

SECTION 1A - To be filled in by submitter of the Motion:

Report from	Cllr Bros Sabria
On behalf of	N/A
Date	12 th June 2024
For Meeting of Council/Committee	Full Council
Date of meeting	25 th June 2024
Agenda item no.	60/24-25
Confidentiality	N/A
TITLE OF MOTION	MOBILE FOOD HUB
MOTION(S)	<p>For the Town Council to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To receive a motion paper and accompanying documents on Mobile Food Hub service across South Cambridgeshire District. 2. To approve to fund for the provision of Mobile Food Hub on a weekly basis for a trial period of 24 weeks (6 months) at a cost of £2,400. 3. To decide to consider the continuation of the scheme after a 16 weeks period based on feedback from residents, local partners organisations and evidence of impact measured by community engagement (attendance, exhaustion of produce supplied).
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of discussions within the Market Development working group and Town Council meetings, Cllrs have been exploring possibilities of how the Town Council could help to <u>bring food and basis at affordable prices in Northstowe to support local residents through cost of living crisis.</u> <p>Material and food deprivation data in Longstanton Ward (by SCDC) show the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household deprivation – according to the 2021 census there are 264 households deprived in 2 or more dimensions (out of a total of 4 dimensions being education, employment, health and housing). Using the average household size in Longstanton ward as indicated in the census as 2.52, we can assume this around 665 individuals. This is <u>13th highest in the district out of 26 wards.</u> • Universal Credit – There are a total of 455 people on Universal Credit in Longstanton Ward. This the <u>7th highest out of all 26 wards in the district and has increased 44% in two years.</u> • Disability –There are estimated to be 957 disabled people in Longstanton ward – <u>12th highest out of the 26 wards.</u> Disabled people are disproportionately affected by rises in the cost of living such as the sharp rise in food prices so are more likely to benefit more from using the mobile food hub. <p>What is the Mobile Food Hub?</p> <p><i>In June 2023, the Mobile Food Hub - Hope on the Go - was launched thanks to funding from South Cambridgeshire District Council, to support communities during the cost of living crisis in the region.</i></p> <p><i>Fresh produce and essential items are being brought directly to villages around South Cambridgeshire to help residents with rising food prices. Some of the items are free and everything else at below retail price. It is the first service of its kind in</i></p>

the district. Any resident can access the Mobile Food Hub by turning upon the day (no vouchers or referrals are needed).

There is a mix of fresh and long-life food on offer. Food is coming from both donations and purchasing from local suppliers. Residents will also be able to buy essential affordable items.

The mobile food hub visits several villages. It is in Willingham every Friday 12-1pm.

Mobile Food Hub is funded by SCDC for 6 locations (Duxford, Fulborn, Linton, Orchard Park, Papworth, Willingham), chosen based on deprivation data, and by the Parish Council in Fowlmere. SCDC existing funds has been exhausted for the current stops.

More about SCDC initiative: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/mobile-food-hub-delivering-food-to-south-cambridgeshire>

More about HOPE CIC Mobile Food Hub: <https://hopeagainst.org/hopeonthego>

Northstowe current food offer

- Northstowe Food bank: Wednesdays at the Cabin. It has restricted access. Only selected people with vouchers can use it (currently about 10 families). Note: Food bank users tend not to use their local food bank.
- Sustainable Northstowe Pantry: food from supermarket surplus. Available to all for free, Tuesday to Sunday at the Cabin. Mostly bread and pastries (there is no fridge).
- Northstowe Tap and Social: freshly baked bread and meals. Monday to Sunday. Consumer prices (high).
- Northstowe market: Sunday on a monthly basis (10-14h). Some basics and hot meals, provided at consumer prices.
- Northstowe Foodies: Wednesday to Saturday. Cooked and hot meals at consumer prices.

The mobile food hub would thus complement the existing offer and address current limitations due to: reduced costs, removal of stigma associated with other offers (e.g. vouchers), the diversity of affordable goods supplied (i.e. it is neither all pastries nor just cooked meals; it offer residents the dignity of purchasing the materials they need to make the meals they would want in their own way). In addition, the mobility component also helps manage the storage issues, and lack of retail facilities which we have in the Town.

Issues/items for consideration by the Council

For the Council to consider funding mobile food hub activities for a trial period on an adequate day of the week and time.

- **How much does it cost?**
 - £100/visit to HOPE CIC– it *partially* covers staff costs, food and essentials purchasing costs, and all the overheads (storage, admin, van costs such as insurance, fuel, repairs etc).
 - Flyers and promotion posters kindly provided by SCDC.
 - NTC staff time in promotion (new item and social media, articles) to be considered.
- **How could it be funded?**
 - Town council: Community endowment
 - Town council application (in partnership with other organisations – Northstowe Foodies has expressed interest): Community Activation Fund (Homes England)
 - Match funding by other community organisations (Northstowe Foodies have expressed interest but have not committed to amount).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fridays before/after Willingham stop would be a good fit. ○ Start date July 2024 for a trial period. Based on experience in other locations, stops take some months to pick up. For the Council to consider either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 3 months (12 weeks = £1,200) ▪ 6 months (24 weeks = £2,400) ▪ 12 months (52 weeks = £ 5,400) • Where? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the Green, by the Cabin (SCDC land – SCDC to arrange permissions) • For whom? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Available to everyone though aiming to target Northstowe residents with cost of living.
Recommendations	<p>For the Town Council;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To receive a motion paper and accompanying documents on Mobile Food Hub service across South Cambridgeshire District. 2. To approve to fund for the provision of Mobile Food Hub on a weekly basis for a trial period of 24 weeks (6 months) at a cost of £2,400. 3. To decide to consider the continuation of the scheme after a 16 weeks period based on feedback from residents, local partners organisations and evidence of impact measured by community engagement (attendance, exhaustion of produce supplied).
Appendices	N/a
Documents:	N/a

