinet of the offer of grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and allow officers to develop and run the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme with Sefton acting as the accountable body.

**REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:**

As above.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That Cabinet :**

1. Note the contents of the report on the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme taken to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010.
2. Authorise officers to complete the necessary agreements with partners for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme.
3. Accept, as accountable body, the offer of grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund;
4. Authorise the Legal Director to enter into a contract with the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme.

**FORWARD PLAN:** Yes

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** Immediately following expiry of the call in period

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Budget/Policy Framework:**

**Financial:** The Sefton Coast Landscape Project involves the management of many coastal schemes, with the Council acting as lead Authority and Accountable body, and with the participation and involvement of many Partner Groups over a 3-year period.

This report seeks Member approval to sign up to the drawdown of £1.174m of Heritage Lottery Funding (mostly revenue). In addition to this, match funding from Sefton's own budgeted resources totalling £0.262m has been identified, together with Partner Funding of £0.079m towards the project. There are also some 'in kind' matched elements of funding totalling £0.415m, making the overall project resources worth £1.93m. The analysis of funding by scheme is shown in annex A to this report.

<b><u>CAPITAL</u></b> <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>2010/ 2011</b> £	<b>2011/ 2012</b> £	<b>2012/ 2013</b> £	<b>2013/ 2014</b> £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by: Heritage Lottery Fund				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				

<b><u>REVENUE</u></b>	<b>2010/ 2011</b>	<b>2011/ 2012</b>	<b>2012/ 2013</b>	<b>2013/ 2014</b>
<b><u>IMPLICATIONS</u></b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	250,000	520,000	345,000	59,000
Funded by: Heritage Lottery Grant	250,000	520,000	345,000	59,000
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

**Legal:**

See Body of the report

**Risk Assessment:**

The Stage 2 application required the scheme to be risk assessed.

**Asset Management:**

In respect of Sefton, the outcomes of the LPS will be to improve the quality of the coastal landholdings. Where it relates to the Sefton Coast Partnership, the opportunities for Sefton residents to increase awareness and gain access to the coast will be enhanced considerably.

**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

The development of LPS has been based on a wide consultation with partners and local communities.

Legal Director

FD 388 -The Head of Corporate Services and IT Strategy has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into the report

Sefton Coast Partnership Board

**CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:**

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	x		
2	Creating Safe Communities	x		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	x		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	x		
5	Environmental Sustainability	x		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	x		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	x		
8	Children and Young People	x		

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT**

Report to cabinet member of tourism appended to this report (see appendix one).

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 A report dated 21 April 2010, see appendix one, was submitted to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism. The report described the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS), the projects it will deliver and its current stage of development. The Cabinet Member noted the report and resolved that
- officers be authorised to progress the necessary partnership agreements,
  - prepare a Cabinet report which considers the financial and legal implications of the scheme while recommending how the scheme will be run with Sefton as accountable body,
  - prepare a report to request that Cabinet approve the scheme.

It was also resolved that officers continue discussions with Heritage Lottery with a view to entering into a legal agreement following approval from Cabinet and work with the Sefton Coast Partnership to publicise the scheme. The report identified two areas, financial and legal, that would be developed further and reported to Cabinet. This work has taken place and is now reported here together with appropriate recommendations.

- 1.2 In summary it is proposed that SMBC as the accountable body will enter into a contract with HLF to deliver a scheme of coastal projects worth £1,929,673. Sefton will be responsible for the financial management of the whole scheme, however, the projects will be led and delivered by SMBC and some will be delivered by partner organisations based on the coast. In the case of the latter, Sefton will claim the grant from HLF and grant fund partners for their respective projects subject to agreed work being completed and conditions being met.

## **2. Financial**

- 2.1 The total cost of the LPS is £1,929,673 and HLF have offered £1,174,000 towards this. The remaining funding has been secured from various sources. This includes cash and in kind contributions from various SMBC departments and members of the Sefton Coast Partnership (SCP). The in-kind contributions include work and time by volunteers and staff of the organisations who are part of the SCP which, under the rules of the HLF, we are allowed value and include as a contribution towards the total cost.
- 2.2 The table at Annex A summarises how the LPS is financially structured. A large number of the projects that make up the LPS are SMBC led projects.

### 2.3 Key points to note are:

- Availability of funding under existing Sefton budgets have been confirmed by budget holders and have appropriate approvals
- A contingency sum and allowance for inflation has been included
- The grant is 61% of total costs. HLF will reduce grant accordingly if total spend is less than the figure shown.
- The grant from HLF includes the employment of two members of staff. These staff will be critical to the delivery, management of the scheme, claiming funding and managing risk.

