

Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, 03 February 2015 at 14:00

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

AGENDA

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting held on 6 January 2015 | 3 - 6 |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence | |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)
(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) | |
| 4 | Support for Town Centre Initiatives 2014-15 | 7 - 18 |
| 5 | The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub | 19 - 22 |
| 6 | Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund | 23 - 30 |
| 7 | Pilgrim Fathers Feasibility Study Costs and Appointment | 31 - 32 |
| 8 | Work Programme | 33 - 36 |

Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.

- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

Customer Services Centre 0300 500 80 80

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.

- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

minutes

Meeting	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Date	6 January 2015 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with `A`

COUNCILLORS

Diana Meale (Chair)
Roy Allan (Vice-Chair)

John Knight
John Wilmott
Keith Longdon
Philip Owen

Michael Payne
John Ogle

A Alan Rhodes (Ex-Officio)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS

A Mr M Chivers – (Alliance Boots)
A Ms N Gasson - (Federation of Small Businesses)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Celia Morris	- Policy, Planning and Corporate Services
Matt Lockley	- Policy, Planning and Corporate Services
Fiona Anderson	- Policy Planning and Corporate Services
Hilary Porter	- Policy Planning and Corporate Services
Mandy Ramm	- Policy Planning and Corporate Services
Martin Gately	- Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

None.

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rachel Panther	- Business Support Director, Oxford Innovation
Dr Naomi Mills	- Chiropractor, Chiromarket
John Yarham	- Chief Executive, Futures

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The following changes of membership for this meeting were noted: Councillor Philip Owen replaced Councillor Gordon Wheeler for this meeting only. Councillor Keith Longdon replaced Councillor Jason Zadrozny for this meeting only.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 9 December 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Mark Chivers and Natalie Gasson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

EVALUATION OF THE SPARK NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Members received an initial presentation from Rachel Panther, Business Support Director at Oxford Innovation. Ms Panther indicated that in addition to the £20k or funding from the County Council there had also been £38k of private sector funding. The website launched in January and there was also a marketing campaign. This was a business idea competition and a prize was provided for the winners. The winners receive intensive strategic support and access to growth accelerator funding.

Ms Panther gave updates on the finalists: DISE, an App developer for societies and businesses, Miashy – a small family run restaurant in Retford with great potential, and Veintrain – a medical procedures training company with a three year growth plan. They are moving from Lincoln to West Bridgford and have already created two jobs with two more anticipated within a calendar year.

Dr Naomi Mills, a chiropractor and Spark Business Support Programme finalist presented information regarding her business idea – The ChiroMarket – which offers marketing tools and resources tailored to chiropractic businesses.

RESOLVED 2015/001

That the report be noted.

N2 SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT BOARD

RESOLVED 2015/002

That the work and priorities of the [N2 Skills and Employment Board](#) be noted.

SUPPORTING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

RESOLVED 2015/003

- 1) That the report be noted
- 2) That the flexible use of the £30,000 allocated for pre-apprenticeship funding with delegated approval for the menu of options described in point 12 of the report.

KEY ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT – ANNUAL REVIEW

RESOLVED 2015/004

- 1) That the report and recommendations for further work in developing the KAM approach be noted.
- 2) That a further report on progress with key account relationships be received in January 2016

RESPONSE SUBMITTED UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURE CONSULTATION RESPONSE – THE D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP GROWTH HUB STRATEGY

RESOLVED 2015/005

That the contents of the report and the response to the consultation be noted

EXPERIENCE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – LETTER OF SUPPORT

RESOLVED 2015/006

That the use of urgency procedure to authorise the Council's letter of support for Experience Nottinghamshire be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME

Broadband - Members requested further details on the financial outlay to BT for the delivery of each phase of Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire against the projected programme.

RESOLVED 2015/007

That the work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 15:23 pm

CHAIR

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3rd February 2015**Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****SUPPORT FOR TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVES 2014-15****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Economic Development Committee on work commissioned to baseline the performance of some of Nottinghamshire's key town and service centres and to consider a proposed approach to taking this work forward.

