

Subject:	Greater Brighton Investment Programme		
Date of Meeting:	20 May 2014		
Report of:	Geoff Raw, Executive Director Environment Development & Housing, Brighton & Hove City Council		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

GENERAL MATTERS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report sets out the Greater Brighton Investment Programme and programme management arrangements for delivery of the Investment programme.
- 1.2 The Greater Brighton Investment Programme brings together a number of projects and delivery programmes which promote the economic prosperity of the Greater Brighton City Region as part of a strategic and co-ordinated investment programme.
- 1.3 The Investment Programme will provide the necessary programme and project management arrangements to ensure that those projects for which the Greater Brighton Economic Board is accountable for in relation to delivery of the City Deal and Growth Deal investment programmes are progressed and delivered as part of a co-ordinated investment programme for the city region.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Greater Brighton Economic Board approve the Greater Brighton Investment Programme brief and programme management arrangements as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 The Greater Brighton City Region encompasses Brighton & Hove, Lewes, Mid Sussex, Adur and Worthing. It represents over 680,000 residents and over 20,000 businesses and plays a significant role in the economy of the south east and the United Kingdom as a whole. The Greater Brighton Economic Board has been established to oversee an investment programme to drive the economic growth of the city region.
- 3.2 The Greater Brighton Investment Programme will be overseen by an Officer Programme Board which will report to the Greater Brighton Economic Board. The Investment Programme forms the delivery phase following a series of strategy and policy developments for Greater Brighton, which include:

- Greater Brighton City Deal
- Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan and Growth Deal Intervention programme
- Regional Growth Fund Wave 2 Business Support Programme

3.3 In March 2014, the Greater Brighton City Deal was agreed with government. The City Deal marks the start of a wider long term commitment to investment in the Greater Brighton City Region. Through the oversight of the newly established Greater Brighton Economic Board, the Greater Brighton City Region will drive growth, support ambition and improve job prospects, earnings and business opportunities to enable the area to fulfil it's economic potential.

3.4 In March 2014, Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership submitted it's Strategic Economic Plan and Growth Deal investment proposals to Government, outlining ambitious plans for economic growth throughout West Sussex, Croydon, Brighton and Hove, Lewes, East Surrey and the Gatwick Diamond. The Greater Brighton Economic Board will oversee the delivery of the Greater Brighton Elements of the Strategic Economic Plan through a coordinated Investment Programme. The Coast to Capital LEP are currently negotiating the Growth Deal with government so the final scale and nature of the delivery programme has not been confirmed at the time of writing this report.

3.5 The proposed programme brief for the Greater Brighton Investment Programme is attached at Appendix 1 of this report. Some element of the programme remain to be confirmed as negotiations between the Coast to Capital LEP in relation to the Growth Deal are ongoing.

3.6 The objectives of the Greater Brighton Investment Programme include:

- Creating the conditions that make Greater Brighton an investment destination of choice, with all parts of the city region fulfilling their potential
- Ensuring that Greater Brighton is in a position to unlock development sites, and exploit its assets
- Provide a co-ordinated programme of investment that brings together public, private, government, and business expertise to maximise delivery
- Supporting business growth through a strong integrated offer
- Delivering improvements to transport infrastructure, flood defences and broadband connectivity
- Promoting housing growth, including on public sector land; and seeking alternative sources of investment in new housing
- Exploiting Greater Brighton's expertise in academic research and development and bring public, private and academic institutions together to commercialise research and development at pace and scale.
- Reducing the demand for public services by helping our residents to get into work, gain better quality work and remain in work
- Put Greater Brighton in a position where the skills of its population forms a key competitive edge for the city region – addressing worklessness and low skills and aligning our skills base with the jobs generated through economic growth
- Improving Greater Brighton's international competitiveness
- Supporting the development of our world class visitor economy

- Positioning Greater Brighton as a pioneer low carbon city region through investment in green and blue infrastructure and seizing the opportunities of a low carbon transition
- Building a local market for low carbon goods and services, creating a stable platform from which companies can diversify into and/or grow from.

