

## **Economic Development Committee**

**Tuesday, 18 November 2014 at 14:00**

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

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### **AGENDA**

- |    |  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | Minutes of the last meeting held on 16th September 2014  | 3 - 6   |
| 2  | Apologies for Absence  |         |
| 3  | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)<br>(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests<br>(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) |         |
| 4  | NBV Business Start-Up Support Contract   | 7 - 10  |
| 5  | Proposals for a Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority  | 11 - 16 |
| 6  | Consultation Response D2N2 European Structural Investment Fund Local Implementation Plan   | 17 - 26 |
| 7  | Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire - Quarterly Update on the Rollout   | 27 - 34 |
| 8  | Pilgrim Fathers Feasibility Study and Mayflower 400  | 35 - 38 |
| 9  | Vote Authorised Under Urgency Procedure Renewal of Mansfield Business Improvement District for 2015-   | 39 - 40 |
| 10 | Work Programme   | 41 - 46 |

## **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	16 September 2014 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

### **Membership**

Persons absent are marked with `A`

### **COUNCILLORS**

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

John Knight  
Kate Foale  
Keith Walker  
Gordon Wheeler

Philip Owen  
Ken Rigby  
John Wilmott

A Alan Rhodes (Ex-Officio)

### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

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

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Celia Morris - Policy, Planning and Corporate Services  
Matt Lockley - Policy, Planning and Corporate Services  
Geoff George - Policy, Planning and Corporate Services  
Kay Massingham - Policy, Planning and Corporate Services  
Martin Gately - Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

### **OTHER ATTENDEES**

David Ralph - Chief Executive, D2N2 LEP

### **CHANGE IN MEMBERSHIP**

The following changes of membership for this meeting were noted: Councillor Kate Foale replaced Councillor Michael Payne for this meeting only. Councillor Philip Owen replaced Councillor John Ogle for this meeting only.

## **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 1 July 2014 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

The committee noted that Councillor Ogle was unwell and wished him a speedy recovery.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## **D2N2 PRIORITIES AND GROWTH DEAL (PRESENTATION)**

David Ralph, Chief Executive D2N2 LEP presented detailed information to the committee on the D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan. Mr Ralph indicated that there were action plans for eight priority sectors, and that the target was for 13,000 jobs to be created over the next 5 years through the Growth Deal. The Growth Deal consists of 25 capital projects. There has been no formal feedback from government on the D2N2 projects, but it is known that they prefer 'stellar transformational projects.'

There have been frank discussions around how we prioritise infrastructure projects in future rounds of the Growth Deal. The criteria for projects includes: are they deliverable in in 2015-16, value for money, and ambition. It is anticipated that a new round of submissions must be made by Christmas 2014. Project sponsors will need to submit refreshed business cases, and sign off with be made by the D2N2 Board on 11 December 2014. There has been no let-up in pace, and no significant further guidance from government.

## **RESOLVED 2014/042**

That the presentation from David Ralph be noted.

## **A PLACE MARKETING ORGANISATION FOR NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – PROGRESS UPDATE**

## **RESOLVED 2014/043**

That the report be noted.

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL FUND**

## **RESOLVED 2014/044**

- 1) That the outcome of the first round of the Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund be noted;

- 2) That the requested changes to the Assessment Framework and bidding process be approved;
- 3) That the NEDCF be opened on a rolling call until all the resources are committed
- 4) That progress be reviewed in 6 months with a further report on awards made under the NEDCF

### **BETTER BROADBAND FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – ADDITIONAL STAFFING RESOURCE**

#### **RESOLVED 2014/045**

That the post of Broadband Engagement Officer be established.

### **REGIONAL GROWTH FUND ROUND 6**

#### **RESOLVED 2014/046**

- 1) That the development of a collaborative RGF6 submission be welcomed, and that the Economic Development team support its development with partners
- 2) That a letter of support be provided, and that the Corporate Director for Policy, Planning and Corporate Services finalise its content, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee.

### **WORK PROGRAMME**

Members noted that the next meeting of the committee (scheduled for 14 October 2014) had been cancelled. In addition, a joint meeting of the Economic Development Committee and Transport and Highways Committee has been arranged for 11 December at 12:30 pm, County Hall.

#### **RESOLVED 2014/047**

That the work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 16:10 pm

### **CHAIR**



**18<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Agenda Item: 4**

## **REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY**

### **NBV BUSINESS START-UP SUPPORT CONTRACT**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Committee with an update on the progress of the Business Start-Up Support programme, delivered by NBV Enterprise Solutions Ltd (NBV).

#### **Background**

2. NBV delivers business support in Nottinghamshire to clients under a number of schemes, however coverage of the county from existing schemes is not comprehensive and the County Council contract is designed to fill any gaps in provision, creating blanket coverage of free business advice and support for those wishing to start a business across Nottinghamshire. The Council's investment is currently focussed on Broxtowe, Gedling, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe as the other three districts are eligible for start-up business support activity through a European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) project also run by NBV.
3. An initial £40,000 was made available to cover Phase 1 of the project from March 2013 to July 2013, with a further £45,000 available to cover the costs of Phase 2 over the remainder of the 2013-14 financial year subject to an interim review, which was successfully completed. In April 2014, this committee received a progress report on the NBV contract which was well received.
4. In May 2014, this Committee approved an extension to the project and allocated a further £55,000 for Business Start-Up Support in 2014/15 (Phase 3).
5. This report provides Committee with an update on the performance of Phase 3 of the project. During Committee, there will be an opportunity for Members to meet with some of the start-up businesses who have been supported by the NBV contract.

