

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**THE D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP, THE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY COMMITTEE AND THE MIDLANDS ENGINE PARTNERSHIP****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is twofold:
 - a) To provide an update on the work of the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP), the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee (N2 EPC) and the Midlands Engine Partnership.
 - b) To seek approval for up to £1,750 revenue contribution to support the costs associated with the administration of the N2 EPC during the financial year 2020/21.

Information

2. As outlined in the Council Plan 2017-2021, the culture of collaboration and collegiate working developed locally is of importance to Nottinghamshire County Council. Especially as an active, influential and productive partner across the various partnership landscape to empower local communities and deliver best value public services.
3. This report should be viewed as taking reasonable steps to improve efficacy and visibility of the work of three partnerships with which the County Council currently collaborates. Namely the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP), the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee (N2 EPC) and the Midlands Engine Partnership.
4. This committee last received a report in June 2020 on the LEP and Midlands Engine. During the intervening 147 days since members were last updated, the N2 EPC has met. Given the unprecedented challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has brought for people and society, it is appropriate to provide a curated list of the work undertaken as these partnerships in terms of both recovery activities and encouraging economic growth in the area.

The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP)

5. The D2N2 LEP is tasked with encouraging economic growth in the area. On 16 June it was announced that D2N2 Chair Elizabeth Fagan CBE was joining, with immediate effect, NHS Test and Trace as its first Marketing Strategy Director in an interim capacity. Deputy Chair of the D2N2 LEP, David Williams (the Chairman of Geldards LLP) took over as interim Chair until early October, when Elizabeth Fagan returned back to her role as Chair.
6. The LEP Board has met twice since this Committee's last update. Their role is to identify high priority strategies and actions and fulfil a strategic leadership role. The Leader of the Council

is a LEP Board member, Councillor Reg Adair serves on the European Social Investment Funds (ESIF) Committee and Councillor Richard Jackson is the Board member on the Investment Board. A merger of the Business Growth and Innovations Board has seen the number of advisory boards reduce from four to three. The Place Board remains served by Adrian Smith, the Corporate Director of Place. The newly-merged Business Growth & Innovation Board and the People & Skills Board are both served by Nicola M^cCoy-Brown, Group Manager Growth and Economic Development.

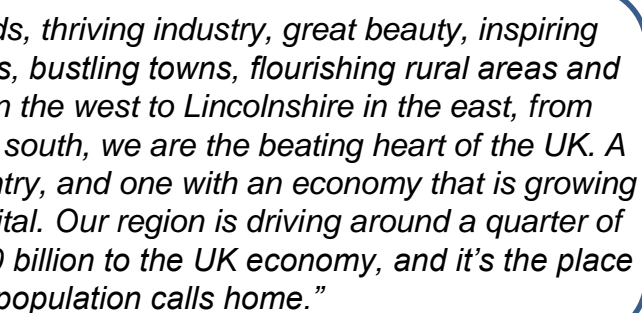
7. The Board receives updates on the D2N2 LEP's response to supporting economy (including overviews of partner responses), analysis of key findings and updates from the D2N2 Economic Recovery Board. As reported to this Committee's September meeting, in June 2020 Government awarded D2N2 LEP £44.4m to fund 'shovel-ready' projects to help the local economy and create jobs. Two of the ten projects allocated funding are Nottinghamshire County Council's. Namely the 5G Enabled Digital Centre and Lindhurst, Mansfield projects.
8. Summaries of five other developments of significance are included at **Appendix A**, these are: East Midlands Freeport, Economic Recovery and Growth Strategy, Skills, D2N2 Growth Hub, and the European Structural and Investment Fund.

The City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee (N2 EPC)

9. The N2 EPC is a joint committee of Nottingham City Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and all district councils in Nottinghamshire. It is a decision-making body on strategic economic development issues. It aims to drive future investment in growth and jobs by prioritising, commissioning and monitoring money available to Nottingham and Nottinghamshire via the D2N2 LEP and makes recommendations to D2N2 LEP on its investment priorities. It also oversees individual local authority plans to ensure they are aligned and contributing to economic growth.
10. The N2 EPC is made up of one councillor from each local authority. Councillor Mrs Kay Cutts MBE, The Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council, is a member of the N2 EPC, with Anthony May, the Chief Executive, attending in an advisory capacity.
11. Administration of the N2 EPC is shared between Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. Administration of the meeting currently sits with the City Council.
12. Subject to approval, it is proposed that Nottinghamshire County Council confirms a financial contribution funded from the 2020/21 Growth and Economic Development Initiatives Budget, to Nottingham City Council of up to £1,750 for the financial year 2020/21 towards the secretariat costs. Every Nottinghamshire council makes similar contributions.
13. Meetings are ordinarily held in various locations across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire and are open to the public. Given current COVID-19 restrictions, the committee on 29 September 2020 met virtually. The four substantive agenda items were: Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Recovery Plans, N2 Environmental Projects, Brexit and the East Midlands Development Corporation.
14. The publicly available information is accessible via the following link:
<https://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=8812&x=1>