3.7 To achieve the above objectives, the programme will establish the officer governance and project management arrangements to:

- Deliver the City Deal programme including the network of city region growth centres
- Deliver the objectives within the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan and the Greater Brighton intervention programme of projects that form the Growth Deal bid.
- Identify and prioritise a medium term pipeline of investment opportunities which are attractive to investors and developers which drive investment in priority areas regeneration
- Develop a Greater Brighton approach to delivering new housing which tests new business models and seeks alternative forms of investment
- Identify an agreed and shared set of infrastructure priorities, supported by all Greater Brighton authorities
- Identify and prioritise projects that attract EU Structural Investment Funds and deliver the objectives of the LEP's EU SIF Strategy
- Deliver the RGF Wave 2 Business Support Programme
- Develop a Greater Brighton Employment and Skills Programme
- Explore options for establishing a Greater Brighton Investment Fund and Investment Panel
- Identify and prioritise a pipeline of investment projects for future investment
- Report investment proposals, delivery progress and outcomes to the Greater Brighton Economic Board

3.8 The projects that fall within the Greater Brighton Investment Programme will be based on the principle of added value. The focus on the programme will be upon the key strategic city-region issues in relation to sustainable economic growth and prosperity which, collectively, add value to work underway in individual local authorities and by partners at district level. The programme deliberately does not set out to encompass all of the work in relation to economic prosperity and growth that Greater Brighton authorities will do in the coming years.

3.9 The Greater Brighton City Region's success in accessing funds and freedoms in the future therefore depends on its ability to collaborate across the City Region, to commit assets and resources and develop a clear, shared vision that involves the private sector and that transcends local authority boundaries. The introduction of formal investment programme management arrangements for the Greater Brighton Investment Programme are also anticipated to:

- Add impact – enabling delivery beyond the capabilities of any one partner to create greater benefits for residents, businesses and communities.
- Reduce costs – pooling resources and common functions when appropriate, and finding new and better ways of working, by sharing perspectives and intelligence and challenging views within the partnership.

- Boost resources – attracting funding and unlocking investment that require partnership bids and/or working and having the structures to deliver joint-projects.
 - Improve accountability – linking the work done at regional level into a system of democratic accountability through reporting to the Greater Brighton Economic Board.
 - Enhance authority and influence – creating a more powerful voice in to Government.
 - Spread risks and opportunities.
- 3.10 The Officer Programme Board will also identify proposals for new projects and investments that will support the economic prosperity of the city region and present these proposals to the Greater Brighton Economic Board for approval. This will include working with the Coast to Capital LEP to negotiate and secure funding from government. Recommendations to the board for investment of funding would normally be proposed on the basis of:
1. Proportionality to the economically active demographic of each administrative area;
 2. Deliverability of the proposed project;
 3. Value for money and return on investment ;
 4. Economic impact to the city region as a whole.
- 3.11 The Officer Programme Board will provide quarterly monitoring, communication and performance reports and an annual report to the Greater Brighton Economic Board, each partner local authority and the Coast to Capital LEP on the delivery of the relevant actions within the Investment Programme.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

- 4.1 In developing the Greater Brighton Investment Programme Brief a review of the City Deal project to date was undertaken by members of the Officer Project board. The proposals outlined in Appendix 1 aim to strengthen the overall delivery capacity and programme management of the Investment Programme

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION:

- 5.1 The City Deal Officer board has developed the proposed programme brief which includes representation from the partner local authorities, business partnerships, universities and Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership.

6. CONCLUSION:

- 6.1 The Greater Brighton Investment Programme will provide the officer programme delivery arrangements to ensure that the investment programme remains on track and is delivered by coordinating economic development activities and investment at the city region level. Officer Programme Board will report to the Economic Board. This approach aims to be more strategic and streamlined, efficient and effective.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 The lead authority shall provide administrative support to the Greater Brighton Investment Programme for financial, legal, reporting and administration services. The Investment Programme will be administered by a full-time post (Greater Brighton Business Manager) funded from the contributions from partners through the establishment of the Greater Brighton Economic Board. Each partner will need to commit officer time to attend Officer Programme Board meetings. Each project reporting into the investment programme will have its own independent resource requirements and will be subject to individual business cases.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant 09/05/14

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The Programme will focus upon the key strategic city-region issues in relation to sustainable economic growth and prosperity which, collectively, add value to work underway in individual local authorities and by partners at district level. It does not set out to encompass all of the work in relation to economic prosperity and growth that Greater Brighton authorities and the LEP will seek to achieve in the coming years. Appendix 1 to the Investment Programme sets out the governance structure.

Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce

Date: 09/05/14

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 The City Deal forms part of the wider economic strategy, which aims to tackle barriers to employment and create employment opportunities for all. An equalities impact assessment of the City Deal proposals will be undertaken as these are finalised with Government.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 The aim of the City Deal is for Greater Brighton to become a high performing City Region that prioritises sustainable economic growth in innovative low carbon, high-tech and creative businesses.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.5 None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Greater Brighton Investment Programme Brief

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None.

Background Documents:

None