

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

22 June 2020

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.

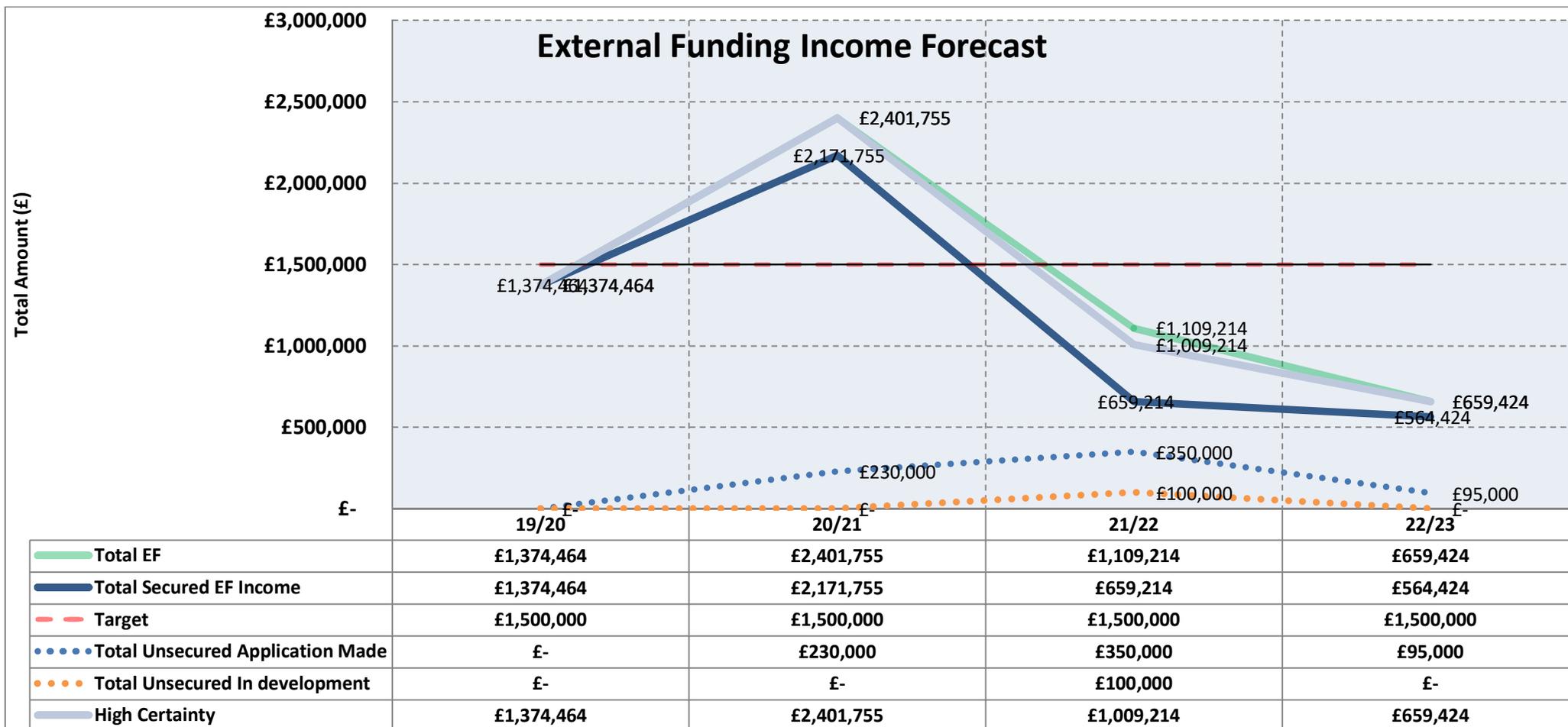
3. External Funding Position

The table below provides a summary of all external funded income secured or sought by the Authority for the new financial year 20/21 only.

20/21	
Category	Amount(£)
Secured	£2.2m
Unsecured - with application made	£230k
Unsecured - in development	-
Total	£2.4m

- 3.1 **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.
- 3.2 **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)