SECTION 1B - To be filled in by submitter of the Motion:

Input needed from Clerk?	<i>[filled in by Clerk]: Feedback provided by clerk to Cllr Bros Sabria on previous versions of this motion, in April 2024 and again in June 2024.</i>
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PLEASE NOTE: Agenda item requests: in order to be considered for inclusion on the agenda, motions with all associated papers *must* be received by the Clerk in a final format at least 7 clear daysⁱ before the meeting at which you would like your item to be considered – if any input is required from the Clerk please provide sufficient additional time for the Clerk to schedule in for any feedback and/or additional research that may be required.

SECTION 2 - To be filled in by the Clerk:

Meets/links with Council objectives:	Community Services Provision	√
Staffing Implications: ⁱⁱ	YES – Some staff time needed for communications with third parties, administration, finance processing and promotion.	←
Volunteer need implications:	UNCLEAR – Assuming there are no volunteer needs, as organised through Hope CIC staff	←
Equalities & Human Rights ⁱⁱⁱ	There are no equalities and human rights issues Details, where relevant: N/A	
Crime and Disorder ^{iv}	Crime and disorder have been considered Details, where relevant: N/A	
Biodiversity ^v	There are no (negative) bio-diversity implications Details, where relevant: N/A	
Sustainability	Is in line with the Council's Plastic-Free Pledge – N/A	
Financial ^{vi}	There are no financial implications at this stage – N/A	
	There will be financial implications; Details: YES – costs as per proposal. Clarity may need to be obtained how Hope CIC would deal with any match funding that may still materialise to bring their Mobile Food Hub	←

	into Northstowe; would match funding go directly to Hope CIC and/or would this reduce the Town Council's financial input (the latter as per the ParkPlay model with Longstanton PC contributions pledged)?	
	There is provision within the budget Budget heading & details: NO – no existing relevant budget heading Potential option to be considered by the Council: Use of earmarked Reserve S106 - Community Endowment: currently £6,010.00 available; but £5,000 of this amount has already been earmarked for potential continuation of ParkPlay for a further year. NB: a further £30,000 (+ indexation) is expected following the trigger point of the phase 22 primary school being finalised (thus later in 2024 at the earliest).	←
	Decisions may give rise to additional expenditure; Details: UNCLEAR – Assuming that all full costs above NTC £100/week contribution as proposed, are secured by Hope CIC and that NTC contributions do not need to increase at a later stage.	←
	Decisions may have potential for income generation; Details: N/A	
Other Resource implications (besides finance):	Details: N/A	
Health and Safety implications ^{vii}	Details: N/A	
Legal	Power under which the spend can be actioned: ^{viii} General Power of Competence	←
	GDPR - Data Privacy Impact Assessment: ^{ix} Details, where relevant: N/A	
	Other considerations: N/A	
Risk Management	Material risks ^x exist and these are considered and being assessed: Details: N/A	
Other Considerations:	YES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of the Hope CIC bus is likely to need a land use agreement with land owner. • Community Endowment Fund (S106) is linked to phase 2 – would need Homes England approval to use those funds for this purpose; phase 2 residents need to benefit from this. • Community Activation Fund (Homes England, phase 2 S106; administered by Communities Team, SCDC – see for details of grant criteria. • Consideration may need to be given to how Hope CIC and/or the Town Council are to monitor the proposed trial and measure its success? 	←

ⁱ Northstowe Town Council's [Standing Order 9 b,d](#).

ⁱⁱ The Council has a legal duty to ensure it looks after employees' health and wellbeing (the Health and Safety at Work etc act 1974).

ⁱⁱⁱ The key legislation regarding unlawful discrimination is the Equality Act 2010, which amongst other requires the Council to monitor for compliance with the Equality Duty.

^{iv} The Council has a legal duty to act with due regards to crime and disorder in the area (Crime and Disorder Act 1998, s17).

^v The Council has a legal duty to have regard to conserving biodiversity (Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, s40).

^{vi} It is the RFO's duty to manage financial risks on behalf of the Council, as described in the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, reg 4.

^{vii} See also Town Council's [Health and Safety Policy](#).

^{viii} See here for an [Overview of relevant discretionary powers](#) beyond the General Power of Competence.

^{ix} See also the Town Council's [Data Protection Policy](#).

^x See Town Council's [Risk Management Plan](#).