

**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL****HIGH SPEED 2 (HS2) - RESOURCE PLAN****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report seeks approval to establish a provisional working budget for works necessary to advance the inter-dependent work streams associated with the High Speed 2 (HS2) Growth Strategy and the Housing Infrastructure Funding initiative.

**Information**

2. The report presented to Policy Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 outlined the importance of the HS2 related growth to Nottinghamshire. This followed publication of the East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy in September 2017 and the Midlands Connect Strategy.
3. In summary, as Nottinghamshire will be home to the East Midlands hub in Toton, the county is perfectly placed to capitalise on the economic benefits from high-speed rail. Working with our partners both nationally and locally, we are playing an active role in helping to drive the HS2 programme forward.
4. At the February meeting, it was agreed that an HS2 delivery team would be established to drive forward the County Council engagement in the development of a number of business cases from strategic outline to full business case stage, including any further studies or commissions.
5. In line with the outcomes of our meeting in February, work continues on the appointment of a delivery team with the Service Director for Growth & Investment, David Hughes, and a Programme Director for HS2, Ken Harrison now in position.
6. The delivery team will look to unlock investment in the key strands of the Growth Strategy. For example:
  - Highways – through the Department for Transport and the Road Investment Strategy, working with Highways England to bring forward road infrastructure, especially Junction 25 on the M1;
  - Housing – through the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and the Homes England, linked to Housing Infrastructure Fund and other land and development (including involvement in Lime Rise and Stanton sites); and
  - HS2 – through the Hybrid Bill, design phase and Environmental Impact phase.
7. In February, it was announced that the region has been short listed to submit a bid for forward funding through the Housing Infrastructure Fund for the HS2 Network of Garden

Villages. This will be a joint bid co-ordinated by Nottinghamshire County Council. It will include infrastructure investment in sites across the region.

8. The County Council and partners need to develop a bid with supporting business cases and this will require additional work to be commissioned for the respective sites. The commissions highlighted in this report (12 below) are in context of the sites in Broxtowe, Nottinghamshire i.e. Toton and Chetwynd.
9. The delivery team are engaged in drafting a joint implementation plan between the region and Government. Consideration is being made about how colleagues from respective teams can support the various workstreams including: People, Growth/Supply Chains, Jobs, Skills and Training and Mitigation (from a transport and economic development perspective). At the time of writing, an announcement is awaited regarding further funding being made available from central government in supporting the joint implementation plan.
10. At the HS2 Strategic Board on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, it was agreed that a refreshed Toton Hub Station Delivery Board will oversee the work programme for the Hub Station at Toton and this will involve key partners

### **Early Priorities & Resource Requirements**

11. For a programme of this scale and complexity, it will be necessary to bring on board the very best advice and expertise at the right time. The local delivery team and the Delivery Board will oversee the work and commissions.
12. There is an identified need to appoint a specialist team of advisers to assist in key areas and to provide capacity including:
  - a) Preparation of a clear 'route-map' to delivery and a clear approach to realising the development and infrastructure ambition for the area. Arup have been identified as a preferred supplier for this work and they will bring strong UK and international experience to the project;
  - b) The business case for the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid will need to be co-ordinated and packaged in line with the Treasury Green Book. Amion Consulting Ltd are a specialist team of regeneration economists who have been supporting the region on the HS2 growth strategy programme. The County Council will make a proportionate contribution to their costs with the partner upper-tier authorities;
  - c) In considering future planning, investment and delivery of development and infrastructure, it will be important to consider possible impediments including the need for a clear land strategy. The delivery team will bring on board a team experienced in similar HS2 related growth to establish a clear approach;
  - d) A number of key infrastructure moves are identified in the Growth Strategy. These concept schemes will need to be developed at least to outline scheme design with appropriate analysis to support the business case. The Council's professional services contractor (AECOM) will be well placed to undertake the work. The County Council's established Transport Planning team are assisting on the client side with this commission; and

- e) Finally, it is clear that the design, identity and brand for the development ambition around Toton will require further advancement during the next stages of development and the team will be looking to bring on board experienced 'place' brand expertise and a design champion for the next stages.
13. The above works need to be undertaken as soon as practical in order to establish necessary momentum and to inform business cases that need to be prepared during the summer.
14. The total value of the work outlined is in the region of £265,000. As this work relates to growth and investment, subject to Policy Committee approval, it is proposed that the funds are sourced from the Growth and Economic Development initiatives 2018/19 budget.

### **Other Options Considered**

15. The 'do nothing option' was discounted, as good infrastructure is one of Nottinghamshire County Council's priorities by making "Nottinghamshire a great place to start and grow your business". We are committed to promoting improvement to our transport and technology infrastructure to make Nottinghamshire a great place to invest and do business. The new campus, "garden village" development and infrastructure developments will help us meet this priority. The Council has for a long time said that more investment in transport and infrastructure in the East Midlands could have a transformative impact on the economy and quality of life for the people who live here.

### **Reason for Recommendations**

16. The HS2 programme is vital to the economic prosperity of the County and work needs to commence at pace to build upon the excellent progress made to date. Any expenditure will not be abortive as it is reasonable to anticipate further funding opportunities and Policy Committee's approval to commissioning work now, will better place the team to bid for these.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

17. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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**

18. The cost of the proposed works detailed in the report is estimated at £265,000. This cost will be funded from the 2018/19 Growth and Economic Development budget.
19. Recovery of a significant amount of the costs detailed in the main body of the report are anticipated via additional 'growth funding' being secured through consideration HS2 Growth Strategy.

## **Implications for Service Users**

20. From the outset, the Council has been determined to get the best deal on HS2 for the whole of Nottinghamshire, our communities and our businesses in terms of mitigation, compensations, better connectivity and a share of economic benefits. There is a huge wealth of experience and potential, the Council can be the driving force in growing a regional economy, and ensuring Nottinghamshire remains a well-connected County for the benefit of all.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- 1) Approves up to £265,000 from the Growth and Economic Development budget, towards various commissioning programmes for the financial year 2018-2019.
- 2) Agrees to receive an update report at a future meeting.

## **COUNCILLOR MRS KAY CUTTS MBE Leader of the County Council**

### **For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Ken Harrison, Programme Director, HS2 ext. 73497

Nicola M<sup>c</sup>Coy-Brown, Growth and Economic Development ext. 72580

## **Constitutional Comments [CEH 25/05/2018]**

21. The recommendations fall within the scheme of delegation to Policy Committee.

## **Financial Comments [RWK 24/05/2018]**

22. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- *HS2 East Midlands Growth Strategy – Delivery Phase* – Report to Policy Committee, published 14 February 2018

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All