Information and Advice

2. This Committee agreed its overall budget and broad headings for initiatives over 2014-15 at its meeting in March 2014. At that meeting, up to £60,000 was allocated towards town centre initiatives. Committee further agreed that £40,000 should be for master planning approaches to town and service centres, including the collection of baseline data in local centres at an estimated cost of £15,000 at its meeting in June 2014.
3. At the June Committee, Members approved a proportion of the town centre allocation (£20,000) to support activities in Mansfield town centre. A progress report covering these activities will be presented at the Economic Development Committee in March 2015.
4. Previous research undertaken by transport and highways found that whilst local centre improvements and public transport interchange investment has a positive impact on economic development, there was a lack of quantifiable results to underpin case studies. Such evidence is critical in developing robust business cases and delivering future external funding bids. The priority with this commission was to establish baseline data that would be able to be used to assess the impact of future capital investment in highways schemes in town and retail centres.
5. People and Places Consultancy successfully tendered for the contract to collect and collate data to baseline the performance of four local centres where the County Council has investment plans and facilitate the identification of increased economic vibrancy consequent to environmental improvements. Evaluation of the impact of environmental improvements and highways schemes will enable comparisons to be extrapolated for future funding bids.
6. People and Places have carried out research over October and November 2014 to inform an economic baseline involving:

- Footfall
- Commercial vacancy rates (measures per square ft.)
- Property values
- Employment

In relation to four local centre initiatives;

- Worksop Bus Station
- Hucknall Inner Relief Road
- Retford Railway Station
- Westdale Lane, Gedling

These locations were identified with colleagues in transport and highways and the district council areas concerned.

7. The research has been carried out at a cost of £13,500. The successful tender includes methodology training and a 2015 benchmarking license. Follow up activity may therefore be possible and could allow for an assessment about the economic benefit actually derived from completed physical schemes, depending on their completion schedule.
8. Mike King, Director of People and Places Consultancy will present his findings to Members. A summary findings report of the work undertaken is contained in appendix 1. The full report is available upon request.

Other Options Considered

9. Economic Development Committee considered a range of potential activities in town centres including conversion of empty properties, vouchers for professional services, development of loyalty schemes and/or locally focused apps to support shopping.
10. The activity chosen for support is affordable within the available budget and lends itself to collaboration with other Councils or with other parts of the County Council, focused on developing the mixed use of town centres.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. To support the Committee in meeting its priorities regarding town centre development as approved at its March 2014 meeting.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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) It is recommended that;
 - a) Economic Development Committee notes the consultant's report.
 - b) Economic Development Committee considers options for town centre regeneration activity as part of its budget planning at a future meeting
 - c) Now the baseline data has been collected, highways officers manage the subsequent evaluation of the listed integrated transport schemes.

Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Sam Jones, 73067

Constitutional Comments [SLB 19.01.2015]

Economic Development Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [SEM 16.01.2015]

The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Town Centre Initiatives: report to Economic Development Committee, 3rd June 2014, published.

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 3rd June 2014, published.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

Worksop West – Councillor Kevin Greaves

Hucknall – Councillors Alice Grice, John Wilkinson, John Wilmott

Retford West – Councillor Ian Campbell

Carlton West – Councillors Jim Creamer, Darrell Pulk

**BASELINE ECONOMIC ASSESSMENTS
TO SUPPORT PLANNED
INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIVITY**

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2014



Mike King

Senior Consultant

mike.king@people-places.co.uk

01908 776940

SUMMARY OF BASELINE FINDINGS

HUCKNALL

Use Class Mix

55% of the units in the Mapped town centre area are A1 Shops and 20% A2; Financial and Professional Services. The defined Hucknall town centre does not have any D1 Non Residential Institutions however within the holistic area 12 of the recorded premises are D1 Non Residential Institutions and as the table below highlights this include. Thus, if the wider town centre outside of the defined mapped area were to be included, 8% of the ground floor units are D1; Non Residential Institutions, 2% higher than the National Small Towns average. When reviewing the wider town centre, 49% are A1 Shops which is 4% lower than the National Small Towns average, 14% are A2; Financial and Professional Services and 7% Sui Generis, which includes units such as Nail Bars and Beauty Salons.

High Vacancy Rates

11% of the units in the defined town centre area were vacant at the time of the retail audit, higher than the National Small Towns average (8%). When looking at the overall town centre the vacancy rate increases to 15%. To place this data into further context, in spring 2014 the Local Data Company reported that vacancy figures for all town centres in Great Britain was 14%, however the Hucknall figure is still markedly higher than the National Small Towns figure.

