

## RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY A CABINET MEMBER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
Cllr Arooj Shah	Delegated Decision in relation to Business Grants	29 January 2019

### Award of a Business Improvement Grant in Shaw district centre

#### Decision (s)

Approve a max grant award of £8,000 Business Improvement Grant to The Gin Gin Bar Ltd in respect of 1 Milnrow Road, Shaw

<b>Exempt/Confidential Report</b>		<b>No</b>
<b>Key Decision</b>		<b>No</b>

#### Reasons for the decision(s)

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to award a Business Improvement Grant in Shaw District Centre.

The Council recognises the important role that independent businesses play in sustaining the vibrancy and vitality of our high streets and has developed a Business Improvement Grant scheme for Shaw District Centre. Discretionary grants of 50% of the costs of improvements, up to a maximum of £8,000, are available.

The Gin Gin Bar Ltd is a new business which has taken over the vacant premises at 1 Milnrow Road, Shaw. The property is a former locksmiths with a flat above and planning permission has been granted for the change of use to a Gin Bar with ancillary office office use (PA/341884/18).

The property is undergoing a complete renovation and the works will include changing the shop front, install quality roller shutters and add upmarket illuminated signage. Install toilets, both downstairs and upstairs. Re-level the flooring and install a quality durable flooring system. Install lighting, bar fixtures and fittings. Structural work to the rear to open up the rear of the shop to install a wider toilet that can accommodate disabled access. Brick up the existing rear door. Improve the



staircase and adjoining area to allow clear access, improve the appearance and allow emergency access. Install central heating and washing facilities both in the toilets and bar area. Upgrade the first floor into dual use facilities. Wine bar use at weekend and regular office use during the working week so that the applicant can operate his existing business (insurance assessment) from these premises.

The Gin bar will create at least 2 employment opportunities for the applicant's two daughters, and there may be more opportunities for other staff as the business evolves. With the dual office use upstairs, the applicant hopes to expand his existing business (insurance assessor) and employ additional staff. The additional office space in this premises, will provide him with the space he needs to expand the business. Currently, he is unable to do so, as he works from home.

The applicant has submitted quotes and based on the lowest quotes totalling £31,240.60, the business is seeking a grant of £8,000. The Shaw and Crompton Grant Advisory Panel support this application.

### **Options/Alternatives considered**

1. Do nothing. If the Council chooses to adopt this approach then the Council's regeneration aspirations for Shaw District Centre would be delayed. There is potential that the appearance of these premises and Shaw District Centre could decline further.
2. Approve the award of the Business Improvement Grant. Business Improvement Grant applicants will enter into a contract with the Council, to ensure that works are being undertaken satisfactorily with claw back arrangements for non-compliance. Funding takes place once the contract is completed and the works completed to the satisfaction of the Council.

**Conflict of Interest declared** None

**Councillor Arooj Shaw - Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services**

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**In consultation with**

**Helen Lockwood, Deputy Chief Executive, People & Place.**

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**(Executive Director Signature)**

**Decision made pursuant to:**

- a) **Delegation to Cabinet Member under the Council's scheme of delegation.**