#### **Progress To Date**

6. Phase 3 of the project commenced in July 2014 and builds on the momentum created by the earlier phases. Delivery continues until March 2015 with final reporting of all outputs by the end of June 2015. Phase 3 is tasked to engage 229 people creating 93 start-ups and 93 jobs.

7. The performance to date is on target; at the end of September 85 people have been engaged, 55 businesses have started trading and 55 jobs have been created. It is likely therefore that the project will deliver the 93 start-up outputs by the end of June 2015.
8. Beyond June 2015, the Council is currently working with D2N2 and partners on specifications for the forthcoming D2N2 Growth Hub and activity that will be commissioned using the European Structural and Investment Fund resources (a later report at this meeting refers). Start-up business support activity will be one element of the wider business support offer that will be commissioned through D2N2 resources.

## **Businesses Assisted**

9. NBV have reported that the biggest area of business starts are within the business services, creative and service activity sectors.
10. A number of businesses assisted by the project will be attending to meet with Members during Committee. We are awaiting confirmation on numbers but at the time of circulating this report, the following people will be present to showcase their businesses:
  - a. Liz Wibberley, 'Handsewn by Elizabeth', craft gifts for the home (Newark and Sherwood)
  - b. Marketa Blackham, 'HappyJoey Ltd t/a HappiJoey', footwear for infants and toddlers (Rushcliffe)
  - c. Dr Tina Holt, 'EcoHouseNet', energy reduction and energy utilisation in the home (Rushcliffe)
  - d. Robert Olifant, 'CATS': Cancer Alternative Therapy Support (Gedling)
  - e. Amy Topham, 'From the Heart Fashion', urban dance clothing (Broxtowe)
  - f. Sandra Hart, "I do" Weddings for You, wedding services (Gedling)
  - g. Veronica Cooksey, 'Jewelled Delite', bespoke jewellery design (Broxtowe)
  - h. Katrina Mallon, 'Peas and a Pod', ethically produced garments for babies and children (Rushcliffe)
  - i. Matthew Trickett, 'Nebula Professional', specialist IT recruitment (Broxtowe)
11. Members may find it interesting to speak directly with some of the businesses who have benefitted from the project to learn about their rationale for starting a business, their journey and future aspirations.

## **Reason for Recommendation**

12. To inform the Committee of progress towards Phase 3 of the NBV Business Start-Up Support Contract and to enable Members to meet some of the businesses assisted.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. 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**

14. None

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

15. It is recommended that the Economic Development Committee notes the report.

## **Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Fiona Anderson – 0115 977 2688

## **Constitutional Comments**

As this report is for noting only, constitutional comments are not required.

## **Financial Comments**

As this report is for noting only, financial comments are not required.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Economic Development Committee report 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014

Economic Development Committee report 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014

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

All



**18<sup>th</sup> November 2014****Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****PROPOSALS FOR A NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
COMBINED AUTHORITY****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Committee on proposals being developed for a Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority.

**Information and advice**

2. Members will recall that Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and the seven Borough and District Councils in Nottinghamshire have formed an Economic Prosperity Committee. Full Council approved the County Council's engagement in this new Committee at its meeting in January 2014, and the Economic Prosperity Committee (EPC) met for the first time in February 2014. An update on the work of the EPC was presented to Policy Committee in September 2014.
3. The EPC was established to strengthen joint-working and decision-making amongst Nottinghamshire's local authority partners. It forms a major part of the governance of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership and a similar arrangement has been put into place in Derby and Derbyshire. In recent months, the EPC has been considering the potential for a Combined Authority model to be developed and implemented across the city and county and a positive statement of intent in this regard was agreed by the Leaders of all of Nottinghamshire's councils in September 2014.
4. The Chair and Chief Executive of the D2N2 LEP are also keen to see the development of Combined Authorities in the area. In the recent Growth Deal, governance across D2N2 was flagged as a weakness by the Government and the LEP was not given some of the freedoms and flexibilities offered to other areas. These included financial flexibilities to manage programme, rather than project level, budgets.
5. All of the main political parties have indicated their support for further devolution of powers in relation to economic development and growth after the General Election next May. Whilst there will be differences in the pace and scope of further devolution, all of the three main parties have expressed support for the model offered by Combined Authorities.

## Background to Combined Authorities

6. Combined Authorities are legally discrete public authorities established by groups of Councils to bring greater collaboration and impact to the regeneration, growth and transport ambitions of the areas that they cover. The legislation to enable Combined Authorities to be established is contained in the Local Transport Act (2008) and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act (2009). The establishment of a Combined Authority is dictated by a formal process which includes:
  - A formal review of governance in the area concerned, which is then published for formal public consultation;
  - The publication of a 'scheme' which must also be consulted on;
  - The submission of a final 'scheme' to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government;
  - The publication of an Order (if approved) by the Secretary of State to legally establish and recognise the new Combined Authority

Government advice is that this process should take a minimum of twelve months and that most of the Combined Authorities schemes established to date have taken eighteen months to prepare.

7. Combined Authorities can be delegated functions related to economic development and growth by their constituent local authorities (if there is consensus to do so) and by the Secretary of State. Transport powers and functions can be transferred to Combined Authorities under the provisions of the Local Transport Act (2008). It is up to the constituent authorities to design and agree the scale and detailed nature of the Combined Authority's powers and remit and there is no single model for a Combined Authority. To date, the five established Combined Authorities are all in single-tier metropolitan areas that had pre-existing Passenger Transport Executives (PTEs). It is likely that Combined Authorities in two-tier areas will look and feel quite different to those in metropolitan areas.
8. Councils need to set out what could be included across the range of economic development and transport functions that could form part of a new Combined Authority. There is an expectation from the Government that Combined Authorities will have ambitious visions and goals but they must also clearly demonstrate what will be different from existing arrangements and what strategic issues will be more effectively tackled as a result of establishing a Combined Authority.
9. A Combined Authority is a separate legal entity and can therefore act directly on its own behalf, hold money and assets and make its own decisions. It can also raise levies from its constituent authorities. Constituent authorities can continue to hold their own range of economic development and transport powers and functions concurrently with the Combined Authority, although there is little evidence of what added value would be derived from an arrangement where this were the case.