## 3. Legal

3.1 The HLF legal agreement/contract has been received and requires completing within 21 days. However, due to the Council committee cycle, this is not possible and officers have requested an extension until Cabinet can consider this report for approval. The Legal Director has been consulted on both the Heritage Lottery contract and the partnership agreements. The Cabinet Member asks that Cabinet consider the recommendations in the report and accept the offer of grant from HLF on behalf of the Sefton Coast Partnership and, that the Legal Director and Leisure Director be authorised to agree and enter into a contract with HLF.

3.2 The most salient and relevant conditions from the HLF contract require Sefton to

- Use the grant for the agreed purpose
- Manage the scheme appropriately
- Monitor and report progress and outputs
- Use suitable contracts with contractors and third parties
- Follow HLF's publicity guidelines
- Repay grant under specified circumstances
- Confirm project is state aid exempt or equivalent
- Submit base line data, outputs and targets

3.3 It is important that the project commences as soon as possible after the Cabinet meeting, as a number of projects require further work to allow them to commence on time and take advantage of the funding identified in the report.

3.4 Partnership Agreements with partners will be put into place requiring them to deliver their projects. Suitable legal agreements will be required to ensure that Sefton are not put at risk by the failure of a partner to deliver or meet the conditions of the HLF grant.

3.5 In terms of the agreements with partners, ie Natural England, RSPB, National Trust, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and the Mersey Forest, these are in draft form.

They are based on examples used in other LPS projects that HLF have provided for us. Sefton have entered into in agreements in similar situations and it is requested that the Director's of Leisure and Tourism & Legal are authorised to prepare and execute these agreements. The projects generally involve small simple projects and legal agreements will be proportionate to this. Nonetheless, it is important that the agreements:

- Describe the project and key milestones to measure progress and completion
- Pass the requirements of HLF to the partner in particular conditions relating to repayment of grant
- Make the payment of grant conditional on the partner satisfying the above
- If possible, make payment of partner subject to Sefton's receipt of grant from HLF
- Identify how arbitration/disputes will be handled
- Address how lack of performance will be dealt with

3.5 In terms of the risk associated with the scheme, a full risk assessment was carried out as part of the application to Lottery. This identified that in terms of failing to deliver the required outcomes, the biggest risk was the failure of individual projects through poor management. However, the risk assessment did conclude that all risk was reasonable and could be managed. In terms of risk to Sefton as the accountable body, we felt that as long as the project and the funding is managed correctly risk is minimal. The agreements with partner organisations will be critical in minimising risk to Sefton. As stated above, the team funded through the project will also play a critical role in ensuring we meet the terms of our legal agreement with HLF.

#### **4. Recommendations**

##### **That Cabinet :**

- 4.1 Note the contents of the report on the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme taken to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010.
- 4.2 Authorise officers to complete the necessary agreements with partners for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme.
- 4.3 Accept, as accountable body, the offer of grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
- 4.4 Authorise the Legal Director to enter into a contract with the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme for a period of three years

## Annex A

Scheme Detail	Existing Sefton Budgets £	HLF Funding £	Partner Spending £	In Kind Cost £	Project Totals
<b>SEFTON LED SCHEMES</b>					
1.1 Marshside	106,680	27,500	8,000	20,100	162,280
1.4 Ainsdale Trails	6,000	54,160		6,438	66,598
1.5 Publications etc	43,750	53,720	7,750	32,280	137,500
2.2 Dunes & Scrub	27,000	147,500		11,954	186,454
2.5 Wetlands	8,000	18,330		15,837	42,167
3.1 Ainsdale Link	41,860	48,100			89,960
4.1 Health Walks		30,000		26,650	56,650
4.4 Ravenmeols		12,350		4,725	17,075
4.5 Sefton Coast Path	28,320	30,000		5,350	63,670
Administration - Inflation		15,466			15,466
Contingency		88,156			88,156
Overheads		231,250			231,250
<b>TOTAL SEFTON LED SCHEMES</b>	<b>261,610</b>	<b>756,532</b>	<b>15,750</b>	<b>123,334</b>	<b>1,157,226</b>
<b>PARTNER LED SCHEMES</b>					
1.2 My Coast		34,080		13,500	47,580
1.3 Archaeology Volunteers		23,708		102,348	126,056
2.1 Dune Health		9,160	2,350	3,050	14,560
2.3 Asparagus		32,782	36,300	14,900	83,982
2.4 Coastal Woodlands		45,600		7,626	53,226
3.2 Ainsdale NNR		70,091	25,000	20,120	115,211
3.3 Lifelong Learning		68,975		45,685	114,660
4.2 Community Archaeology		84,770		84,100	168,870
<b>TOTAL PARTNER LED</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>369,166</b>	<b>63,650</b>	<b>291,329</b>	<b>724,145</b>
<b>IN KIND GRANT/CONT'N</b>		<b>48,302</b>			<b>48,302</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>261,610</b>	<b>1,174,000</b>	<b>79,400</b>	<b>414,663</b>	<b>1,929,673</b>