The Midlands Engine Partnership

15. Nottinghamshire County Council is a longstanding and acknowledged valued partner within the Midlands Engine Partnership. The Midlands Engine is England's leading pan-regional partnership. Cited by Government as being in the vanguard of such partnerships, representing a model on which to develop others elsewhere in England.
16. During early 2020, following iterative dialogue with Government, the mandate for Midlands Engine pan-regional partnership was developed and recently confirmed as to:
- Operate at scale across the Midlands geography to level up the Midlands Engine economy with the UK, adding strategic value where no other organisation can. It will work across the region on cross-cutting themes and projects which will improve economic growth and opportunity.
 - Identify, prioritise and capitalise on major economic opportunities, enabling stakeholders, infrastructure and business assets to work more effectively for the benefit of the local and the UK economy.
 - Grow the global footprint of the Midlands, by representing the region at international events, attracting foreign investment and increasing trade to enable ideas, people and enterprise to prosper and compete globally.
17. Additionality is the central principle of the partnership and underpins every aspect of its work and approach. Working always to add value to the work of Midlands Engine partners, the partnership draws on evidence and intelligence to pin point what the Midlands needs most. This evidence-led approach is fundamental to the ability to lever collective endeavour for greater impact in every part of the Midlands Engine.
18. With responsibility to grow the 'voice' of the Midlands Engine, both domestically and internationally, the Midlands Engine continues to build strong narratives which celebrate and advocate for the region.



"The Midlands is a region of pioneering minds, thriving industry, great beauty, inspiring heritage and incredible people; of vibrant cities, bustling towns, flourishing rural areas and welcoming communities. From Shropshire in the west to Lincolnshire in the east, from Derbyshire in the north to Herefordshire in the south, we are the beating heart of the UK. A place that connects all other places in our country, and one with an economy that is growing faster than every other region outside the capital. Our region is driving around a quarter of England's exports and contributing nearly £250 billion to the UK economy, and it's the place one sixth of the nation's population calls home."

19. Nottinghamshire County Council's Chief Executive, Anthony May, Chairs the Midlands Engine Operating Board and is leading the work on the Development Corporation on behalf of the Engine.
20. A copy of the Midlands Engine Achievements and impact in 2020/21 can be found at **Appendix B**.

Other Options Considered

21. Providing the secretariat function for the N2 EPC incurs costs. In previous years when Nottinghamshire County Council has undertaken its administration, we too have requested contributions from all local authorities. It is for this reason, the 'do nothing' option has been discounted.

Reason for Recommendations

22. To provide an update on the work of the D2N2 LEP, the N2 EPC and the Midlands Engine as requested by members in November 2015.

Statutory and Policy Implications

23. 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

24. The costs of the Council's contribution towards the secretariat costs of the EPC are set out at paragraph 12.

RECOMMENDATIONS

25. It is recommended that Policy Committee:

- a) Approves the revenue contribution of up to £1,750 to support the secretariat costs associated with the administration of the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee for the financial year 2020-2021.
- b) Considers whether there are any actions required in relation to the detail contained within the report.

COUNCILLOR MRS KAY CUTTS MBE
Leader of the Council

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Nicola M^cCoy-Brown, Growth and Economic Development ext. 72580

Constitutional Comments (EP 08/10/20)

26. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Policy Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SES 15/10/2020)

27. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 12 of the report. The report proposes a contribution of up to £1,750 to Nottingham City Council in 2020/21. The contribution will be

funded from the Growth and Economic Development Initiatives budget, for which an allocation of £515,036 is included in the 2020/21 revenue budget.

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.

- *Getting Building Fund* - Report to Policy Committee, Published 30 September 2020
- *Update on the Work of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership and the Midlands Engine Partnership* – Report to Policy Committee, Published 17 June 2020
- *Freeports consultation*, Department for International Trade and HM Treasury, Published 10 February 2020. Further details available online at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/freeports-consultation>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

- All