

## Officer assessment summary of the Hindu Samaj Northstowe bid

The applicant presented clear evidence of both regional and local need for a temple, given the absence of temple provision within a broad geography of the site. There was also evidence supporting the community services to be delivered from the facility, although the panel felt more could have been done within the application documentation to address local needs outside the faith community and that engagement with the broader community could have been better evidenced.

The applicant presented both a history of hosting and involvement with key community events in Northstowe and clearly demonstrated that the organisation was locally founded in Northstowe.

The applicant describes the activities to be delivered, including a range of targeted community services, however more evidence of how the monitoring of outputs and outcomes would be carried out could have been provided, with data collection and monitoring methodologies lacking detail which would have provided more specificity on the nature of planned activities for the panel.

The applicant is a volunteer led group, with plans to employ one part time project manager to progress the project. The resources forthcoming from all the partner organisations listed were not detailed. The panel found there to be insufficient practical detail, including plans for construction and milestones for delivery, or how the proposal would be delivered in terms of capability and capacity.

The information provided was insufficient to establish a solid financial track record, with limited historical information available. There is an apparent shortfall of funding pledged against predicted build costs which becomes more profound if the lower estimate of pledges is realised. The panel had concerns that the professional fees estimated for delivery of the project were costed too low and therefore did not appear to be realistic.