High Proportion of Convenience Retailers

59% of the A1 Shops in Hucknall mainly sell comparison goods, whilst 41% mainly sell convenience goods, vastly higher than the National Small Towns average of 21%. When the details from the A1 Shops outside of the mapped area are included the proportion of convenience retailers drops to 34%, but still higher than the National Small Towns figure.

Blend of Independent and Nationwide Traders

Over three quarters of the A1 Shops in the mapped area are unique to Hucknall, whilst 48% have a nationwide presence. When reviewing the wider town centre, 64% of the A1 Shops are independent traders, 4% lower than the National Small Towns average, whilst 33% have a nationwide presence, 8% higher than the National figure.

Highest Footfall on Saturdays

The overall average for Saturday footfall in Hucknall across all three count point locations is 79 persons per ten minutes, 53 persons per ten minutes higher than the Sunday footfall figure, and 6 persons per ten minutes higher than the Market Day Count.

Footfall noticeably tails off in the evening with overall averages across all three count points being; 24.6 persons per ten minutes at 17.00-18.00, 22.3 persons per ten minutes at 18.00-19.00 and 26.3 persons per ten minutes at 19.00-20.00.

High Market Day Footfall

When comparing Hucknall with the People and Places Town Centre Performance Review system which measures footfall at 10.00-13.00 at the busiest location, the Hucknall figure of 143 compares favourably with the National Small Towns average of 122.

Low Footfall on Sunday

Footfall on the Sunday in Hucknall peaked at 12.00-13.00, with an aggregate count of 124 persons across the 3 count times, averaging at 41 persons per ten minutes. This figure is higher than the overall day average of 26 persons per ten minutes, but noticeably lower than the Market Day figure of 73 persons per ten minutes across all three count point locations throughout the day.

Employment Levels in Town Centre

56 of the Business provided data in terms of employment, providing a response rate of 66%. In total 123 people are employed Full Time, 89 Part Time and 86 as Volunteers. On average 2.2 people are employed Full Time per commercial unit and 1.6 Part Time.

Significant Employment Decline in Super Output Area

Total employment in the Hucknall-Ashfield 014 super output area has declined significantly since 2010 and particularly in 2013. This decline is due to a marked loss of jobs in 2013 in construction. 'Other services' are the largest sector and jobs have remained fairly stable between 2009 and 2013 but have fallen from a peak in 2010/2011. Jobs in the retail sector and education, health and public administration have also been relatively stable in recent years.

Average Commercial Property Sale Price of £283,800

The last sale price of 6 commercial properties (all retail) sold in Hucknall town centre over recent years is an average of £283,800. Two retail properties are currently on the market with an average selling price of £210,000. The average price of properties currently for sale or sold in recent years is £183 per sq.ft, similar to that in Worksop and Retford.

Rental Value of £14 per sq.ft

A total of 5 retail properties are currently being marketed to rent in Hucknall town centre with an average rental value of approximately £14 per sq.ft. There is a variation in rental values of between £6 and £19 per sq.ft.

WESTDALE LANE

Shops and Takeaways

46% of the units in the defined town centre area are A1; Shops and 14% A2; Financial and Professional Services. There are also a high proportion of A5; Hot Food Takeaways (16%). 88% of the A1 Units are unique to the locality.

Vacancy Rate

7.5% of the ground floor units in the Mapped area were vacant at the time of the audit

Employment Levels

On average 2.85 people are employed Full Time per commercial unit and 2.1 Part Time.

Increase in Employment

There has been an overall increase in employment in the area around the Westdale centre in Gedling since 2009 but with a decrease in 2013. It is a relatively small centre with employment dominated by education and health services and a variety of 'other services'. The retail sector is small and quite stable. Construction jobs have declined steadily over recent years.

Higher Evening Footfall

Average daily footfall over the two weekday counts is 25.5 persons per ten minutes which increased slightly on the Saturday to 29 persons per ten minutes. Footfall markedly drops from the Saturday to the Sunday by 36%. Interestingly, aggregate footfall is higher between 16.00-20.00 than between 10.00-14.00 on both the weekdays and the Saturday. Footfall figures remained more constant throughout the day on the Sunday.

Lower Average Rental

Two retail properties are currently being marketed to rent in the centre with an average rental value of approximately £10 per sq.ft., lower than in the larger centres of Worksop, Retford and Hucknall. The range is between £6 and £13 per sq.ft.

