

North York Moors National Park Authority Finance, Risk, Audit and Standards Committee

27 August 2019

External Funding

1.	Purpose of the Report
1.1	To update Members on the work currently being undertaken to secure external funding which will help support the Authority's work programmes and priorities.

2. Background

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of the Authority's external funding position within the current financial year and an update on projects which require external funding. It continues the previous reports to this Committee which have kept Members abreast of our activity in this important area of work.

3 Progress against Business Plan

- 3.1 A review of the current Business Plan priorities for external funding took place at the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) meeting held in July. It was noted that excellent progress has been made across the priorities. The **Table 1** details progress to date

Table 1: Progress against priorities for external funding, Business Plan 2017-2020.

Priority	Progress To Date	Income
1. Sutton Bank re-development.	Full application to EARFD Tourism Infrastructure Fund submitted	£ 732,000
2. Apprenticeships via the Levy.	Secured additional funding through the NYMR Apprenticeship scheme	£ 200,000
3. Rivers: Stage two of Ryevitalise; success of Pearl Mussel work.	Ryevitalise: Successful at stage 2 application. Esk: WEG application and YW AMP funding secured	£ 2,670,000
4. Marine and coastal issues, especially conservation in the marine element and preferably linking to food, sustainable catches and fishing traditions.	The Authority and its partners have been successful in encouraging NLHF to prioritise marine work in its new strategic framework. East Riding District Council has secured NHLF funding for a development post to help progress the wider marine partnership	£ -
5. Mental health of young people, (preferably working with other National Parks.)	Explorers Club application submitted to NLHF to expand the programme.	£ 170,000
6. Ancient woodland restoration.	LEI Arncliffe Wood project to restore PAWS along with additional habitat creation and traditional boundary restoration successfully funded.	£ 170,000

7. Prehistoric settlements.	Potential new prehistoric settlements identified through the S106-funded Lidar project and we are planning to use further S106 funding to investigate these sites	£ -
8. Heritage of the alum industry.	Positive initial discussions with Historic England into a potential community research project have taken place. Further internal work required to decide size and scope of project	£ -
9. Renewable energy for NPA buildings: a. Sutton Bank; b. Helmsley HQ; c. others.	Further development required	£ -
10. Landscape and biodiversity improvement of Western Fringe.	LEI Kewick submitted for project to control Rhododendron that is prevalent in the area and restore local biodiversity.	£ 170,000
11. Dark Bordered Beauty (moth); Daffodils.	Dark Bordered Beauty: We are awaiting an update on strength of the Strensall population to ascertain the feasibility of a translocation. Daffodils (via LOI): survey, volunteer-led translocation and practical conservations works completed. Further work is planned for Spring 2020	£ Funds raised via Lol -
12. Recreational connections along Eastern Fringe.	Feasibility study produced, further development now required in next Business Plan	£ -
13. Local food development or/and promotion (especially related to fish and 'The Capital of Cake').	Annual Capital of Cake. New Taste of the NYM micro site developed showcasing best of quality	£ 12,400
14. Capital contribution to North York Moors Railway Trust Bridges.	Contribution allocated from reserves	£ -
15. Renewed Buildings and Monuments at Risk programme.	Moors for the Future programme developed in partnership with Historic England	£ 168,000
	Total externally funding income secured	£ 4,292,400

Officers will give a verbal update at the meeting.