10. A clear advantage of Combined Authorities is that they can attract certain additional functions and powers in their own right. The Localism Act (2011) allows Ministers to transfer any other public function to Combined Authorities which could include, for example, responsibility for further education and adult skills and / or welfare to work programmes and the ability to set variable business rates or raise taxes locally. The transfer of powers and functions is not necessarily restricted to economic development and transport, and different Combined Authorities are making a variety of different 'asks' of the Government.
11. Better co-operation across the area should deliver improvements to the public transport network, including opportunities to address congestion on the local road network and deliver a step change in information and ticketing provision for the public. Establishing a Combined Authority presents a significant opportunity to improve local services as well as making them more efficient. There is also the potential for strategic assets such as rail stations to be transferred to Combined Authorities.
12. In terms of remit, some examples of powers, functions and resources that could form part of a Combined Authority are offered below:

#### Skills and employment

Potential powers / resources for further education provision / apprenticeships / careers advice and guidance / employment programmes. Combined Authority could be given control over budgets for further education in the local area. It could design and manage a commissioning framework for resources devolved from the Skills Funding Agency and / or the Department for Work and Pensions, and act as the Accountable body. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is to receive control over welfare to work funding, which would mean it being responsible for the majority of skills and employment funding and commissioning in its area.

#### Transport

Some strategic transport functions currently held by Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council could be transferred to the Combined Authority. This would have benefits in terms of providing leadership and a single consistent voice to Government and the Highways Agency on key transport issues such as rail, strategic road networks and airports. A single Local Transport Plan covering the area could be produced, which would ensure better alignment of district core strategies to strategic transport and infrastructure planning. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is being offered full control over local bus services, which it has sought in order to implement an 'Oyster' style model across its area.

#### Place marketing

A Combined Authority could take on a remit around place marketing, including inward investment and the visitor economy. This could involve managing any pooled resources around the visitor economy and inward investment, commissioning place marketing services and delivering a seamless inward investment 'gateway' to the area. A Combined Authority could also manage a

product development programme linked to the key visitor assets in the area and any associated capital investment funds.

#### Housing and planning

A Combined Authority should have a role in terms of setting strategic objectives for housing and related issues in terms of land use and planning. This could result in a more coherent approach to housing (and related infrastructure) requirements in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, as well as maximising, for example, the use of brownfield land to deliver housing and employment growth.

#### External funding

This could be a core function of a Combined Authority, providing a stronger route to Government and EU funding streams and possible local management of some of these, alongside a more coherent and consistent approach to other funding streams that could support the overall objectives of the Combined Authority. A programme management role could ensure that maximum benefit accrued to the area through allocated funding which would help to minimise the amount of funds potentially lost to the area through, for example, projects being unable to meet their spend profiles.

13. This is not an exhaustive list and the final remit and resourcing of a Combined Authority in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire would be the subject of negotiation and agreements between all of the constituent authorities.

### **Update on a Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority**

14. Central to the work programme of the Economic Prosperity Committee (EPC) has been consideration of options relating to a Combined Authority for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Papers relating to this were discussed at the EPC meeting in September 2014, with all partners agreeing to further detailed work on a Combined Authority for the area. An overview of this discussion and draft minutes are available here: <http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=3493>. In short, agreement was reached to:

- Undertake work to identify the benefits of a Combined Authority and develop a vision and aspirations for the long-term economic vitality of the N2 (Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) area;
- Identify the specific powers which could be exercised by a Combined Authority for the N2 area;
- Undertake work on a scheme and a governance review for the N2 area, working in parallel with the D2 (Derby and Derbyshire) area to cover common issues including LEP governance;
- Agree the timetable below in principle, subject to further guidance from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG);
  - October / November 2014 – carry out visioning to inform the scope of the scheme; initiate a governance review;
  - December 2014 – report back to the Economic Prosperity Committee;

- January 2015 – each constituent authority to decide whether to form part of a combined authority. At the same time, consultation will take place with stakeholders and DCLG;
  - February – submit proposals to the Secretary of State;
  - September 2015 – decision by the Secretary of State and a Parliamentary Order made
15. The timetable outlined and agreed by partners is ambitious and will clearly be affected by the outcome of the General Election in 2015. However Council Leaders from across D2N2 have agreed to this timetable in order to demonstrate ambition and commitment to both the current and future Governments and to support the D2N2 LEP in its negotiations with Government for greater devolution of freedoms and flexibilities.
16. Further consideration of the Combined Authority proposals will take place at Economic Prosperity Committee meetings scheduled in November and December of this year. A report on the move towards a Combined Authority will be brought to Full Council in January 2015.
17. A joint briefing session has been organised for 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 with Members of the Economic Development and Transport and Highways Committees along with senior officers, to discuss the Combined Authority proposals for Nottinghamshire. Opposition Group Leaders and senior Members will also be invited.

### **Reason(s) for Recommendations**

18. Proposals for a Combined Authority for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire would have significant implications for the work of this Committee. Keeping Committee Members abreast of the latest developments is therefore considered appropriate.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

19. 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.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

20. It is recommended that Economic Development Committee notes the positive progress towards the establishment of a Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Combined Authority.