RETFORD

Typical Large Town Use Class Mix

58% of the units in the defined town centre area are A1 Shops and 14% A2; Financial and Professional Services. Information on a further 112 units was recorded and added to the 'Mapped' area data to provide a holistic overview of the Town Centre. When adopting this process the proportion of A1; Shops drops to 54%, identical to the National Large Towns average. Taking the Use Class Order breakdown, Retford mirrors the National Large Town pattern.

Nationwide Retailers

Within the 'Mapped' area of Retford town centre, 43% of the A1; Shops are independent to Retford, whilst 47% have a nationwide presence, 10% of which are key attractors. When the data from the wider town centre is added, over half of the A1; Shops are unique to Retford which is lower than the National Small Towns (68%) and National Large Towns (57%) averages, whilst 38% have a nationwide presence, 4% higher than the National Large Towns and 13% higher than the National Small Towns averages.

High Footfall Counts with Saturday Busiest

Footfall is noticeably higher on a Saturday in Retford averaging 382 persons per ten minutes in the prime pitch location in the town centre throughout the day. When using the People and Places Town Centre Performance Review guidelines of counting at 10.00-13.00 the average count is an impressive 497 persons per ten minutes. To place these figures in context, on a Normal Weekday count the average at the peak hours is 252 persons per ten minutes which is also higher than the National Large Towns average of 202 and National Small Towns average of 90.

Employment Levels

83 of the Business provided data in terms of employment, providing a response rate of 49%. In total 239 people are employed Full Time, 251 Part Time and 91 as Volunteers. On average 2.9 people are employed Full Time per commercial unit and 3 Part Time.

Stability in the Retail Sector, large increase in Manufacturing and Construction

Total employment in the Retford town centre area has fluctuated over the period 2009 to 2013. The largest category of employment is in 'other services' which has remained very stable over recent years. Retail jobs have also been very stable over this period. Public sector jobs in education, health and public administration have fluctuated but have shown a small overall increase since 2009. The largest increase has occurred in 2013 in the manufacturing and construction sector in the Utilities category.

Average Commercial Property Sale of £190,400

The last sale price of 8 commercial properties sold in Retford town centre over recent years is an average of £435,000 but this figure is skewed by one very high value. Excluding this property the average sale price is £190,400. Only one retail property is currently on the

market with a selling price of £120,000. The average price of properties currently for sale or sold in recent years is approximately £185 per sq.ft., similar to that in Worksop.

Average Rental Value of £13 per sq.ft

A total of 9 retail and office properties are currently being marketed to rent in Retford town centre with an average rental value of approximately £20 per sq.ft. However, this average is skewed by one office building with a particularly high rent per sq.ft. Excluding this property the average rental value is about £13 per sq.ft. There is a wide variation in rental values of between £6 and £32 per sq.ft.

WORKSOP

High Proportion of Financial and Professional Services in Mapped Area

In the 'Mapped' town centre area, 57% of the commercial units are A1; Shops. Interestingly the proportion of A2; Financial and Professional Services units (21%) is very high in the Mapped area whilst there isn't any A5; Fast Food takeaways representation. When data from the wider town centre is added the proportion of A1; Shops drops slightly to 55% whilst the proportion of A2; Financial and Professional almost halves to 11%. Lower than the National Large Towns average of 13% and National Small Towns average of 14%. 5% of the units in the wider town centre are A5; Hot Food Takeaways which is similar to the National Large Towns average of 3% and identical to the National Small Towns figure.

High Proportion of Nationwide Traders

Within the 'Mapped' area of Worksop town centre, 68% of the A1; Shops have a nationwide presence, 16% of which are key attractors. When the data from the wider town centre is added, nearly half (49%) of the A1; Shops are unique to Worksop which is lower than the National Small Towns (68%) and National Large Towns (57%) averages, whilst 43% have a nationwide presence, 9% higher than the National Large Towns and 18% higher than the National Small Towns averages.

High Vacancy Rates in the Wider Town Centre

Within the Mapped town centre area 6% of the commercial units were vacant at the time of the audit in November. However, when the data from the wider town centre review is added the vacancy rate increases to 15%, which is higher than the National Large Towns figure of 10% and 1% higher than the March 2014 Local Data Company figure for all town centres in Great Britain. (14%)

High Footfall Counts with Saturday Busiest

Footfall increases markedly on a Saturday with an average of 336 persons per ten minutes across the day in the busiest location of Bridge Street, compared to 295 on the Market Day in the week, 205 on a Non Market Day in the week and 87 on a Sunday.

