

Subject: Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex Background Papers

Date of Meeting: 14 July 2015

Report of: Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board

Contact Officer: Name: Nick Hibberd Tel: 01273 29-3756

Email: nick.hibberd@brighton-hove.gov.uk

LA(s) affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

- 1.1 The Greater Brighton Economic Board ('the Board'), working in partnership with the Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board ('the Strategic Planning Board'), commissioned a series of background papers to provide evidence and inform decision-making within Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex. The three background papers focus on the Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex economy, housing market and transport system.
- 1.2 This report contains the final version background papers and the associated executive summary, which are attached as Appendices 1 – 4.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Board is asked to approve the Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex background papers and executive summary.

3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT:

- 3.1 On 29 July 2014, the Board agreed to commission three background papers on the Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex economy, housing market and transport system. The Board recognised that, in order to achieve long term sustainable growth across the City Region, these key strategic issues must be addressed in an integrated and deliverable way.
- 3.2 The background papers were commissioned to foster a greater understanding of the City Region, providing the evidence to aid decision-making. The background papers will directly inform:
- 1) The development of the Strategic Statement for Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex, which will set out the long term strategic planning and investment priorities for an overlapping (although not contiguous) geography. The Strategic Statement will build on and refresh the Local Strategic Statement that was produced by the Strategic Planning Board in 2013. It will also draw on the background papers to identify and define the

priorities for the period 2015-2025, supporting future funding bids as well as the delivery of Local Plans by helping to facilitate meeting the Duty to Cooperate. Work on the Strategic Statement is due to begin in July 2015 and conclude in January 2016.

2) The development of the Board's response to the national policy debate on place-based devolution. This work, which is being supported by Grant Thornton in partnership with Mott MacDonald, starts with the identification and articulation of the City Region's long-term (5 year) economic priorities and goals. As with the Strategic Statement, the background papers will help to define these priorities and goals, ensuring that City Region's policy proposals (its 'asks' and 'offers' of Government) are robust in their foundation.

3.3 Following an open procurement process, Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners in association with Interfleet Transport Advisory were appointed in November 2014. The assignment commenced in January 2015.

3.4 The consultant team adopted a three-staged approach to the assignment: 1) reviewing the existing evidence and gathering supplementary data, 2) synthesizing the evidence and identifying the key themes and, 3) identifying the relevant intervention options, implications and resources. Consultation and engagement was undertaken with a wide range of stakeholders from across Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex in each of the stages. This included:

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|------------------|---|
| 12 January 2015 | Presentation to the Strategy Planning Board |
| 19 January 2015 | Presentation to Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board |
| 03 February 2015 | Workshop with partners and wider stakeholders (over 40 attended) |
| 13 February 2015 | Presentation to the Board |
| 23 March 2015 | Presentation to Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board |
| 21 April 2015 | Workshop with the Board, the Strategic Planning Board and the Coastal West Sussex Partnership Board |
| 12 May 2015 | An extended Officer Steering Group to complete a detailed review of the draft final version papers. The session was attended by representatives from each of the districts and boroughs, the unitary authority and the counties |

4. CONCLUSIONS:

4.1 The Board is asked to agree the Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex background papers on the areas' economy, housing market and transport system.

4.2 The background papers were produced by Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners in association with Interfleet Transport Advisory during early 2015 and provide a strong evidence base and 'story of place' for the City Region that will help to inform future strategic decision-making.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report, however the various appendices set out financial benefits to the region as whole. Any financial implications relating to projects within the programme will be considered at appropriate stages by the relevant bodies and will be subject to individual business cases that consider the financial implications and risks associated with each project.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant *Date: 25.6.15*

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. As and when reports are tabled regarding specific proposals to further the strategic issues identified in the papers the legal implications thereof will be set out.

Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce, Deputy Head of Law BHCC *Date: 25.06.15*

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

5.5 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

(Attached as separate documents)

- Appendix 1: Greater Brighton & Coastal West Sussex Background Papers, Executive Summary (May 2015)
- Appendix 2: Greater Brighton & Coastal West Sussex Background Papers, Paper 1 – Economy (May 2015)
- Appendix 3: Greater Brighton & Coastal West Sussex Background Papers, Paper 2 – Housing Market (May 2015)

- Appendix 4: Greater Brighton & Coastal West Sussex Background Papers, Paper 3 – Transport System (May 2015)

Background Documents

- [Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex Strategic Statement - Background Papers Commissioning Proposal](#), 29 July 2014
- [Greater Brighton Economic Board - Next Steps for our Vibrant City Region Economy](#), 13 February 2015