**Celia Morris**  
**Group Manager, Corporate Strategy**

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

Celia Morris  
Group Manager, Corporate Strategy  
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**Constitutional Comments [SLB 07.11.2014]**

This report is for noting only.

**Financial Comments [SEM 06.11.2014]**

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

**Background Papers**

Greater Manchester Agreement:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/369858/Greater\\_Manchester\\_Agreement\\_i.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/369858/Greater_Manchester_Agreement_i.pdf)

Report to Full Council, 16 January 2014: Establishment of the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee

Report to Policy Committee, 4 June 2014: Consultation Response: proposal to amend legislation relating to combined authorities and economic prosperity boards

N2 Economic Prosperity Committee meeting papers and minutes:

<http://committee.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=416>

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

All.



**18<sup>th</sup> November 2014****Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****CONSULTATION RESPONSE: D2N2 EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL INVESTMENT FUND LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for a proposed response to the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's consultation on the European Structural Investment Fund Local Implementation Plan.

**Information and advice**

2. This Committee has considered reports and presentations on the D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan and on the European Structural Investment Fund (E-SIF) at previous meetings in 2014. The D2N2 LEP will manage the E-SIF programme for the period 2014-2020. It has previously set out its E-SIF Strategy and is now consulting on the detail of how the various funding streams will operate through consultation on its Local Implementation Plan.
3. The D2N2 LEP has strategic control over significant E-SIF resources in the years to 2020. Up to £104 million of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), a similar amount of European Social Fund (ESF) and a smaller allocation of £5.5 million through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) will be available across the area. All of these funds must be matched at a minimum ratio of 50:50, resulting in total investment across the area and duration of the E-SIF programme of at least £427 million.
4. Further information on the types of activity that will be supported through the E-SIF programme is provided below. The consultation on the Local Implementation Plan closes in mid-November and hence Committee's consideration of and support for a County Council response to the consultation is sought.

**Background to the E-SIF programme**

5. There are two principal funding streams that are allocated to the D2N2 LEP through the E-SIF programme – European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF). These funding streams are further divided into 'thematic objectives' as follows:

## ERDF

- Innovation
- ICT
- Small and medium sized enterprise competitiveness
- Low carbon
- Climate change
- 'Green and blue' infrastructure

## ESF

- Promoting employment
- Promoting social inclusion
- Addressing skills gaps through lifelong learning

The table at appendix A gives more detail on the types of activity likely to be funded through these thematic objectives.

6. The County Council may well wish to consider its options in terms of bidding for and securing funds through the D2N2 E-SIF programme once it is launched in 2015. Discussions are ongoing internally about how this might be facilitated, given the very competitive nature of the bidding process and the complexities of securing and managing EU funded projects.
7. In this programme, significant amounts of match funding will be delivered at source through what is being termed the 'opt in' model. This is where national Government has encouraged departments, agencies and existing contract-holders to match fund the E-SIF investment, resulting in allocations to each LEP that will mean project applicants can access 100% of the project cost, rather than having to identify match funding themselves.
8. D2N2 is currently negotiating 'opt-ins' with the following partner organisations:
  - Skills Funding Agency – match funding ESF for local skills, employment and guidance programmes
  - Department for Work and Pensions – match funding ESF for employment and youth employment programmes
  - BIG Lottery Fund – match funding ESF for social inclusion programme
  - UK Trade and Industry – match funding ERDF for a trade and export programme

Activity under these 'opt-ins' will be designed and commissioned with the partner organisations, largely at D2N2 wide level.

## **Consultation on the D2N2 E-SIF Local Implementation Plan**

9. The E-SIF Local Implementation Plan is a critical document as it provides significantly more detail on the type of activity to be funded through the programmes and also on how each of the thematic objectives and priority activities will be commissioned. The County Council has been heavily involved in the development of the Local Implementation Plan through the D2N2 E-SIF

Officer Group, Skills and Employment Commission, LEP Officer Group and through specialist input in areas such as employment and skills and broadband.

10. Consultation responses have to be submitted through an online 'Survey Monkey' portal. A copy of the questions and the proposed Nottinghamshire County Council response is attached at Appendix B. In short, the principles of the proposed response are as follows:

- The County Council supports the overall split of activities across the E-SIF programme and welcomes the additional resources being secured for the area through the opt-in proposals
- Notwithstanding the above, the County Council is keen to be actively involved in the design of programmes through the opt-ins and is cautious about the potential loss of control for D2N2 through the opt-in approach and the potential impact on delivering flexible local solutions through contracts managed by the Department for Work and Pensions and Skills Funding Agency in particular
- The County Council believes that the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality should be applied as a test to programme design and that activity should be designed and commissioned at the most locally appropriate level. The Council accepts that for many of the programmes outlined, this will be at D2N2 level. However, the Council is keen to ensure the scope for locally responsive, smaller-scale responses to locally pertinent issues is not just retained, but encouraged
- For the European Social Fund opt-in elements of the programme, the County Council is not supportive of the prime contractor model. The County Council recognises that there may have to be separate commissioning arrangements in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The County Council wishes to see local flexibility with regard to the ESF opt-ins, in order that activity commissioned through them supports the recently agreed priorities in the N2 Skills and Employment Framework
- The County Council would like to discuss the ERDF ICT programmes with D2N2 in more detail before they are commissioned, given its role in managing the fibre broadband roll-out across Nottinghamshire and the significant investment that has already taken place
- The Council recognises that there is the potential for a proliferation of different service offers delivered by a wide range of providers through the E-SIF programme, and is therefore keen to ensure that the future Growth Hub model delivers a seamless service to businesses
- Underpinning the D2N2 approach should be core principles around focussing the resources on service delivery; restricting, where possible, the charging of management overheads to the programme and finally, and where possible, introducing outcomes based payments to drive performance and value for money

