

# CLIMATE EMERGENCY INVESTMENT FUND

Efford and Honicknowle Youth Centre July 2024

Community Connections



Youth and community centres are crucial as they provide a safe space for young people to engage in positive activities, develop skills, and build relationships. Centres offer opportunities for education, recreation, and mentorship and promote healthy development among the youth in the community. Similarly, community centres serve as vital gathering places for residents to access resources, participate in programs, and build a sense of community and belonging. By investing in centres, communities can support the well-being and growth of their youth and enhance the overall quality of life for all residents.

Efford and Honicknowle Youth and Community Centres are part of the cooperate estate and are two of three sites which have recently been awarded £3m (£2.4m Youth Investment Fund and a further £600,000 from capital funds for legacy maintenance works including two new roofs at the sites). Work proposed at the locations will completely revamp the buildings and deliver significantly more services to young people and communities than ever before.

In order to spend money wisely, maximise the space and work towards mitigating climate change, a further £1,000,000 has been applied for and awarded under Emergency Climate Investment Fund.

Funding will be utilised to install solar and insulate the roofs and walls at the two sites. Solar arrays will reduce grid import with zero carbon on-site generation, and insulating the walls, under the new cladding, and the new roofs, will make both sites extremely energy efficient and environmentally sustainable.

This is a one-off opportunity as the new cladding which will be installed to both buildings as part of the existing program of work, would make retro fitting significantly more expensive, will cause service disruption and result in loss of income generation through rentals.

Due to planning permissions having already been obtained as part of the planned investment the aim is that the £1m funding will be integrated into the planned building works out to tender currently.

The program is under the project management of PCC's Capital Projects and has an established management board consisting of Community Connections, Health and Safety, Capital Projects, Children Young People and Families, Capital and Revenue Finance and Facilities Management. The board provides a governance structure, sets strategic direction and objectives, monitors progress and manages risk.

This work is in line with the PCC net Zero 2030 ambition, and proposals seek to have all works on site completed by March 2025.