Using the People and Places Town Centre Performance Review Methodology the counts from the busiest locations at 10.00-13.00 the average figure is 391 persons per ten minutes, vastly higher than the National Large (281) and National Small Towns figures (122).

Employment Levels

Within the defined town centre area from the 81 units who supplied data the average number of Full Time staff at the premise is 2.2 whilst the figure for Part Time Staff is 3.6, providing an overall figure of 5.8.

Increase in Professional, Scientific and Technical Services and Stable Retail Sector

Worksop town centre has seen a steady increase in total employment in the period 2009 to 2013. This increase has occurred mostly in the 'other services' sector and particularly in the category of professional, scientific and technical services. 'Other services' represent almost half of all jobs in the town centre. Retailing is the next largest sector. Retail jobs have remained fairly stable over recent years. Public sector jobs in education, health and public administration have declined slightly from a peak in 2010.

Commercial Property Sale Price of £367,500

The last sale price of 8 commercial properties sold in Worksop town centre over recent years is an average of £367,500 but there is a wide variation in prices because of the size and type of properties (retail and office).

Average Rental Value of £19 per sq.ft

A total of 13 retail properties are currently being marketed to rent in Worksop town centre with an average rental value of approximately £19 per sq.ft. There is a wide variation in rental values of between £6 and £26 per sq.ft.

3rd February 2015**Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****THE D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP GROWTH HUB****Purpose of the Report**

1. To offer further details on the development of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Growth Hub and to introduce a presentation on the Growth Hub by the lead officer from the D2N2 LEP.

Information and Advice

2. This Committee considered a brief report at its January 2015 meeting regarding the Council's response to the Growth Hub Strategy consultation and at that meeting, it was agreed that a further report be presented on the Hub's ambitions and timescales for development, complemented by a presentation from the LEP.
3. Growth Hubs have been introduced by Government with a national rollout via Local Enterprise Partnerships following a pilot phase within three areas of Manchester, Cumbria and the Norfolk. Growth Hubs are designed to offer the means whereby businesses across a defined area are offered a single point of access to comprehensive support services to enable them to start and grow.
4. In the recent Growth Deal announcement, the D2N2 LEP secured a total of £525,000 for the 2015/16 financial year as pump-priming resources to help establish a Growth Hub across its area, being a similar figure offered to other LEPs. The D2N2 LEP has been developing the concept and has "soft launched" the Hub from early December 2014 as a pilot phase, with the intention of progressing to a fully operational model in consultation with a range of partners by April 2015.
5. The Council responded positively to the consultation, reflecting on the much researched value that is placed by businesses on securing high quality advice, clearly and openly available, caveated by the need to have high quality advisors complementing the availability of information. Committee will have noted the considerations made by the Council in its response to the LEP's Growth Hub Strategy and given the presentation, this affords members the opportunity to learn more and reflect on the latest position.
6. Specifically, Committee may wish to reflect on the following issues:

- the proposed evaluation of the initial pilot phase and progress to date;
- to avoid confusing businesses, how will relationships with potentially overlapping Hubs be addressed and managed;
- what precise delivery options are being reviewed and anticipated given the proposed appointment of staff – and how will they relate to other business support offers both in place and proposed – nationally as well as locally;
- the financial sustainability of the proposals;
- how might the County Council's offers of support (as referenced in the response to the Strategy) be facilitated and what additionally might be helpful in ensuring a successful Growth Hub development.

Reason(s) for Recommendations

7. To support Committee's understanding of developments in the business support arena, an important part of the development of economic growth across the County.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described within the body of the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. It is recommended that Committee notes the content of the report and welcomes the opportunity to review the Growth Hub's development through the presentation to Committee.

Celia Morris
Group Manager, Corporate Strategy

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Geoff George ext 72046

Constitutional Comments [SLB 19.01.2015]

Economic Development Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [SEM 16.01.2015]

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers

Consultation response submitted under urgency procedure: the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Hub strategy, report to Economic Development Committee, 6th January 2015, published.

The Strategy and related background documentation concerning the development of the Hub by the D2N2 LEP can be viewed at: <http://www.d2n2lep.org/Growth-Hub/>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

3rd February 2015**Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL FUND****Purpose of the Report**

1. To offer Committee an update on progress with the Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund and to request further budgetary approval for the technical support aspects of the Fund.

