

<b>CONSENT TO URGENT DECISION</b>	<b>PART 1</b> (to be completed by the person seeking consent)	
<b>Proposed Decision Maker</b> <i>(please name person or body proposing to take decision, if an officer also state title)</i>	<b>Date for Decision</b>	
Councillor Heather Timms	28 Feb 2023	
<b>Title:</b> Fast Followers competition: An innovate UK funding bid		
<b>Summary of matter</b> Approval is requested to bid for grant funding from the UK research institute, a body of innovate UK in furtherance of the Council's net zero objectives and receive that funding in the event the application is successful.		
<b>Proposed Decision</b> That the Portfolio Holder Environment, Climate & Culture approves the submission of a bid for grant funding under the UK research institute Fast Followers competition in the sum of £300,000		

### Reasons for Urgency

The funding bid will fund two staff based within the Contract Management and Quality Assurance Service to support our sustainable futures strategy. Specifically, by utilising Social Value to drive behaviour and practice change within suppliers to Warwickshire County Council the project will aim to understand carbon emissions from the goods and services we purchase and provide information, skills and support to suppliers to make significant contributions to our carbon footprint.

The decision is required under the Council's urgency procedure owing to the need to meet competition bid deadlines. It is necessary to make an application for funding by the 28 February 2023. If this bid is successful, will be required to accept by the 14 April 2023 and initiate work on 1 July 2023. The duration of work is for 24 months. Given the impending application deadline of the 28 February 2023, urgent approval is sought to confirm the submission for grant funding.

Pursuant to Standing Order 18 where a decision is required and it impracticable to comply with Standing Orders 16 or 17, that decision can be made urgently with the consent in writing of the Chair of a relevant Scrutiny Committee. A decision may be considered urgent where any delay likely to be caused by call-in would seriously prejudice the council or the public interest. In this case the short timeframe for submission of the bid means that call in would prejudice the ability to apply for the funding.

**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** *[please identify relevant plan/budget provision]*

No

**PART 2** (to be completed by the person giving consent)

**Name**

**Councillor: Jeff Clarke**

**Office Held**

**Chair of the Communities OSC**

*Signed*



**Date consent is given**

24 February 2023