**Appendix one – Report to Cabinet Member for Leisure 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010**

**REPORT TO:** Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism

**DATE:** 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010

**SUBJECT:** Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme

**WARDS  
AFFECTED:** Ainsdale, Birkdale, Blundellsands, Birkdale, Cambridge,  
Church, Harrington, Ravenmeols, Meols.

**REPORT OF:** Leisure and Tourism Director

**CONTACT  
OFFICER:** W M Moody, Landscape Partnership Manager 0151 934  
2963  
Dave McAleavy, Head of Coast and Countryside 0151 934  
2961/2377

**EXEMPT/  
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

**PURPOSE/SUMMARY:**

To advise the Cabinet Member of the progress of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme, the receipt of an offer letter from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the next steps to be taken.

**REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:**

To allow officers to continue to develop the scheme, its constituent projects, legal and financial arrangements and a cabinet report which will seek full approval to run the scheme with Sefton as the accountable body.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism:**

1. It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism notes the report and
  - a) Authorise officers to progress the necessary partnership agreements with partners of the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme;
  - b) Authorise officers to prepare a Cabinet report which considers the

financial and legal implications of the scheme, recommends how the scheme is to be run with Sefton as the accountable body and requests Cabinet to approve the scheme.

- c) Authorise officers to continue discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund with a view to entering into a legal agreement following approval from cabinet.
- d) Authorise officers to work with the Sefton Coast Partnership to publicise the offer of grant in accordance with the offer from Heritage Lottery Fund.

**KEY DECISION:** Yes

**FORWARD PLAN:** Yes

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE:** June 2010

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Budget/Policy Framework:**

**Financial:**

<b><u>CAPITAL</u></b> <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>2010/ 2011 £</b>	<b>2011/ 2012 £</b>	<b>2012/ 2013 £</b>	<b>2013/ 2014 £</b>
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by: Heritage Lottery Fund				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<b><u>REVENUE</u></b> <b><u>IMPLICATIONS</u></b>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

**Legal:** See Body of the report

**Risk Assessment:** The Stage 2 application required the scheme to be risk assessed.

**Asset Management:** In respect of Sefton, the outcomes of the LPS will be to improve the quality of the coastal landholdings. Where it relates to the Sefton Coast Partnership, the opportunities for Sefton residents to increase awareness and gain access to the coast will be enhanced considerably.

**CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS**

The development of LPS has been based on a wide consultation with partners and local communities.

Legal Director

FD 376 -The Head of Corporate Services and IT Strategy has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into the report

Sefton Coast Partnership Board

## CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	x		
2	Creating Safe Communities	x		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	x		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	x		
5	Environmental Sustainability	x		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	x		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	x		
8	Children and Young People	x		

## LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

### 1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme (LPS) aims to fund a number of projects which will make the Sefton Coast more accessible, protect its character, improve understanding and put skills into place which will help its long-term future. The scheme is led by Sefton Council on behalf of the Sefton Coast Partnership Board. It is proposed that Sefton will be the accountable body for the scheme. The funding for the scheme is from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and the members of the Sefton Coast Partnership.
- 1.2 The LPS has gone through a number of stages commencing in 2007 with the awarding of a planning grant from HLF to prepare a Stage 1 application (development stage), consequently, receiving a stage one pass and an approval in principle to develop the scheme. The project received a development grant for this purpose from HLF in November 2008 HLF. Sefton accepted this on behalf of the partnership and the project was developed during 2009 - the stage two application was submitted in November 2009.

HLF approved this application and made the Council an offer on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 of £1,174,000. This offer is subject to contract. The contract was received on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

- 1.3 This report describes the scheme's current position and the next steps to be taken.

## 2. PROJECT DETAIL

- 2.1 The Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme has a number of strategic goals, but it essentially consists of nineteen projects delivered by the various organisations that operate on the coast. It also includes a small team who will manage delivery of the scheme and deliver a number of the projects.

