Emergency Powers Decision Report

Sustainable Rainwater Management donation

Decision Maker: Chief Executive

Service Area: Highways & Engineering
Directorate: Place Directorate
Report Author: Jason Denniston
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Date of Decision: 30th Nov 2026

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1. Power to make the decision

The decision is being taken under the authorisation contained in Section 9C – Delegations to Specific Officers of Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council Constitution for the Chief Executive to take any emergency decisions in respect of the Council's executive functions which cannot be delayed until the next Cabinet meeting.

2. Decision Sought

Acceptance of the donation of £360,100 from United Utilities Plc's Sustainable Rainwater Management Programme

3. Reason for urgency

Payment milestones are due for payment.

4. Risk(s) of not taking the decision

George Square scheme finances will come under pressure for contractor payments.

5. Financial impact if decision not taken forward

Loss of UU funding

6. Statutory Officer clearances

a. Section 151 Officer

Name Lee Walsh
Date 5 November 2026
Comments

The recommendation to accept the donation of £360,100 from United Utilities. The funding will provide a valuable contribution towards the delivery and long-term sustainability of the sustainable urban drainage and soft landscaping infrastructure associated with the George Square scheme and does not create any immediate call on Council resources.

The funding will initially be accounted for as revenue grant income. However, a proportion of the funding may be applied to capital expenditure and, where appropriate, will be transferred to the Capital Programme. Any future proposals to utilise the funding for capital works will be subject to separate approval and will need to demonstrate compliance with the Council's capitalisation criteria and financial regulations.

The acceptance of the donation represents a positive funding opportunity for the Council and supports the delivery of environmental improvements without creating an unfunded capital commitments.

b. Monitoring Officer

Name Alex Bougatef
Date 10 November 2026
Comments

The exercise of emergency powers should be undertaken in consultation with the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council. However, the Council has not yet appointed a Leader or Deputy Leader for the current municipal year, so it is not possible to consult them. In addition, there is no certainty about when a Leader or Deputy Leader will be appointed as the Council has failed at successive meetings to do so. For the reasons given in the report, an urgent decision relating to the report is required, and it cannot await the appointment of a Leader and Deputy Leader at some undetermined future date.