

## **Appendix 4 – Urgency - General Exception Form**

### **Urgent Cabinet Report/Delegated Decision Form**

<b>Report/Decision Title</b>	Tees Urban Nature Network (TUNN)
<b>Date of request</b>	29/07/2025
<b>Date of meeting/decision</b>	

#### **Urgent – General Exception - Reasons for urgency outlined below**

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council as lead applicant and accountable body, in partnership with Middlesbrough Council, Stockton Borough Council, and Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, and others, have been successful securing a Nature Towns and Cities Grant for the Tees Urban Nature Network project. Led by the National Trust, National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), and Natural England, the Nature Towns and Cities programme supports councils and communities to embed people and nature at the heart of urban regeneration.

The Council were notified by NLHF on 10 July 2025 that the TUNN proposal has been selected by the evaluation panel to receive funding. A deadline of 7 August 2025 to confirm acceptance of the funding has been imposed by the funder, warranting the request to take a general exception to the Delegated Decision Forward Plan requirement to publish the decision record for 28 days in advance of the decision being taken. Without the general exception the Council is at risk of not fulfilling mandatory grant conditions and forfeiting the grant allocation.

This request is compliant with the requirements of the general exception process, with the Climate and Environment Scrutiny improvement Committee Chair, the Cabinet Member for Environment, Sustainability and Culture, and the Leader having received written notification of the matter to which the decision is to be made.

The 3-year project is expected to start on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025 and will end 31<sup>st</sup> July 2028.

<b>I confirm that the relevant chair of Scrutiny and Improvement Committee (or if there is not chair, the whole committee individually) and the Cabinet Member have been informed by notice in writing of the decision to be taken.</b>					
<b>Officer name (Delegated Power Author)</b>	Lisa Haetzman	<b>Officer Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	29/07/2025
<b>Assistant Director Name</b>	Chris Moon	<b>Assistant Director signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	29/07/2025

<b>This urgent report/decision has been seen and agreed by the following:</b>	
<b>Officer / Member</b>	<b>Signature</b>
Managing Director	
Section 151 Officer	
Monitoring Officer	