Background

2. This report follows one considered by Economic Development Committee in September 2014, where the broad details of the outcome of the first round were considered. The considerations offered by Committee were factored into the revised guidance along with feedback offered by others for the re-opening of the Fund. The Fund re-opened for applications from the 7th January 2015. A verbal update will be offered at the February Committee meeting on early progress.
3. This report also confirms progress with applications received and considered under the first round, cross-related with an update offered to Policy Committee on the 10th December related to the two reports on the Economic Development Strategy and the Annual Delivery Plan.

Round 1 Progress

4. Members have been previously informed of progress to date. The table at Appendix A identifies the latest position and now makes reference to a number of individual companies which were previously subject to final sign-off. The tables do not reference by name those companies where the assessment is either on-going, where due diligence is likely to suggest a refusal or where the applicant has not responded to requests for additional information.
5. As it stands therefore, of the £3M agreed as being made available for the overall Fund, it is anticipated that just under £1.8M will be available via the reopened Fund. Regardless, the position is being monitored and at a stage to be agreed, applications not being progressed under Round 1 will be reviewed and closed if no progress can be made.
6. Given the commercial sensitivity associated with each of the projects, some details as referenced in the Appendix have been cumulated. Given the

agreements, individual information and monitoring against the targets is being maintained by the Economic Development Team. Each of the companies have agreed to appropriate press and publicity and this will be facilitated mutually with the company and the Council over forthcoming weeks, including a number anticipated as supporting the publicity associated with the re-opening of the Fund to new applications.

Round 2

7. The Fund re-opened for fresh applications on 7th January 2015. Since reporting in September 2014, the process has been reviewed to reflect the comments offered and while the objectives and overall ambitions for the Fund remain as agreed by this Committee, the approach and the process have been amended, leading to a refresh of all the associated documentation. The main points to note are as follows:
 - Refreshed Guidance and Stage 1 application form to account for State Aid changes and to Assisted Areas which determine eligibility and maximum amounts available;
 - Changes to the Guidance and application form reflecting a change in balance from the information requested at Stage 1 compared to Stage 2 (which is via invitation only after a successful Stage 1);
 - While the Assessment Criteria have only been amended at the margins for clarity and emphasis, the process has been changed to reflect the bullet point above and notably, to facilitate a clearer process for the appointed specialist technical support to engage with the assessment at Stage 2 of the process. However, as previously agreed by this Committee, the actual decisions on individual applications will be made by the Corporate Director for Policy Planning and Corporate Services in consultation with the Chair of the Economic Development Committee.
8. At its September meeting, Committee reflected on the need to ensure that the Fund and the call for new applications is promoted widely. At the time of writing, all of the local Nottinghamshire partners including local and regional business groups, District / Borough Councils, business support agencies, specialist intermediaries, financial institutions, universities etc have been alerted to the new call. They have been requested to cascade the information as widely as possible. The Chair of this Committee has sought to promote the Fund to all members of the Council for any local forward distribution.
9. As referenced in paragraph 6 above, at the time of writing, a series of PR opportunities are being pursued allied with successful applicants under Round 1. As the Fund was then new, while securing a number of high quality applications, promoting the scheme and ensuring its reach proved challenging. However, keeping the Fund's details and the awareness of it open has resulted in a list of over 30 enquiries from individual businesses alone, all of whom have been alerted of the Fund's fresh call.
10. Finally, it may be noted that this call for applications comes at a time when the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) programmes operating across Nottinghamshire (the subject of a previous report to this Committee in September 2014) are

either being wound up, are being expanded into regional schemes or are the subject of further applications to RGF round 6 (decisions anticipated in April 2015). In other words, the availability of alternative grant funding to businesses specifically is in short supply at this period of time.

Technical Support

11. This Committee previously approved a total of £20,000 to procure specialist technical support at Stage 2 of the process. Through an open process, two contractors were appointed, being EMB Limited and Heb (a specialist consultancy in terms of large scale land redevelopments). As all the applications invited to be progressed to Stage 2 related primarily to business capital investment (ie not property or land development) only EMB were involved in the assessment process. Of the £20,000 approved, just over half has been utilised to date to this end.
12. Both organisations remain contracted to support the process under Round 2 and while just over half of the budget remains, given what is expected to be heightened interest in the Fund it should be noted that up to an additional £10,000 may be required to support the second round of applications. It is highly valued support and as partners to the process, EMB for example has offered significant insight and support as regards individual applications and to the process as a whole, in addition to offering further training on State Aid related matters.