- 2.2 The projects are varied. They include education projects, health projects, physical improvements to paths and buildings and restoration of habitats. The projects shown below have been developed to a reasonable level of detail to satisfy HLF and risk assessments were completed as part of the Stage 2 application process. The projects are:

- **Reconnecting Marshside with its Coastal Heritage** – this project will develop access for pedestrians, wheelchair users and cyclists alongside Marshside Road to reconnect the local community to the coast. The project also celebrates traditions and land use, supports the community's understanding of the area and helps people discover the local heritage. The project involves the North Meols Civic Society, the RSPB and Sefton Council.
- **My Coast my Future** – a coast-wide project and a three-year programme involving schools along the coast will be delivered in two parts. The North Sefton City Learning Centre will undertake consultation with land managers to develop projects and coordinate fieldwork, IT input, outputs and establishment of a project website. The LPS team will support activities with parents and the community. This project is based on a successful pilot in 2007 and will involve 'clusters' of schools. In each project there may be two secondary schools working with five primary schools.
- **Archaeology Volunteers and Heritage Training** – this project aims to recruit and train a group of volunteers to continue field studies on the changing coast, collecting information and sharing this with the National Museums Liverpool. The project will focus on recording archaeological evidence and integrating this with the interpretation of the coastal heritage, the promotion of historic routes, and interpretation of geomorphology and coastal change.
- **Coastal Trails at Ainsdale and Birkdale** – the project will provide new and improved access to the Ainsdale and Birkdale Local Nature Reserve and

adjacent beaches, by developing new marked trails across the three main sections of the nature reserve. Notably, the Birkdale Hills to complete an access network that complements the all abilities route as part of the Southport Cycling Town project, the Ainsdale sandhills to improve the dune trail and improvements & an extension of the Velvet Trail from Birkdale to Ainsdale – the latter in conjunction with Birkdale Civic Society. This project will also provide information and interpretation and provide links to the main access routes.

- **Publications** – this project will create and promote a range of publications for the coast, which contribute to the visitors' awareness of opportunities for coastal recreation and enjoyment. The publications will promote the coast's special values and wherever possible will be accessible to visually impaired readers and will include a publication for younger visitors.
- **Sand Dune Heath Restoration Project** – this project will identify the current extent and condition of dune heath and opportunities for extending this habitat. It will investigate and trial techniques for heath restoration on adjacent acid grassland and will implement successful techniques on various sites. The project also aims to reintroduce the Sand Lizard to the largest block of dune heath at Freshfield and strengthen the population of this animal in the dunes at Hightown.
- **Dune and Scrub Management** – this project is mainly concerned with the management of the open dune system. It will develop a balanced approach to scrub management on the nature conservation sites, by tackling the problem of invasive scrub while implementing sustainable practices such as grazing and the conservation of scrub features for habitat and landscape values. This project will target areas of the Sefton Coast SSSI and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) in Unfavourable Condition and declining to assist land managers in restoring the dune landscape to Favourable Condition. The majority of this work will take place on the Birkdale Hills unit of the SSSI in the ownership of Sefton Council and will assist the Council in resolving a 'risk' identified in the Leisure and Tourism Service Delivery Plan.
- **Asparagus Trail** – this project celebrates the cultivation of Formby asparagus and extension of the current area of asparagus farming at Freshfield. The local interest in preserving this tradition will see the development of a project by the National Trust and the Formby Civic Society that will find more out about the history of asparagus farming, record the surviving cultivation, ridges and landscape, produce a booklet on its history and cultivation methods and create an interpretative trail round part of the area.
- **Conserving Coastal Woodlands** – this project will develop the long-term objectives of the woodland plan that will be reformulated following a consultation that will involve the local community. It will provide a

management plan for the period 2013 – 2022. Training and awareness programmes will be run throughout the project period to supplement and feed into the consultation period. The outcome will be a woodland plan for the ten-year period that will be embedded in and understood by the local community.