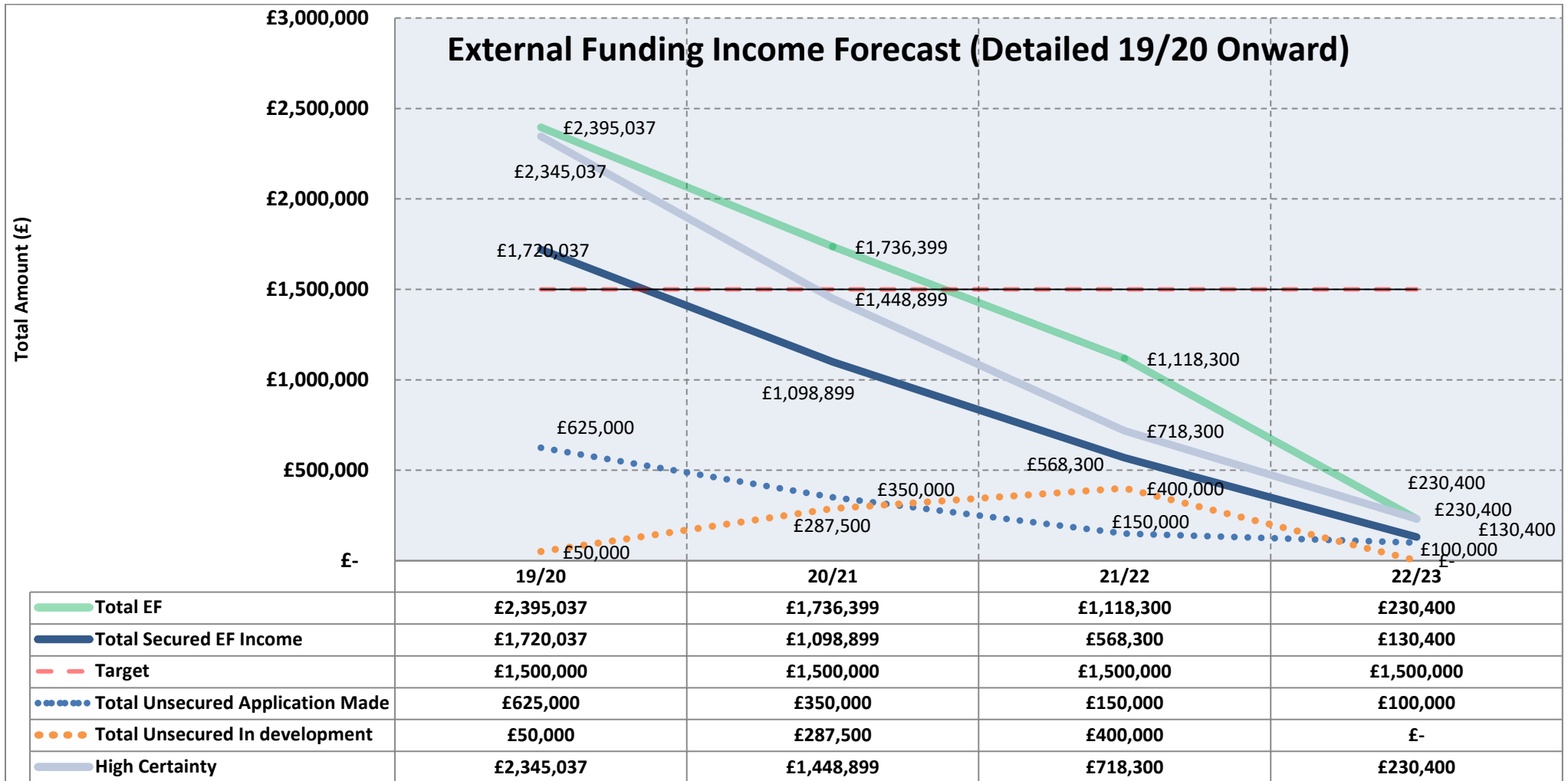
4. Current External Funding Position

The table below provides a summary of all external funded income secured or sought by the Authority for the financial year 19/20.

Category	Amount(£)
Secured	£1.72m
Unsecured - with application made	£625k
Unsecured - in development	£88k
Total	£2.4m

- 4.1 **Table 2** provides a forecast of all external funding income over the entire Business Plan period and beyond. Note this includes income from externally funded projects that are in delivery.
- 4.2 **Table 3** provides further detail of all current and forecast external funding income from the current financial year onwards. Totals are given for each stage of activity: *secured, high certainty, unsecured application-made and in development.*

Table 3: External Funding Income Forecast (Detailed)



5. **Current External Funding Activity**

- 5.1 **Table 4** below provides an update on projects. These reflect the external funding priorities in the Business Plan. Please note that the table does not include some project ideas that are at a very early stage of officer discussions, nor does it include externally funded projects that have been approved and are now in delivery.

Table 4: Externally funded projects update showing projects in development, those that have been submitted and are now awaiting a funding decision, and those that have been unsuccessful.

Project Title	Brief Description	Funder	Partners	Strategic Fit	Staffing Implications	Match Requirement	Total Income	Status
Sutton Bank: Gateway to the Moors	This project will establish the National Park Centre at Sutton Bank and the surrounding area as a leading destination for cycling, walking and nature tourism activities.	RDPE Growth Programme		BP: Sutton Bank MP: U1, U2, U3, U4, U7, U8, U9, U13, U14, B1, B2, B4, B24	Project Management included in construction costs.	No match requirement if project is deemed as a none-State Aid.	£732k	<i>Unsecured – Application Made</i> Full application submitted. Decision expected October 2019.
Explorer Club	Project to expand the provision of the current Explorer Club.	HLF – Heritage Grants		MP: U7, U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16	0.8 FTE (or 2 x 0.4 FTE) for 3 years.	Stage 1 £2k Stage 2 £15k	£170k	<i>Stage 1 Secure</i> Stage 2 In Development : The project has passed in mid-development stage review and will submit in August 2019, with a decision expect in December 2019.
Kepwick – Rhododendron control and Woodland Restoration	Project to eradicate or control invasive Rhododendron along with some control of bracken and gorse within a 115 hectare	National Grid – Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI)		BP: 10. Landscape and biodiversity improvement of Western	Project Management provision for contractor (reduces staff time demand).	£63k (<i>Existing</i> staff time and Core Policy D)	£150k over 3 years	<i>Unsecure – Application Made</i> Full application made.

Project Title	Brief Description	Funder	Partners	Strategic Fit	Staffing Implications	Match Requirement	Total Income	Status
	<p>area. Rhododendron is present in varying concentrations and poses an increasing threat to local biodiversity and reduction in access and amenity.</p> <p>The project will create 15 hectares of woodland and wood pasture providing a more natural native habitat.</p>			<p>Fringe.</p> <p>6. Ancient woodland restoration.</p> <p>MP: E1, E11, E12, E36, E37, E39</p>				Outcome expected Q2 19/20
Esk Valley Constructed Wetland Project	<p>Application to Asset Management Plan (AMP) to establish a wetland system at three YW treatment sites Esk catchment.</p> <p>The application is for a standalone 1 year baseline monitoring project (19/20)flowed by a 5 year capital and monitoring project covering the 5 years of the AMP programme (2020-25)</p>	Yorkshire Water AMP 7	EA Yorkshire Esk Rivers Trust	<p>MP: C4,C5, E5, E8, E14-E18,E19, E36-E44 U13-U16, U8-U9</p> <p>BP: 3. Rivers: Stage two of Ryevitalise; success of Pearl Mussel work.</p>	Officer time included in bid	None	<p>Stage 1 £28k</p> <p>Stage 2 £364K</p>	<p><i>Secured</i></p> <p><i>Stage 1</i> In delivery</p> <p>Stage 2 programmed for 20-25</p>

6. Update on Ryevitalise Match Funding

- 6.1 Funding for the Ryevitalise Landscape Partnership is composed of a number of partner contributions matched against the NHLF contribution who is the principal grant funder for the project. **Table 5** summarises all partner match contributions and any outstanding match funding amounts that the project has committed to securing over the 4 year life of the project.

Table 5: Ryevitalise funding overview

Source	Value (£)	Status
NYMNPA	£ 704,300	£153,000 NPA reserves (Confirmed)
		£351,300 from core budgets (Confirmed)
		Minimum of additional £200,000 of external funding (to be secured)
s106	£ 319,200	Confirmed
National Lottery Heritage Fund	£ 1,834,800	Confirmed
Environment Agency	£ 160,000	Confirmed
Ryedale District Council	£ 8,000	Confirmed
North Yorkshire County Council	£ 11,500	Confirmed
Forestry Commission	£ 20,000	Confirmed
Howardian Hills AONB	£ 20,000	Confirmed
Total Cash	£ 3,077,800	
In-kind	£ 320,000	
Total Cash	£ 3,397,800	

Status of additional 200,000 of external funding to find		
Woodland Trust	£ 8,000	Confirmed – written agreement pending
ERDF	£ 200,000	Currently determining eligibility for fund

- 6.2 Officers are aware of the need for an increased level of financial reporting that is required for large, externally funding projects that represent an increasingly significant proportion of the NPA income (17.5%). In future this information will be included in the Finance report
- 6.3 Officers are currently looking into the suitability of a new European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) call with the view to submit an application for a 'Blue Corridor' project under the Commission's Priority Axis 6.

The project would seek to deliver habitat restoration and water quality improvement work within the Rye and Esk catchments and would integrate with the current work programme to deliver increased outcomes in both catchments. Delivery would take place from 2020 to 2023.

- 6.4 The project would combine capital and revenue funding and provide additional staff capacity to work alongside the existing delivery teams. The minimum eligible bid amount is £500k with a 50% match requirement, giving a total project cost of ~£1million. Match funding would be provided from existing NLHF funding for the Rye, s106 Landscape and Ecology and confirmed Yorkshire Water AMP funding.
- 6.5 As funding comes from European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) there is therefore the potential for this funding to be impacted by the outcome of the UK leaving the EU. However, Government assurances included in the call specification are unequivocal: *"The Government has confirmed that it will guarantee funding for ERDF projects that are contracted by the end of 2020."*
- 6.6 Officers are in early discussions with the Local Enterprise Partnership and MCHLG, the Managing Authority for the fund, to determine the eligibility of the project activity and the proposed model for match funding. If suitable, officers will look to submit an application by the call deadline in September.

7. **Contribution to National Park Management Plan**

- 7.1 The rationale behind seeking external funding and new income generation is to secure the delivery of the Business Plan and the Management Plan. Linkages to Management Plan policies are provided throughout the report.

8. **Legal Implications**

- 8.1 None at this stage.

<h2>9. Recommendation</h2>

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">9.1 That Members approve the contents of the report and agree the current work being done to secure external funding. |
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