## **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)**

11. Whilst a much smaller element of the total D2N2 E-SIF investment, the £5.5 million allocated to rural economic growth will be important for businesses in Nottinghamshire. The E-SIF Strategy and Local Implementation Plan propose to focus the bulk of this investment on rural business advisors in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire and a rural business grant programme. Up to £1 million may also be made available to support the roll-out of broadband to the most isolated parts of each county, although this latter is subject to the European Commission's advice in terms of further investment in broadband infrastructure.
12. The County Council continues to be actively engaged in the D2N2 approach to rural issues. There are potential overlaps with the LEADER and Sustainable Urban Development proposals for Nottinghamshire (the results of which will be known in December 2014) and the Council is working closely with D2N2, rural interest groups and organisations and Borough and District Councils to ensure maximum benefit from any rurally targeted funding programmes for Nottinghamshire businesses. Alongside this, the County Council will support and promote local project development in rural areas to enable larger scale schemes to benefit from core D2N2 resources, thereby ensuring that EAFRD and LEADER funds are not used to displace investment from the core E-SIF programme.

### **Reason(s) for Recommendations**

13. The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership has requested responses from partners to its proposed E-SIF Local Implementation Plan. As a major partner to D2N2 and a potential beneficiary of some of the funds outlined it is in the County Council's interests to submit a consultation response.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

14. 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.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

15. It is recommended that Economic Development Committee approves the submission of the County Council's response to the D2N2 European Structural Investment Fund Local Implementation Plan consultation, as outlined at Appendix B.

**Councillor Diana Meale**  
**Chairman, Economic Development Committee**

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

Celia Morris

Group Manager, Corporate Strategy

Tel: 0115 977 2043

Email: [celia.morris@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:celia.morris@nottscc.gov.uk)

**Constitutional Comments [SLB 04.11.2014]**

Economic Development Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report. It is responsible for approval of consultation responses in relation to economic development.

**Financial Comments [SEM 06.11.2014]**

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

**Background Papers**

D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan, sector plans, Innovation Strategy, European Structural Investment Fund Strategy (E-SIF) and E-SIF Local Implementation Plan are all available at [www.d2n2lep.org](http://www.d2n2lep.org).

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

All

## Appendix A

### Types of eligible activity by thematic objective

Thematic objective	Amount of ERDF	Eligible activities
Innovation	£20 million	Commercialisation and spin outs; support for innovative process design within small and medium sized enterprises; graduate start-ups; knowledge transfer from universities
ICT	£10 million	Support for ICT development in small and medium sized enterprises; investment in ICT infrastructure (including broadband) with demonstrable economic benefit
Small and medium sized enterprise competitiveness	£37 million <i>*note – partial delivery through opt-in with UK Trade and Industry</i> <i>**note – up to £12 million notionally committed to a Midlands access to risk finance scheme</i>	Business support products; access to finance; sector support and growth initiatives
Low carbon	£20 million	Knowledge transfer in the low carbon field; energy efficiency for small and medium sized enterprises, new low carbon technology development
Climate change	£5 million	Flood defence and mitigation for sites with economic end use
Green and blue infrastructure	£5 million	Cycle routes to work; green infrastructure on economic / employment sites

<b>Thematic objective</b>	<b>Amount of ESF</b>	<b>Eligible activities</b>
Promoting employment	£40 million  <i>*note – opt-ins with the Skills Funding Agency and Department for Work and Pensions</i>	Training activities for unemployed people; special initiatives for groups facing multiple barriers to employment; work experience and self-employment programmes
Promoting social inclusion	£20 million  <i>*note – opt-in with the Big Lottery Fund will provide up to 75% of the match funding</i>	Tackling barriers to work; building capacity in social enterprises and community groups; targeted programmes in particular groups or communities
Addressing skills gaps through lifelong learning	£40 million  <i>*note – some match funding from the Skills Funding Agency</i>	Apprenticeships, internships and work experience placements; higher level and leadership skills for employees; succession planning

*Note: figures do not total to £104 million per funding stream due to rounding / conversion from € rates and technical assistance allocations, which are top-sliced from both programmes.*

## **Appendix B – draft consultation response**

### **Q: are we focussing on the right activities to promote growth?**

In broad terms, Nottinghamshire County Council supports the E-SIF Strategy and subsequent Local Implementation Plan, having been heavily involved in the development of both documents. We support the split of resources across ERDF and ESF priorities. We are keen to see locally responsive projects developed to stimulate business and jobs growth and recognise that the Local Implementation Plan will support this to an extent. Within the parameters of EU eligibility criteria and competition regulations (including State Aid), we feel that the D2N2 E-SIF Local Implementation Plan is a positive statement of intent.

### **Q: have we got the right number of activities and the right balance between them?**

See above. The County Council is concerned about the high level of ERDF allocated to thematic objective 3, particularly in relation to the fact that much of this is dependent on the conclusion of negotiations for opt ins and a very high allocation (in excess of £11 million) is allocated to an access to finance programme that has yet to be agreed. Whilst not objecting to these allocations, the County Council would wish to see a timely resolution to negotiations in these areas and also work done to understand the impact on the wider programme if either some or all of the opt ins or the access to finance programme do not proceed.

### **Q: have we got the balance right between specifying the activities that we would wish to see and allowing for innovation and integration by applicants?**

Elements of the programme that reference specific 'branded' initiatives (i.e. Catapults and Growth Hubs) are potentially restrictive in terms of enabling locally innovative responses to be developed. Similarly the focus on sectors could restrict innovation across sectors and supply chains.