Other Options Considered

13. These proposals have been developed at the direct request of this Committee and their views are requested where indicated.

Reason(s) for Recommendations

14. Economic Development Committee was assigned the future management of the Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund by Policy Committee.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described within the text of the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

16. It is recommended that Committee:
 - (a) Notes the progress made under the first round of applications; and

- (b) Notes the developments and operational revisions to the process for the second round call.

Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Geoff George, 72046

Constitutional Comments [SLB 19.01.2015]

This report is for noting only.

Financial Comments [GB 23.01.2015]

The Economic Development Capital Fund is approved within the County Council's capital programme. Additional revenue costs required to support the programme will be funded from within existing Economic Development revenue budgets.

Background Papers

New Capital Investment Proposals, report to Policy Committee, 16 October 2013, published.

Minutes of Policy Committee, 16 October 2013, published.

Economic Development Capital Fund, report to Economic Development Committee, 12 December 2013, published.

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 12 December 2013, published.

Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund, report to Economic Development Committee, 11 February 2014, published.

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 11 February 2014, published.

Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund, report to Economic Development Committee, 16 September 2014, published.

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 16 September 2014, published.

At the time of publication details of the Fund and the fresh call for applications can be reviewed at <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/capitalfund/>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

Appendix A

Name / Number of Applications	NEDCF Value / Award(s)	Summary / Comments
<i>(a) Approved Applications to Date</i>		
Jelly Products, Boughton Nottinghamshire	£43,635	Innovative product design company. Award for capital set up costs for manufacturing facility of new product, being a wheel with integral suspension. The wheel has been sold to end users and equipment manufacturers, but further development is needed to accommodate the market shift towards disc brakes and to develop and manufacture the product for use in the wheelchair and recumbent trike markets.
Aero Fabrications Watnall, Nottinghamshire	£236,000	Manufacturer of precision fabricated details and assemblies for the aerospace industry. Award for development of new / expanded premises and new equipment for new contracts in the manufacture of aircraft wing skins.
Fluid Connections New Ollerton, Nottinghamshire	£145,000	Supplier of fluid transfer products in water, drinks dispensing and plumbing/heating markets. Award for new premises, expansion and production line set up to accommodate assembly, packaging and in-house testing, plus fit out of research and development facility.
Wilkins Print, Colwick Nottinghamshire	£145,500	Printing specialists, particularly in food carton packaging for the retail market and packaging for confectionary, toiletries and household products. Award for purchase two machines to support the conversion of cardboard into food packaging for new and expanding markets.
Goodman, Colwick Nottinghamshire	£178,000	Production and supply of steel and stainless steel fabrication services. Award to increase production capacity through additional workshop and office space, refurbishment and purchase of new capital equipment.

Mainline Mouldings, Langar, Nottinghamshire	£80,000	Suppliers of picture frame moulding and picture frame accessories to independent frame manufacturers. Award to extend warehouse, office and showroom facilities to meet the needs of rapidly expanding business.
Sub-total	£828,135	Key cumulative outputs achieved from the approved awards to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £8.63M of leverage on the investment • Minimum of 66 new jobs plus 15 apprenticeships to be created • 249 existing jobs within companies sustained • Over 4,000 sq m of industrial floors space
<i>(b) Deemed Withdrawn Stage 2 Application</i>		
1 Application (and sub-total)	£166,000	Notice received 15 th January 2015.
<i>(c) Applications Undergoing Continued Due Diligence in Collaboration with the Applicants</i>		
5 applications (and sub-total)	£394,500	
<i>(d) Application Failing to Respond to Requested Information</i>		
1 application (and sub-total)	£78,000	

Notes:

- If no more approvals are made beyond those referenced at (a) above, then a further £2.172M can be made available via Round 2 onwards. This is an unlikely outcome given the progress being made with those 5 referenced at (c) above;
- If those referenced at (a) above plus all of (c) above are approved, then a further £1.777M can be made available via Round 2 onwards.

