

Subject:	Greater Brighton Investment Programme: Programme Update Report		
Date of Meeting:	13 February 2015		
Report of:	Chair, Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board		
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LA(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Greater Brighton Economic Board with a progress update on the Greater Brighton Investment Programme.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Economic Board is asked to note the contents of this report.

3. PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3.1 The Dashboard and Programme Management Reporting Book attached as Appendix 1a and 1b provides an overview of each project that is contained within the Investment Programme, including its current status.
- 3.2 The Greater Brighton Investment Programme is progressing to time, budget and quality and there are no major issues to report to the Economic Board.
- 3.3 An overview of the Investment Programme's progress and highlights is provided in the following paragraphs.

Newhaven Flood Alleviation Scheme

- 3.4 The Environment Agency (EA) has been undertaking options development and topographical surveys, to help assess the best solutions for defences along the east and west banks of the Ouse in Newhaven. Ground investigation works are being planned with contractors.
- 3.5 The 'Newhaven flood alleviation scheme' webpage is now available at www.gov.uk/environment-agency. The EA is holding a public consultation between 09 February 2015 and 7 March 2015, to present their initial draft options. The consultation includes manned public exhibitions, which were held on 09 and 13 February 2015, at the Hillcrest Centre in Newhaven.

- 3.6 In order to spend the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funding in time, three 'quick wins' have been identified. Work on these is ongoing and includes:
- Network Rail – in February 2015, the EA's consultants will be working with Network Rail to carry out a topographic survey by the level crossing in Newhaven. This will provide critical information to help assess options to create a barrier at the crossing.
 - West Bank – the EA has created some draft outline designs, which were available for public comment at the exhibitions in February 2015.
 - University Technical College (UTC) – the EA will continue to work with Kier to explore ways in which to combine flood defence works with their activities.

New England House Growth Centre

- 3.7 The £4.9m City Deal funding has now been approved by the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) and transferred to the Brighton & Hove City Council. The Council is currently examining options for bringing forward the redevelopment and refurbishment of New England House and will be consulting with tenants and other stakeholders as part of this process.

Brighton Digital Exchange

- 3.8 Work has commenced on site to build the Brighton Digital Exchange at New England House. Fibre cabling is being installed throughout the building and the host room for the Digital Exchange is being established. It is expected that work on the Digital Exchange will be completed before end-March 2015.

Superconnected Cities Programme (Broadband Voucher Scheme)

- 3.9 On 14 January 2015, the Super Connected City Programme Board agreed a proposal to extend the boundary of the Broadband Voucher Scheme to cover the urban areas and business clusters of the Greater Brighton City Region – including the town centres of Burgess Hill, Lewes and Newhaven and Adur and Worthing.
- 3.10 Brighton & Hove City Council made a formal request to extend the boundary of the Scheme to Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) on 16 January 2015. At the time of writing, a decision is being awaited (it is expected by end-January 2015, to allow for roll-out from February 2015). Roll-out is reliant on the approval of the proposed boundaries by the Greater Brighton Economic Board on 13 February 2015. A report on this is featured elsewhere on the agenda.

Preston Barracks Central Research Laboratory

- 3.11 The Preston Barracks Growth Centre, known as the Central Research Laboratory (CRL), is a key component of the comprehensive mixed-use redevelopment of the former barracks site, which is part of a wider regeneration scheme involving the University of Brighton's Moulscroomb campus. Since the exchange of contracts in July 2014, Brighton & Hove City Council has worked closely with Cathedral and the University of Brighton to progress the overall scheme and good progress has been made, with the vision and plans for the CRL being a particular focus during the past few months.

- 3.12 Cathedral submitted the Full Business Case for the CRL in October 2014. The total cost of the CRL is approximately £13m – £7.7m of which will come from the Local Growth Fund and £5.5m will be sourced by Cathedral. The CRL will respond to a very real need in the City – delivering workspace, technical infrastructure and business support tailored to the needs of individuals and businesses designing and making physical products.
- 3.13 Cathedral’s team has devised a strategy for a range of “meanwhile uses” that will directly inform the long-term vision for the CRL; a range of initiatives that will begin the process of engaging with the target user groups and that will effectively act as a pilot of the CRL. This programme is expected to start in April 2015, subject to confirmation of funding, and will run through to December 2016.

