

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Greater Brighton Economic Board 2015/16 Annual Report</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>13 October 2016</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Director for Economy, Environment &amp; Culture</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Thalia Liebig</b>	<b>Tel: 01273 290445</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The [Heads of Terms](#) for the Greater Brighton Economic Board ('the Board') outline its reporting and accountability arrangements. Included within these arrangements is the requirement of the Board to submit an annual report to each of its representative bodies.
- 1.2 On 19 July 2016, the Board approved its 2015/16 Annual Report and members agreed to submit this to their respective organisations.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to submit the Board's 2015/16 Annual Report, attached as Appendix 1, to Brighton & Hove City Council.
- 1.4 The Board's 2015/16 Annual Report is intended to be used as an interactive electronic document.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That Policy, Resources & Growth Committee ('Committee') notes the content of the Board's 2015/16 Annual Report.

**3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Greater Brighton became a formally recognised City Region in March 2014, following the area's success in securing a [City Deal](#) with Government.
- 3.2 The City Region is a true functional economic market area. It covers the city of Brighton & Hove and the districts and boroughs of Adur, Lewes, Mid Sussex and Worthing. It features a number of different and important areas, from the urban centres of Brighton & Hove, Worthing, Shoreham and Newhaven along the South Coast, to the South Downs National Park and the market towns of Lewes and Burgess Hill. The City Region is home to 695,800 people, 445,800 of whom are

of working age, and it provides 278,500 jobs. The area has 29,490 VAT/PAYE businesses, with a total of 36,640 active business units.

- 3.3 A key commitment of the City Deal agreement was the establishment of a legally constituted Economic Board. The Board was subsequently formed and its inaugural meeting held in May 2014.
- 3.4 The Board comprises the Greater Brighton Economic Joint Committee, on which the City Region's five local authorities are represented, and the Greater Brighton Business Partnership, on which the City Region's two universities, four further education colleges, three business partnerships, the local enterprise partnership and the national park authority are represented. Meetings are held concurrently on a quarterly basis.
- 3.5 The purpose of the Board is to protect and grow the Greater Brighton economy, by coordinating economic development activities and investments at City Region level. By joining together places and working collaboratively to build on the area's economic assets and unblock its barriers to growth, the City Region will be able to fulfil its economic potential to become one of the United Kingdom's top performing urban economies.
- 3.6 The Board's [Heads of Terms](#) provide further detail regarding its form and function.
- 3.7 The 2015/16 Annual Report outlines the Board's strategy for growth and summarises the key areas of work undertaken in that year – its second in operation – to deliver its medium to long-term objectives.
- 3.8 The key areas of work undertaken by the Board in 2015/16 can be summarised as follows:
  - 3.8.1 Overseeing delivery of the **Greater Brighton Investment Programme**; a coordinated programme of regeneration and infrastructure projects that support the creation of a network of high-value growth centres in key locations across the City Region. The Board secured approximately £90m in City Deal and Growth Deal (rounds one and two) funding for projects within the Programme in 2014/15, which subsequently moved into delivery phase in 2015/16. It is estimated that the Programme will deliver a total investment of approximately £376m into the City Region and unlock 14,000 jobs, 8,200 homes and 450,000sqm of employment floorspace. The Board's [2014/15 Annual Report](#) provides an overview of each of the projects currently within the Programme and the 2015/16 Annual Report summarises just some of the Programme highlights from that year.
  - 3.8.2 Maintaining a 'live' **Greater Brighton Project Pipeline** and submitting **Growth Deal (round three) Funding Applications** to secure further capital grant funding to unlock strategically important projects across the City Region, which will directly deliver the Board's strategy for growth and the broader Coast to Capital [Strategic Economic Plan](#). Since the 2015/16 Annual Report has been drafted, Coast to Capital has submitted its final Growth Deal Three submission, totalling £136m, to Government. Of the ten applications that the Board put forward, six have been included in the

final submission. These six projects seek a total of £80.59m in Growth Deal funding. It is estimated that they will bring a combined private sector match of £745.4m and deliver approximately 9,844 direct jobs, 5,965 homes and 299,428sqm of employment floorspace across the City Region. Of the six projects, two are located within Brighton & Hove – the Sussex Bio-Innovation Centre and the Black Rock Site Development – that together seek £29.12m in Growth Deal funding. An announcement from Government on Growth Deal Three allocations is expected as part of the 2016 Autumn Statement.

- 3.8.3 Progressing **Greater Brighton’s Bid for Devolution**, developing economic policy and securing new local freedoms, flexibilities and funding from Government to deliver these to drive growth and increase productivity across the City Region. The 2015/16 Annual Report outlines the key areas in which the Board is developing its devolution policies, initiatives and proposals for continued discussion and negotiation with Government. Further detail can be found in the Board’s September 2015 submission, [Platforms for Productivity](#), and its January 2016 [Devolution Brochure](#).

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Committee is asked to note the contents of the Board’s 2015/16 Annual Report and, as a member organisation, to continue to support and champion its work.

#### 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

##### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report although the Greater Brighton Economic Board 2015/16 Annual Report in Appendix 1 details activities of the Board and summarises key areas of work that the Board undertook in 2015/16 to deliver its medium to long term strategy including specific projects related to the Greater Brighton Investment Programme, the Greater Brighton Project Pipeline and the Growth Deal all of which were able to assist with securing capital grants for key projects across the City Region. The key areas of work and the financial benefits are detailed in paragraph 3.8 above. Brighton and Hove City Council as a member of the Greater Brighton Economic Board paid an annual subscription of £83,834 in 2015/16 to provide administration and support services including contributions to support the City Region’s Devolution Bid.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant*

*Date 30/08/16*

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The legal implications of decisions made by the Board, including those relating to the key areas of work referred to in section 3 of this report, were addressed at the time decisions were made and are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

*Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce*

*Date: 19/08/16*

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None directly related to this report.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None directly related to this report.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 5.5 None.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Greater Brighton Economic Board 2015/16 Annual Report

### **Documents in Members' Rooms**

None.

### **Background Documents**

1. Greater Brighton Economic Board [Heads of Terms](#).
2. Greater Brighton Economic Board [2014/15 Annual Report](#).
3. Coast to Capital [Strategic Economic Plan](#).
4. Greater Brighton Devolution Submission [Platforms for Productivity](#).