3rd February 2015

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY

PILGRIM FATHERS FEASIBILITY STUDY COSTS AND APPOINTMENT

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for an additional financial contribution towards a Pilgrim Fathers Project Feasibility Study

Information and Advice

2. Following a report to Economic Development Committee in November 2014 (Item 8 on that agenda), approval was given for expenditure up to £7,500 as a 50% contribution to a feasibility study into potential Pilgrim Fathers project(s) to support the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers landings in America. The remaining funding was to be provided by Bassetlaw District Council – the procuring body.

Appointment of consultants to undertake the Pilgrim Fathers Project Feasibility

3. Bassetlaw District Council undertook a procurement exercise in December 2014 and two quotations were received. One was not compliant and was subsequently withdrawn; the second proceeded to evaluation although the price was above the authorised contributions from both partners.
4. The consultancy – Bowles Green Ltd - is considered to have the appropriate skills, experience and capacity to deliver the study and its objectives. Their tender submission is costed at £18,550. It is therefore requested that the County Council's contribution is increased from £7,500 to £9,275, maintaining the 50% principle agreed with Bassetlaw District Council. There are sufficient funds in the allocation made by Economic Development Committee to place marketing activities to accommodate this.
5. This increased contribution will be matched by Bassetlaw District Council and is considered, after appropriate market testing, to represent value for money and the opportunity to robustly test domestic and international interest in the subject.

Other Options Considered

6. The invitation to quote could be reviewed and the opportunity re-advertised. However this is not considered appropriate as the invitation to quote is already considered to represent the minimum required to deliver a robust report on the viability of the Pilgrim Fathers visitor offer. In addition, reviewing and reissuing the invitation to quote would have time and

resource implications for both Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council which would outweigh the additional financial contribution required.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

8. The additional funding required to support this work can be found from existing budgets allocated to place marketing.

RECOMMENDATION/S

9. It is recommended that :
 - a) Economic Development Committee approves the additional expenditure set out in paragraph 4 of this report.

Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris

For any enquiries about this report please contact Mandy Ramm extension 72685

Constitutional Comments [SLB 19.01.2015]

Economic Development Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [SEM 16.01.2015]

The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Pilgrim Fathers Feasibility Study and Mayflower 400, report to Economic Development Committee, 14th November 2014, published

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 14th November 2014, published

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All Bassetlaw divisions

3 February 2015**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****WORK PROGRAMME****Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2014/15.

Information and Advice

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme. It may be that the presentations about activities in the committee's remit will help to inform this.
5. The work programme already includes a number of reports on items suggested by the committee.

Other Options Considered

6. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

7. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 the committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the Committee wishes to make.

Jayne Francis-Ward
Corporate Director, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately x 72826

Constitutional Comments (HD)

1. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (PS)

2. There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of this report. Any future reports to Committee on operational activities and officer working groups, will contain relevant financial information and comments.

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>For Decision or Information ?</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Report Author</u>
3rd March 2015				
Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – progress update	Update on the roll-out and phase three of the programme and on the outcome of the Superfast Extension application.	Information	Nicola McCoy Brown	Nicola McCoy Brown
Nottinghamshire LEADER programme – establishing the accountable body function	To seek approval for the establishment of new posts and a small project team to oversee the accountable body role for the two Nottinghamshire LEADER programmes	Decision	Mandy Ramm	Mandy Ramm
Town Centre Initiatives – Mansfield Business Improvement District	To consider the initial feasibility study on heritage assets in Mansfield town centre and to consider the future priorities of the Mansfield Business Improvement District.	Information	Fiona Anderson	Fiona Anderson
Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Place Marketing Organisation	To update Committee on plans for the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Place Marketing Organisation and to seek approval for a financial contribution to Experience Nottinghamshire for 2015-16	Decision	Celia Morris	Celia Morris
31st March 2015				
2015-16 budget and delivery plan	To agree the service's delivery plan and budget for 2015-16.	Decision	Celia Morris	Matt Lockley
Nottinghamshire Business Investment Zones	To report back to Members on the work undertaken to assess potential Business Investment Zones in Nottinghamshire	Information	Hilary Porter	Hilary Porter
Supported Internship programme	To consider an update on the supported internship programme for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities	Information	Trish Adams	Trish Adams

<u>Report Title</u>	<u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>	<u>For Decision or Information ?</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Report Author</u>
12th May 2015				
9th June 2015				
7th July 2015				
Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – progress update	Update on the roll-out and phase four of the programme and on the outcome of the tendering process for contract 2.	Information	Nicola McCoy Brown	Nicola McCoy Brown

Last updated 23 January 2015