In terms of the proposed investment in digital infrastructure (activities 2.1 – 2.4), the County Council recommends that it would be useful to stipulate that successful applicants must work with the existing fibre-broadband programmes in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire and with voucher programmes in Derby and Nottingham.

### **Q: have we got the approach to delivery through 'opt-ins' and calls right, and what are the key issues that we need to consider?**

We would prefer to see greater clarity about how the commissioning of the opt ins will work. For example, it is not yet clear what level of influence D2N2 (and by this we mean the partnership, not just D2N2 core staff) will have during the design, commissioning and appraisal stages, or in subsequent performance monitoring and evaluation. We feel that the rolling of business support and innovation calls into a 'single large call' could be counter-productive and lead to confusion amongst applicants, particularly where some of the activities will be delivered through one contract whereas others could be delivered by multiple contracts. Care will be needed when designing these open calls to ensure that the commissioning documentation is clear. The potential to drive efficiencies through multiple contracts being held by the same organisation should also be explored.



**Q: which of the delivery models outlined for our employment and skills programmes is most suitable for each programme?** [note: tick box on the response form]

	Prime contractor	Managing agent	Multiple managing agents	Activity by activity commissioning	Other
EMPLOY Local		X	X		
Time2Change		X	X		
Un-named employment programme				X	
D2N2 youth employment		X	X		
Social inclusion programme				X	
SKILLS Local		X	X		
Generating outcomes				X	
CAREERS Local		X	X		

**Q: what are your views on our community level approach? Do you have a preference between Community Led Local Development (CLLD), D2N2 ‘bespoke’ or a mainstream only approach?**

Our preference would be for a bespoke D2N2 model to be designed which enables the investment of EU funds in local community activity but removes some of the complexities associated with the formal CLLD approach.

**Q: are there any programmes and activities that lend themselves to a particular geographic delivery focus, such as very local delivery, LEP-wide delivery or through collaboration with other LEPs?**

Whilst we recognise the drive from the EU, Government and D2N2 for activity to be delivered at a scale that will generate impact and efficiencies, we would also wish to see scope for smaller, more local solutions developed that could be funded through the E-SIF programme. We would be particularly supportive of this through the ESF opt ins. There is significant good practice / precedent for funding smaller scale, local projects using ESF in this way through previous ‘co-financing’ models of delivery.

We would be keen to explore how targeted investment through programmes such as SUDs and the Nottingham North ‘outer estates’ work can be extended using E-SIF resources to other communities in the area. Equally, we are keen that the good practice of projects such as the Family Employment Initiative and Mansfield Learning Partnership is recognised and that D2N2 actively promotes the sustainability of these types of project through its E-SIF programme.

**Q: we wish to open as much of the programme for applications as early as possible. Will you be able to respond in this timescale? How could we improve the timing of the calls?**

The County Council will respond to calls as and when appropriate and where doing so would support our overall economic growth objectives. In terms of timing of calls,

it would be useful to have a cycle covering the programme period that is relatively fixed so that applicant organisations can plan ahead for the intensive resource requirements that arise during the bidding process.

**Q: how can we best ensure that the benefits of the programme are appropriately shared within D2N2?**

Once the E-SIF Strategy and Implementation planning phases are over and the programme is formally launched, D2N2 should consider establishing a formal E-SIF partner network to share best practice and encourage collaboration across the area. This could be predominantly a virtual network, with perhaps one or two 'conference' style events a year linked to forthcoming bidding opportunities.

18 November 2014

Agenda Item: 7

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, POLICY, PLANNING AND  
CORPORATE SERVICES****BETTER BROADBAND FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE – QUARTERLY  
UPDATE ON THE ROLLOUT****Purpose of the Report**

1. This report provides an update on the Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire programme (BBFN) and progress being made towards the achievement of the County Council's target to secure 94.3% coverage of fibre-based broadband across Nottinghamshire by the end of 2016.
2. The report includes the latest news on the joint Nottinghamshire Local Authorities (including the City Council), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) funded programme with BT, and proposals for an additional procurement initiative to accelerate coverage.

**Information and advice**

- 1) This report carries on from reports previously considered by Full Council, Policy Committee and Economic Development Committee regarding the BBfN programme and provides an update on the programme communications and progress to date.

Progress regarding on-the-ground delivery

- 2) Members will recall there are six fibre broadband phases (nine months in duration) planned for the BBfN programme. Following contract mobilisation and several months of detailed pre-planning, planning and on site survey work, the first part of the network build is firmly on track for completion by December 2014.
- 3) Already, households and businesses in a number of communities can now take advantage of fibre-based broadband services. These include speeds of up to 80Mbps depending on how far the property is located from its serving green street cabinet. Information on what is involved in planning and survey work and why the outcome may mean deployment plans could change, is explained on the FAQ page of the programme's website at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/broadband](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/broadband)

- 4) Since the well-publicised launch of the first fibre cabinet in June 2014, 70 cabinets have gone 'live'. In October 2014 we announced that 10,000 residential and businesses premises are now able to access fibre-based broadband services as a result of the combined public sector co-investment with BT.
- 5) Parts of the following fifteen exchange locations have seen new green fibre cabinets installed: Arnold, Beeston, Burton Joyce, Collingham, Cotgrave, Hucknall, Kirkby in Ashfield, Lowdham, Mansfield, Newark, Ruddington, Southwell, Sutton in Ashfield, Trentside and Worksop. Each of these cabinets will have a sticker to help illustrate the availability of fibre-based broadband in the area, whilst acknowledging all funders under the contract by displaying their respective logo (see photograph in paragraph 6).
- 6) The photograph (below) is of Mansfield cabinet number 12, Hermitage Lane at the Junction of Kings Mill Way, Mansfield in Nottinghamshire which will serve an expected 112 premises.