Shoreham Flood Defences – Adur Tidal Walls

- 3.14 The detailed design work on the £25m flood defence scheme is progressing well and is currently on track. It is intended to have a design freeze in February 2015, to allow for public consultation in advance of a full planning application being submitted in June 2015. The application would be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Subject to planning permission being granted, it is intended that a tender for the construction of the approved scheme would be let in late 2015, with a start on site in early 2016.

Shoreham Flood Defences – Western Harbour Arm

- 3.15 The Shoreham Harbour Regeneration project is dependent on the implementation of a comprehensive flood defence solution to facilitate the development of up to 1,100 dwellings (the Harbour is a strategic housing allocation in Adur’s emerging Local Plan). As part of the evidence base for the Local Plan and Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) viability issues have been identified, because of the high infrastructure costs and business relocation costs. In light of a funding gap to bring forward the strategic housing and employment allocation at the Harbour, the Partnership was successful in achieving £3.5m Local Growth Fund funding to help close the funding gap.
- 3.16 Following consultation on the Shoreham Harbour Flood Risk Management Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), it was identified that two priority projects –Sussex Yacht Club and Kingston Beach – could be delivered more quickly at either end of the Western Harbour Arm, which would help to establish design principles for the rest of the comprehensive flood defence solution and help to facilitate and reduce flood defence costs for key development sites. Delivery of the two flood defence schemes have been clearly enhanced by strong support for the schemes from the Yacht Club and Kingston Beach, which is owned by Adur District Council.
- 3.17 A draft tender document is to be prepared by end-February 2015 for the detailed design work, with work to commence at the end of 2015.

Business Finance

- 3.18 The Regional Growth Fund (RGF) Business Grants Programme, which includes both the Greater Brighton and the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership’s

Grants Schemes, is now closed. The Programme, which was oversubscribed, has offered Wave 2 RGF Business Growth grants to 20 companies across the Greater Brighton City Region, totalling £968,048 and with private match funding totalling £5,343,653. This will realise 184 planned jobs before April 2017 (against an original jobs target for grants of 65).

- 3.19 The total claim paid to date is £204,384 and the balance to be assigned (by June 2015) is £763,664.
- 3.20 Other business support elements of the RGF Programme are on-track to deliver by end June 2015. This includes the Business Navigator signposting service that is run by the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership and the Business Support 'Toolkit', which is delivered by the University of Brighton, Chichester and Sussex, Wired Sussex and the Sussex Innovation Centre. Jobs and other outputs for these support programmes are on target, according to the profile agreed with Lancaster University.
- 3.21 In addition, two of the business support delivery providers – the University of Brighton and the Sussex Innovation Centre (SinC) – have negotiated a change to their contract to alter their delivery model. This has had a minimal impact on the expected outcomes but has allowed £25,947, originally allocated to the business support programmes, to be reallocated to business growth grants, allowing more companies to be supported and generating more jobs and private cash match.
- 3.22 Lewes District Council's LEAP and Brighton & Hove City Council's Ride the Wave programmes continue to deliver public match funding outputs according to the agreed profile.

Local Growth Fund Round 1

- 3.23 The Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership has now received all Local Growth Fund Round 1 Business Cases for the City Region. These were or are to be appraised as follows:

Enterprise Committee – 07 January 2015

- Advanced Engineering Centre

Investment Committee – 26 January 2015

- Preston Barracks Central Research Laboratory
- Brighton Circus Street and Edward Street Quarter
- Shoreham Flood Defences
- Newhaven Flood Defences

Local Transport Body – late 2015

- Brighton Valley Gardens

- 3.24 The Enterprise and Investment Committees have ratified and/or approved the above business cases, which will now be recommended to the full Board.
- 3.25 The Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership is currently finalising the governance framework and the respective Accountable Body and Delivery Body Agreements.

European Structural and Investment Funds

- 3.26 The Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership has invited the Economic Board to nominate a representative and an alternate to join its European Structural & Investment Fund (ESIF) Committee. It is proposed that the Board nominate the Chair of the Brighton & Hove Economic Partnership as the representative and the Development Director of the Shoreham Port Authority as the alternate (subject to their agreement). A report on this is featured elsewhere on the agenda.
- 3.27 A pipeline of projects that could respond to the Coast to Capitals Calls for ESIF funding is currently under development and meetings are taking place with partners to discuss the potential bids in relation to Business Support, Employment and Skills and Social Inclusion.

Greater Brighton Background Papers – Understanding Our Economy

- 3.28 Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners (NLP) have begun phase one – evidence review and data gathering – of their work to prepare a set of background papers on the economy, housing and transport, to support the Economic Board to develop a greater understanding of the economic geography of the Greater Brighton City Region. The work encompasses Chichester and Arun.
- 3.29 The emerging findings were presented to the both Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board and the Greater Brighton Officer Programme Board on 12 and 19 January 2015 respectively. A stakeholder workshop was also held on 03 February 2015.
- 3.30 A presentation will be made to the Economic Board on 13 February 2015 and it is proposed that the final report will be launched at the Board meeting on 21 April 2015.

Greater Brighton – Next steps for the City Region Economy

- 3.31 A scoping paper outlining the proposed next steps for the City Region has been drafted, for presentation to the Economic Board on 13 February 2014. The next steps are focused on developing the City Region's long-term economic priorities and goals and on exploring the options for new delivery models for services relating to economic development, to ensure that the City Region partners have the continued capacity to deliver. A report on this is featured elsewhere on the agenda.
- 3.32 The timings of these discussions are key, to allow the City Region to seize any new opportunities that are created following the upcoming general election.

LGC Awards 2015

- 3.33 Brighton & Hove City Council has been shortlisted for the LGC Award in the Driving Growth category. The award submission included progress on the delivery of the Greater Brighton Investment Programme. The pitch was made to the judging panel on 27 January 2015 and the winners will be announced in March 2015.

Burgess Hill Employment Sites Study

- 3.34 Mid Sussex District Council has commissioned consultants to update their 2012 Burgess Hill Employment Sites Study. This will form part of the evidence base for the emerging District Plan. As part of their work, the consultant team (Chilmark in partnership with Urban Delivery and Prime Example Consulting) will be considering the City Deal implications for their employment land allocations.

Coastal West Sussex and Greater Brighton Strategic Planning Board

- 3.35 The Strategic Planning Board has agreed to the recruitment of a dedicated resource to lead the co-ordination and delivery of its activities. The job advertisement closed on 22 January 2015 and the interviews will be held during week commencing 02 February 2015.

4. TASKS TO BE COMPLETED IN THE NEXT PERIOD

- 4.1 The next period will be focused on:

- Reviewing and agreeing the Local Growth Fund Round 1 governance arrangements.
- Working with the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership to develop clear monitoring and reporting processes for City Deal and Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Funded projects.
- Working with partners to continue to develop the pipeline of projects for the Local Growth Fund Round 2.
- Working with partners to continue to develop the pipeline of projects in preparation for the Calls on European Structural and Investment Funds funding.
- Agreeing the Greater Brighton Economic Board representation on the Coast to Capital ESIF Committee.
- Pending the approval of the Economic Board and confirmation from BDUK, rolling-out the Voucher Scheme across the Greater Brighton City Region.
- Working with NLP to develop the Greater Brighton background papers.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 This report is for information and noting only. The report provides updates on the progress of a number of projects each with varying sources of funding and with the delivery of different financial impacts to the City Region. The financial implications relating to each of the projects in the programme will have been and will continue to be considered at appropriate stages by the respective lead bodies.

Finance Officer Consulted: Rob Allen, Principal Accountant, BHCC
Date: 29.01.15

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 This report is for information and noting only. The legal implications relating to each of the projects in the programme will have been and will continue to be considered at appropriate stages by the respective lead bodies.

Lawyer Consulted: Bob Bruce, Deputy Head of Law BHCC Date: 27.01.15

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None. As the business cases for the individual projects are developed, lead partners will be asked to develop an Equality Impact Assessment on their project, if appropriate.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 None.

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 5.5 None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

Appendix 1a: Investment Programme – Dashboard

Appendix 1b: Investment Programme – Programme Management Book

Background Documents

None.

