



Mark Saccoccio  
Town Clerk  
Leighton Linlslade Town Council

Our ref: CBC/TC/01  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Mr Saccoccio

Re: Welcome Back Fund

As our town centres gradually reopen, the Council is working very closely with both the Government and local partners to safely welcome back our residents and businesses. To this end, the Council has been allocated funding from the Government's Welcome Back Fund, for the purpose of encouraging shoppers and employees to return in a safe way, but also to ensure that economic activity returns as quickly as possible.

The Council is very keen to work with you on developing projects and activities that contribute to this aim. We are able to allocate WBF funding towards this purpose, should you wish to participate in this programme. The WBF funding is part of a legacy European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) scheme, for which the Council is the accountable body. The funding is intended for specific activities towards the safe opening of High Streets and town centres, as approved by the Government.

The WBF funding allocation has been determined based on precept levels and also the Local Plan designation for your town centre, so as to ensure funding is at a level appropriate to the size of the town centre and the challenges faced. A total of £59,000 has been allocated to Leighton Linlslade Town Council towards the cost of eligible activities during the current financial year. A Service Level Agreement will be required, which recognises Leighton Linlslade Town Council as a Delivery Partner to the Council. Any expenditure incurred by the Town Council, will be reclaimed from the Council on a defrayed basis.

I appreciate that managing grant funding such as this can be a complicated process, however, we will endeavour to simplify this as much as possible. Attached to this letter, you will find a form for setting out proposed activities, which we will use to confirm eligibility. This document will act as your Delivery Plan and will also form the basis for your Service Level Agreement.

The Government has issued a set of frequently asked questions (FAQ's) which can be viewed here: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/980130/Welcome\\_Back\\_Fund\\_FAQs.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/980130/Welcome_Back_Fund_FAQs.pdf). Further guidance regarding the Fund generally can be located at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welcome-back-fund>.

In order to ensure we can start delivering schemes as quickly as possible, whilst recognising you will require sufficient time to consult with TC members, please submit your proposed Delivery Plan by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May, by email to Sam Caldbeck [samuel.caldbeck@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:samuel.caldbeck@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk). If you do not wish to utilise your allocation, please advise Sam as soon as possible and by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May at the latest. Sam, (tel: 0300 300 4410) is a member of the Place Delivery team at the Council and is available to assist you in the preparation of your Delivery Plan and any other queries you may have.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Collins".

Councillor Kevin Collins  
Executive Member for Planning & Regeneration

Cc Ward Member's