- 7) Not all premises in these fifteen exchange locations will gain access in this first wave; some may come forward later in the programme when the network is extended further through additional investment. By the end of December 2014, around 25,110 premises will be passed in total. Residents and businesses will need to contact their internet service provider to find out about how to upgrade to a superfast service in these areas.
- 8) The network build continues to be extended to not only some of the existing fifteen exchange locations mentioned earlier but also covering parts of communities served by the following twenty four exchanges of: Bilsthorpe, Bingham, Bleasby, Blyth, Caunton, East Bridgford, East Leake, Farnsfield, Gotham, Kimberley, Kinoulton, Misterton, New Ollerton, Radcliffe on Trent, Rampton, Ranskill, Retford, Sandiacre, Saundby, Sutton on Trent, Warsop, Whatton, Woodborough and Wymeswold. That's over 107 new fibre cabinet

locations surveyed as part of this next wave. If all plans come forward, we should see close to 39,000 premises passed by fibre-based broadband by end of March 2015. See *Appendix A* for how many cabinets are currently planned for surveying and detailed design between the period October 2014 and December 2014 by exchange area and by elected member.

- 9) The roll out of fibre-based broadband with BT through the BBfN programme will continue until 2016. It is important to note that the County Council's programme is independent of BT's commercial plans and coverage decisions.

#### Extending Superfast coverage

- 10) On 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, the County Council was allocated £2.63m from the £250m Phase 2 Superfast Extension Programme which will come into play from 2015. It is important that we can procure solutions now, to ensure early delivery once this funding is released. This is a very good indicative allocation in the context of the Government's targets to deliver 95% coverage nationally by 2017. However, it will not be sufficient, even though matched on a pound-for-pound basis to securing full coverage in this timescale. It is expected that close to 97% of Nottinghamshire premises (business and residential) will benefit from fibre-based broadband. Different technical solutions will need to be identified for the remaining premises that will not benefit.

- 11) As confirmed to the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the County Council has secured the full £2.63m from the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership through its Strategic Economic Plan. The successful supplier would be required to commit significant capital investment towards the roll out extension. The scale of leverage would be determined through the procurement process.

#### Complementary activities

- 12) The Facebook page [www.facebook.com/nottinghamshirebroadband](http://www.facebook.com/nottinghamshirebroadband) continues to gain momentum and currently has 191 'friends'. 'Friends' are being invited to snap, edit and share their photographs with the hashtag #hugacabinet
- 13) At the end of July 2014, an Aide Memoire was distributed to all elected members (including District and Borough Councilors) to help with questions members may receive regarding the evolving BBfN programme.
- 14) Alongside the physical build works a programme of demand stimulation is being developed. This will be ramped up as the network is rolled out and more and more areas 'go live' across the County. Energies will be focussed on: raising awareness about the availability of superfast services as they are deployed; promoting messages about the benefits which access can bring; and raising understanding, particularly for business, about how technology can be applied to transform business performance and growth. A BBfN Business initiative will be launched later in the year part-financed by the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP) to support this including workshops, mentoring and small grants to support training, investment in new technology, and connectivity.



This will be reported in more detail to a future meeting of the Economic Development Committee.

- 15) The County Council will also be working with its business partners including D2N2 LEP, the Nottinghamshire Business Engagement Group (NBEG) and its cross-border partner Derbyshire County Council, to build up local showcases so businesses in different sectors can learn from each other about how applications supported by superfast broadband, can be applied to secure business efficiencies, support new ways to reach customers and suppliers, and increase business productivity.
- 16) The BBfN programme team also routinely responds to enquiries by email via [enquiries.broadband@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.broadband@nottscc.gov.uk). Since April 2014, a total of 165 enquiries have been managed. The regular distribution of the stakeholder bulletin on BBfN continues to be issued to all County Councillors, the district and borough councils, all town and parish councils and other interested stakeholders. For the 1400+ 'email me' subscribers, a monthly newsletter is issued (which is also available for download from the website).

### Consultation

- 17) Consultation on the intervention area for the existing contract with BT was undertaken in the summer of 2012 and was approved as sound by the Government's National Competency Centre for the UK Broadband State Aid Scheme.
- 18) Based on the 2012 consultation, the County Council anticipated that about 86% of the County should be served commercially to secure access to superfast broadband by 2015. There has always been the risk that if commercial plans do not come forward as envisaged, that the scale and scope of localities in the County which may still require coverage could change. This could increase or decrease the scale of the challenge we face to secure close to 94.3% coverage by 2016.
- 19) Work is now underway to define the eligible area of intervention for the next proposed procurement. As a precursor to the formal public consultation document, during the summer, an Open Market Review (OMR) was undertaken. This engagement with the telecommunications market is assisting us with understanding the existing broadband infrastructure and will help identify where there are definite plans for investment in the coming three years.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

