

Climate Change Member Advisory Group  
10 November 2022  
Item 5. Climate Emergency Funding

We have been notified of a number of successful funding bids. These include:

- £2,000 awarded from Sea Changers Coastal Fountain Fund towards the supply of a water fountain at [Riverside Country Park](#)
- Just under £130,000 from DEFRA awarded for an anti-idling project in Rainham in conjunction with the University of Kent and separately a comprehensive taxi and private hire ultra-low emissions vehicle feasibility study looking at the barriers and opportunities for ULEV uptake by the trade in Medway.
- £1.8million allocated from the government's Shared Prosperity Fund. The Climate Response team has worked closely with the External Investment team and other officers to ensure that the net zero agenda is woven through the bid.
- £4.27million of Phase 3a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding from BEIS for low carbon heating in 20 Council owned buildings.
- £115,668.00 from the Local Authority Treescapes Fund (LATF) for 150 trees to be planted, across the 2022/23 and 2023/24 planting seasons, as replacements for trees lost on the highway. Also waiting to hear the outcome of submission to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund.
- Funding from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to establish a health determinants research collaboration (HDFRC) with the University of Kent. The funding is for £5,000,000 over five years and the main programme will start in October 2023. Between now and October 2023 we have an additional £300,000 to conduct some development work, specifically around developing research-focussed links with the third sector and underserved communities, and co-developing a communications and engagement plan.
- See additional paper on Behavioural Insights programme.

A Levelling Up Fund bid to improve Gillingham has been submitted. If successful, the project will help improve travel and transport around the town, creating a 1.4km pedestrian and cycle connection 'greenway' between Gillingham Waterfront and Gillingham town centre, including new spaces to promote walking and cycling.

The following projects have also been approved through the Council's governance processes:

- The conversion of our winter fleet to prewetted salt. This will enable the Highways department to use 20% less salt on the network which would equate to 29 less HGV movements from the Cheshire salt mines to Medway and back which is a saving of 11.4 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Deployment of Road Surface Temperature Sensors which will inform winter gritting routes and lessen the need for an authority wide gritting regime. This will reduce the number of salt runs required resulting in a reduction in carbon emissions.

A Climate Emergency Funding sub group has been set up, consisting of key officers, to progress the actions under this priority area within the Climate Change Action Plan. They have met three times and intend to meet monthly.