- **Wetland Conservation** – this project will focus on the restoration and management of wetland features. Natural dune wetlands are known as slacks and this important feature of the Sefton Coast requires special management to maintain a full range of habitats and species. Coastal slacks are in various stages of development with some lost or in serious danger of losing their diversity due to scrubbing up, invasive non-native species or atmospheric Nitrogen deposition.
- **Ainsdale Link Path** – the aim of this project is to provide a high quality, safe, multi-use access to the National Nature Reserve. The existing underpass will be improved to provide all ability use and to allow cycle access at a key junction in the access network. The project will connect the village and schools to the nature reserves on their doorstep. This project is one of two all-abilities route upgrades originally planned for the Ainsdale and Birkdale area, but because of funding availability during the development stage of LPS and timescales that required a Stage 2 submission in Oct/Nov 2009 the Birkdale Hills route was not included in this programme. However, some Members will now be aware that funding for the Birkdale Hills route has since become available from Cycling England as part of the Southport Cycling Town Project and because of delays in implementing the scheme it now falls within the project period for the LPS and will complete the network of coastal all-abilities routes originally planned for Ainsdale and Birkdale.
- **Local Community and Resource Centre** – this project on the Ainsdale Sand Dunes NNR will convert an old office building into a community interpretation and educational resource centre housing landscape and coastal heritage themed displays and educational materials. The project will also provide new all-ability access to part of the National Nature Reserve linked to the development of the community resource centre and wildlife garden.
- **Lifelong Learning** – this project will coordinate and deliver a number of sub-projects linked formal education, young people and lifelong learning. Training for staff, volunteers and community groups forms a key element of the project. The projects is linked to a coastal communities theme and is supported by the feedback received from community workshops, but will also help across the projects and programmes by offering training formal education opportunities.
- **Communication** – this project will significantly add to the current level of communication, discussion and consensus building delivered by the Sefton Coast Partnership. The project responds to the strong support for improved

communications and dialogue that came from the community consultations and from current issues concerning landscape change.

- **Active Coast Health Walks** – this project will extend the Sefton active walks programme with a series of longer, landscape-based walks. The primary aim will remain health walks based on the ‘walking the way to health’ initiative.
- **Community Archaeology** – to engage local communities in archaeological investigations that tell different aspects of the coastal story. The projects will provide an opportunity for training and group activity. This project is about discovering the coastal heritage and will allow communities to take an interest in aspects of local history.
- **Sefton Coast Interpretative Programme** – this project will develop a thematic interpretation project for Sefton’s Natural Coast based on themes identified in the Communications, Interpretation and Visitor Product Development Plan. The project is important as it makes a significant contribution towards helping people discover the coastal heritage. The interpretative themes will help to show how the dynamic coast functions, how the land has been managed for centuries and how local communities have defined a sense of place. This project will advise on interpretation across all the projects and programmes.
- **Ravenmeols Heritage Trails** – This project is concerned with discovering the coastal heritage on this part of the coast and will tell the story of how the landscape has changed over time and how communities have used in the past to today. The project will create a ‘living landscape trail’ on the Ravenmeols Dunes and Woodlands Local Nature Reserve, involve the local community through the Formby Civic Society in developing the trail and conserve local historical features.
- **Sefton Coastal Path** – this project will establish the coastal footpath as the main artery connecting the coastal gateways of Crosby, Formby, Ainsdale and Formby. The project will raise standards at specific locations along the coast and aim to promote the route and opportunities for communities and visitors.

2.3 The projects were developed through extensive consultation. The scheme has been presented at Formby and Crosby Area Committees. The scheme has been developed with the cooperation and full support of a number of council departments, notably, Leisure and Tourism, Planning and Economic Development and Technical Services. The scheme will benefit local communities and visitors to the coast.

### 3. **Financial**

- 3.1 The total cost of the LPS, as approved by HLF is £1,929,673. HLF have offered £1,174,000 towards this. The remainder is made up of cash or in-kind, ie staff or volunteer time, from Sefton or partners. This match funding has been secured and will be detailed in a full cabinet report.
- 3.2 It is proposed that Sefton Council are the accountable body for the scheme. How this will work and be managed, the breakdown of capital revenue and other arrangements necessary will be fully detailed for approval of cabinet in due course.

#### **4. Legal**

- 4.5 The HLF legal agreement/contract has been received and requires completing within 21 days, however, due to the Council committee cycle, this is not possible and officers have requested an extension until Cabinet can consider this report for approval. The Legal Director has been consulted on both the Heritage Lottery contract and possible agreements with partners.
- 4.6 Partnership Agreements with partners will need to be put into place requiring them to deliver their projects. These will need to ensure that Sefton are not put at risk by the failure of a partner to deliver or meet the conditions of the HLF grant. This will be fully explained in the cabinet report.

#### **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 It is noted that the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme offer of grant has been received and that this is the largest awarded to the Sefton Coast Partnership in the last 25 years. The scheme will generate considerable local community involvement, training for staff and volunteers & will implement both physical and intellectual access opportunities on the coast.
- 5.2 Officers continue to develop the legal and financial arrangements to deliver the scheme with Sefton as the lead and accountable body and that these will be fully detailed in a report for the meeting of Cabinet of the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010.