4. **Current External Funding Activity**

- 4.1 **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
North York Moors National Park - Blue Corridors	Application to ERDF PA6 Biodiversity Call, The project will deliver habitat restoration, water quality improvement work and access improvements within the Rye and Esk. Delivery will take place from 2020 to 2023.	ERDF	Yorkshire Water, NYCC	MP: C4,C5, E5, E8, E14-E18,E19, E36-E44 U13-U16, U8-U9 BP: 3. Rivers: Stage two of Rye vitalise; success of Pearl Mussel work.	Full time project officer included in bid. Officer time included	£1m total project cost: £501k ERDF £30k NYMNPA £210k s106 £130k Yorkshire Water AMP £115k NLHF £15k NYCC	£630k	<i>Unsecure – Application Made</i> Full application submitted March 31st. Appraisal deferred to further notice.
Coastal Cycleway Feasibility Study	This project will commission a feasibility study to look at options for creating a strategic cycling and walking route to link settlements between Staithes and Whitby along the route of the old railway line.	YNYLEP (Local Growth Fund)		BP: Coastal/Marine MP: U1, U2, U3, U4, U7, U8, U9, U13, U14, B1, B2, B4, B24	Contract to be tendered	£10k s106	£28k	<i>Secured – Works to commence July 2020.</i>

5. Impact of Covid-19 on External Funding Work Programme

- 5.1 The Government restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the Coronavirus is likely to impact the delivery programmes of the Authority's externally-funded projects. There is the potential for this to affect the outputs and outcomes set out in funding agreements, most notably where mainly where a project contains significant amounts of community involvement.
- 5.2 The table below lists the current advice obtained from the funder for each of the Authority's externally-funded projects. A more detailed assessment of the impact on delivery timescales and outputs/outcome for each specific project will be provided to Members at NPA.

Project	Funder	Advice
This Exploited Land	National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)	The project Steering Group has agreed to continue with delivery until the agreed end date of 31 March 2021, as best as it can under the coronavirus restrictions, and not extend the project timescale. All NLHF required spend should be achieved by this point. Certain outputs, particularly around engagement, may be affected but not to a hugely significant degree relative to the whole project lifetime, and the NLHF has indicated flexibility in this regard.
Ryevitalise	NLHF	NLHF have communicated locally that they are flexible on end dates and outputs; however there are no additional funds currently available.
Explorers/Rangers Club	NLHF	<i>As above.</i>
Only Two Turtle Doves	NLHF	Project extension to December 2020 granted.
Monuments for the Future	Historic England (HE)	HE is willing to extend project end date but no additional money is available.
Water Environment Grant – Esk	Environment Agency (EA)	Current messages are that EA are willing to be flexible on variations to project, delivery of objectives and timeframes Can use capital money for salaries and can reduce outputs to some extent WEG has been extended to Sept 2021 therefore we can

		request a variation in line with that extension.
CaBa – Esk	EA	Application to CaBA 2020 funding round made by NYMNPT in partnership with NYMNPA.
ELMS	Natural England (NE)	Any extensions to timescales, milestones and budgets for Tests & Trials are to be discussed with individual Project Officers. Currently there is no concern about the timeframe and therefore no budget implications.
Arncliffe Wood/ Kepwick	National Grid	Awaiting correspondence from National Grid about existing projects and the fact that outputs may not be achieved in the timelines set out in applications.

5.3 Finally, the availability of funding from the principal statutory grant making organisations has been impacted as funders react and reprioritise funding to mitigate the effects impacts of the pandemic. This has already impeded applications in development by the Authority or in partnerships with the North York Moors National Park Trust:

5.4 **Birds on the Edge:** the NLHF has suspended the grant programme for applications up to £250k until further notice.

5.5 **Community Volunteer Groups:** the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) has frozen the Trust's provisional application for a period of 'around 6 months'.

5.6 **North York Moors National Park - Blue Corridors:** Prior to submission of the full application, representatives from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) communicated to officers that there would be a reprioritisation of the remaining unspent EU funding. Appraisal of the Blue Corridors submission has now been deferred due to capacity issues at MHCLG as they respond to the impacts of Covid-19.

5.7 Members will be aware of the successful applications to the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, business support grants and rate relief in connection with the virus. No income from these sources is covered in this paper.

6. Rural Recovery and Protected Landscape Review

6.1 The wider picture for Defra funding of this Authority and others, and the nation's response to the economic impacts of the virus, is fast changing. There may be opportunities to receive funds as part of efforts at a local or national level to revive the rural economy. NPE on behalf of all English NPAs has written to the Secretary of State with this in mind. There are overlaps with potential new funding following the Protected Landscapes Review and in terms of Rural Recovery

6.2 Officers of this Authority are in dialogue with a wide range of other bodies at a regional, sub-regional and local level and are aware of the need to seize opportunities to bring more funds into the North York Moors. Officers have been active participants in the proposed financial asks for a potential North Yorkshire and York Devolution deal.

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.

9. **Recommendation**

9.1 That Members approve the contents of the report and agree the current work being done to secure external funding.

Contact Officer:
Tom Stephenson
External Funding Officer
Tel No. 01439 772700