



NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPROVAL FORM

1. Committee: Hitchin Area Committee	2. Date: 8 Sep 2015
---	----------------------------

3. Summary of application: **Town Centre enhancements including Christmas Lights**

Name of organisation: **Hitchin Town Centre Initiative** Sum requested: **£1,500**

Total project cost: **£65,100**

Brief details:

Hitchin Town Centre Initiative are requesting that Councillors consider a grant funding contribution towards a variety of town centre enhancements including the cost of the town centre Christmas Lights.

This grant would be compliant with the Authorities' strategic objectives of working with local communities and protecting the environment. However, members should be aware that since NHDC previously took a decision under corporate business planning, not to fund town centre enhancements such as hanging baskets. In addition, in 2010/11 a decision was made to gradually withdraw funding from town centre partnerships in order to ensure they would become self sustaining. Hitchin Initiative, having been established the longest was first to have its funding gradually withdrawn and then cease, as will the remaining three in the district in coming years.

Matched / linked funding: **£43,588** Funder: BID, HTCI, various sponsors

Matched /linked funding : **£0** Funder:
 or DRR
 Funding in place:

Comments from Development Officer:

The total costs of these projects are in the region of £65,100 and HTCI are constantly engaged in fundraising activities in order to cover the costs. These include fundraising events, local business sponsorship and contributions from the Hitchin Business Improvement District Company.

The Community Development Officer has examined this application against the Authority's Area Grants Policy, the organisation's accounts and grant history, and considers it an eligible application to put before the Committee.

Amount recommended: **£1,500**

4. Comments from Ward Members:

I support / do not support this application

Name: Signed: Date:

I support / do not support this application

Name: Signed: Date: