

26 June 2012

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY

INTRODUCTION TO SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide the Economic Development Committee with an introductory overview of the key service areas within its remit, and to advise on the budgetary position for 2012-13.

Information and Advice

2. To support the new Committee's work, officers will set out the main projects, activities and budgetary commitments for the Council's Economic Development work under the following main headings:
 - § Leadership
 - § Employment and Skills
 - § Business Prosperity

A short introduction has also been included as Appendix A to this report.

3. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions following the initial overview.
4. The Committee's consideration of the current priorities for Economic Development will inform the future Work Programme.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

5. To support the Committee's ongoing consideration of Economic Development matters across Nottinghamshire and to inform future discussions about the Council's Economic Development budget.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below.

Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee notes and comments on the introductory information provided about the Council's Economic Development priorities and budget.

Celia Morris
Group Manager, Corporate Strategy

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Celia Morris (0115 977 2043)

Constitutional Comments

10. As the report is for noting only, no constitutional comments are required.

Financial Comments

11.

Background Papers

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

Economic Development Roles & Responsibilities 2012-13

For the current 2012-13 business planning and financial year, the service has three core priorities as reflected in the County Council's Budget Book and the team plan as follows :

A. Business & Prosperity which includes:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nottinghamshire Growth Plan ○ Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan ○ Nottinghamshire Enterprise Zone ○ Nottinghamshire Business Investment Zones ○ Business engagement activities ○ Local supply chain – improving access to Council contracts ○ Social enterprise development ○ Invest in Nottingham | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Market towns ○ Innovation centres ○ Nottingham Development Enterprise + green technologies ○ Legacy activity – equity and loans stakes ○ Nottinghamshire Equity Fund ○ High Growth Business project |
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B. Employment & Skills which includes:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work Clubs ○ Wheels 2 Work ○ Apprenticeships / work experience ○ Money champions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Youth employment |
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C. Leadership which includes:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership ○ Joint Leadership and Core City Board ○ European Regional Development Funds ○ Experience Nottinghamshire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LEADER (rural economy) Programme |
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Brief descriptions against each work area and (where applicable) budgetary allocations are outlined in the tables following.

| Work area | Description | Lead officer | Budget 2012-13 |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|--|
| Notts Growth Plan | Development of a long-term Growth Plan for the County. This will be a partnership document framing a vision for the Nottinghamshire economy, and key actions. | Celia Morris Matt Lockley | £0 |
| Notts Local Broadband Plan | Delivery of a £17 million investment in superfast broadband across rural Nottinghamshire. Project currently in the procurement phase – delivery expected to commence Q4 2012-13, and complete March 2015. 116,000 properties to benefit from superfast broadband. | Nicola McCoy Brown | £2.15 million capital; £450,000 revenue |
| Notts Enterprise Zone | Alliance Boots + 3 other sites designated as Enterprise Zone. Contribution to strategic direction and delivery. | Geoff George | £0 |
| Notts Business Investment Zones | Develop a strategic approach to investment sites across the County, which can be marketed as a portfolio. Secure further funding to kick-start these sites. | Geoff George | £0, but potential to attract |
| Business engagement | Facilitating Nottinghamshire Business Engagement Group (NBEG) and visits by Committee Chairman and (formerly) Cabinet to large and high growth companies across the County. Retaining relationships with business support and representative organisations. | Sue Hetherington | £15,000 |
| Supply chain development | Working through organisations such as the East Midlands Property Alliance to support smaller companies to get the accreditation / standards they need to be able to bid for public sector contracts. Expanding this activity in 2012-13. | Hilary Porter | £30,000 |
| Social enterprise development | Continuing support to fledgling social enterprises in Nottinghamshire – | Hilary Porter | £0 |

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| | consideration needed for this work going forward. | | |
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| Work area | Description | Lead officer | Budget 2012-13 |
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| Invest in Nottingham | Staff and cash contribution to the Invest in Nottingham function which is hosted by the City Council. Focus on securing inward investment enquiries and converting these into actual investments. Promoting the wider County offer through the Invest brand. | Tom Rawsterne | £0 – to be agreed. |
| Market towns | Exploring the scope for Nottinghamshire's market towns to be drivers for growth. [note: the Leader is involved with this workstream]. | Sue Hetherington | £0 |
| Innovation centres | Ongoing management of a contract which integrates management of three innovation centres in Nottinghamshire. Driving better performance from the centres' bottom lines, and increasing their reach into the wider business community. | Kay Massingham | £50,000 for underpinning contract; £20,000 for innovation outreach. |
| Nottingham Development Enterprise – low carbon economy | Ongoing contribution to NDE who support the Nottinghamshire Green Tech Network and deliver low carbon events and training in Nottinghamshire. | Matt Lockley | £10,000 |
| Legacy activity – loans and equity | The County Council had a business loans and equity programme in the late 1990s / early 2000s. Some legacy issues relating to County Council stakeholdings remain. | Geoff George | £0 |
| Nottinghamshire Equity Fund | Proposed new equity fund for business growth, with significant contribution from the County Pension Fund. | Matt Lockley | £10 million (subject to Pension Fund approval) |
| High Growth Business support | Business development project for early and micro businesses that have the potential to become 'high growth' (which would then enable them to access Government funds). To be | Sue Hetherington | £50,000 |

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| | delivered with Nottingham City Council and the University of Nottingham | | |
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| Work area | Description | Lead officer | Budget 2012-13 |
|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Work Clubs | Developing and maintaining a network of Work Clubs across the County. Volunteer-led model, with initial support and ongoing networking by the County Council. Some capacity building activity in children's centres to roll the model out further. | Denise Stephenson, Trish Adams | £50,000 |
| Wheels 2 Work | Ongoing support for a project run by the Rural Community Action Network. Provides access to travel funding and / or subsidised moped hire for people in rural areas who would otherwise struggle to access work. | Trish Adams | £30,000 |
| Making the Connection | Allocation to cover staff costs incurred due to project closure not aligning with notice periods. | Geoff George | Max £7,000 |
| Apprenticeships / work experience | Consideration of Nottinghamshire Apprentice of the Year awards. | Hilary Porter | £0 – to be agreed |
| Money champions | Support for money advisors to go into community venues (principally children's centres) to help parents to handle financial issues more effectively. | Hilary Porter | £10,000 |
| Youth employment | Economic development contribution to work around tackling the youth unemployment rate in the County, which is higher than the City and the national average. | Trish Adams | £0 |
| D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership | Officer support to the Leader and Chief Executive in their roles on the LEP Board and Officer Group. Lead role for the food and drink manufacturing sector. | Matt Lockley | £5,000 |
| Joint Leadership and Core City Boards | Officer support to the Joint Leadership and Core City Boards, which are the principal economic development partnerships for the area. JLB is chaired | Matt Lockley | £0 |

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| | by the Leader. | | |
| European Regional Development Funds | Ongoing leadership role for the County Council in terms of the management of the Nottinghamshire ERDF programme. | Kay Massingham | £0 |
| Experience Nottinghamshire | Strategic relationship management of the County Council's contract and work with Experience Nottinghamshire, the tourist board for the County. | Matt Lockley | £118,000 |
| LEADER (rural economy) | Contribution to the LEADER project, which supports rural economic growth in Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood. | Nicola McCoy Brown | £5,000 |
| Edwinstowe and Robin Hood Festival | Potential contribution to activities to support businesses in Edwinstowe Village and to ensure that they benefit from the influx of visitors to the Robin Hood Festival (picks up recommendation from scrutiny) | Trish Adams | Max £5,000 |

Total allocation to projects - £405,000 (excludes Nottinghamshire Broadband Plan, which has a separate allocation agreed by County Council in December 2011).

Total revenue budget - £437,000

Left to allocate - £32,000

[Note: total staff costs for Economic Development of £407,012]