- 20) 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**

- 21) As previously reported, the overall capital cost of the capital programme is £15.2 million.
- 22) Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire builds on BT's £2.5 billion commercial roll-out of fibre-based broadband across the UK. The County Council has already secured £4.5m from BDUK and has itself (at Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011) committed £2.15m in the period up to 2016 through the contract with BT. This will support the achievement of our 94.3% superfast coverage target by 2016, when combined with the private sector's expected commercial roll-out of fibre broadband plans. The ERDF funds (£2.76m) and BDUK funds (£4.5m) are being drawn down first, with County Council and Nottinghamshire local authorities (including the City Council) investment expected to come into play in two instalments: the first from April 2015 and the second from April 2016.
- 23) In addition to this, revenue funds of up to £450,000 were previously approved to support the project management process, as was a demand stimulation budget which currently stands at £100,000 (£50,000 previously approved by this Committee and £50,000 from D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership) and the recent approval of £43,034 towards the resourcing of the demand stimulation requirements.
- 24) Further resource requirements for the demand stimulation programme will be assessed ahead of Committee's consideration of its delivery plan and budget for 2015-16 in March 2015.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 25) That Economic Development Committee:
- a) Welcomes the excellent progress being made in partnership with BT on the roll out of fibre-based broadband towards the project's 2016 coverage target, including the first areas to 'go live' and good progress towards the next phase.
  - b) Welcomes the announcement of securing local 'like-for-like' match-funding commitment for the full £2.63m from the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership through its Local Growth Deal.
  - c) Notes that it is the intention to seek approval through Policy Committee to take forward procurement in 2015 to extend coverage further

## **Report of the Corporate Director, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services, Jayne Francis-Ward**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Nicola M<sup>c</sup>Coy Brown, 72580

## **Constitutional Comments**

This report is for noting only.

## Financial Comments [SEM 06.11.2014]

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

### Background Papers and Published Reports

- Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan ([www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/broadband](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/broadband))
- Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan – report to Full Council, 15-12-2011
- Update on Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan – report to Policy Committee, 20-06-2012
- Response to Petitions presented to Economic Development Committee – report to Economic Development Committee, 20-09-2012
- Nottinghamshire Local Broadband Plan – report to Full Council, 28-02-2013
- ERDF Funding Agreement, 14-05-2013
- Investing in Britain's future – Presented to Parliament by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury by Command of Her Majesty, 6-2013  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/209279/PU1524\\_IUK\\_new\\_template.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/209279/PU1524_IUK_new_template.pdf)
- Superfast Broadband for Nottinghamshire – report to Policy Committee 17-07-2013
- Superfast Broadband for Nottinghamshire – report to Economic Development Committee 09-07-2013
- UK Broadband Impact Study – Impact Report, SQW, 11-2013  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/257006/UK\\_Broadband\\_Impact\\_Study\\_-\\_Impact\\_Report\\_-\\_Nov\\_2013\\_-\\_Final.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/257006/UK_Broadband_Impact_Study_-_Impact_Report_-_Nov_2013_-_Final.pdf)
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – Resource Requirements for Delivery Phase – report to Economic Development Committee, 12-12-2013
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – report to Economic Development Committee 14-01-2014
- Superfast Extension Programme indicative funding allocation letter – BDUK on behalf of the Department for Culture Media and Sports, 25-2-2014
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – Superfast Extension Programme – report To Economic Development Committee, 11-03-2014
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – Phase One – report to Economic Development Committee, 1-4-2014
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire Superfast Extension Programme – report to Policy Committee, 4-6-2014
- Update on D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan and Local Growth Deal – report to Economic Development Committee, 1-7-2014
- Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – Additional Staffing Resource – report to Economic Development Committee, 16-09-2014

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

All



## Appendix A: Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire programme - What's coming next?

So far the Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire programme has delivered an additional 70 new fibre cabinets from 15 different exchange areas across the county with plenty more to come. By March 2015 it is estimated that a total of 39,082 premises will be passed by a fibre-based broadband network involving the roll out of over 300 new fibre cabinets. The table below details how many cabinets are currently planned to be surveyed between October and the end of December 2014 (broken down by exchange area):

	Exchange Locations	No. of cabinets to be surveyed		Exchange Locations	No. of cabinets to be surveyed
1	Arnold	1	25	Lowdham	1
2	Bawtry	1	26	Mansfield	1
3	Bingham	1	27	Misterton	1
4	Bleasby	1	28	Nether Broughton	2
5	Blidworth	1	29	Newark	1
6	Blyth	1	30	Pinxton	1
7	Burton Joyce	1	31	Pleasley	1
8	Caunton	1	32	Radcliffe On Trent	1
9	Collingham	1	33	Rampton	3
10	Cotgrave	1	34	Ranskill	5
11	Dunham-On-Trent	1	35	Ruddington	1
12	East Leake	1	36	Sandiacre	1
13	East Stoke	2	37	Saundby	1
14	Edwinstowe	8	38	Sherwood	1
15	Farnsfield	2	39	Southwell	1
16	Gamston	1	40	Sturton-Le-Steeple	3
17	Gedling	3	41	Sutton In Ashfield	1
18	Gotham	3	42	Sutton On Trent	2
19	Harby	2	43	Trentside	1
20	Hathern	1	44	Tuxford	5
21	Kegworth	3	45	Whatton	1
22	Kimberley	2	46	Woodborough	1
23	Kinoulton	1	47	Worksop	1
24	Kirkby In Ashfield	1			





**18<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Agenda Item: 8**

## **REPORT OF GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY**

### **PILGRIM FATHERS' FEASIBILITY STUDY AND MAYFLOWER 400**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for a financial contribution towards a Pilgrim Fathers' Project Feasibility Study and
2. To note the emerging 'Mayflower 400' Project

#### **Information and Advice**

3. Political and religious policies applied during the reign of James 1 saw the emergence of the Church of England Separatists – later becoming known as the Pilgrim or Founding Fathers in America.
4. 2020 marks the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower from England and its arrival in Plymouth in the State of Massachusetts, USA.
5. A large contingent of those sailing to America in 1620 originated from Scrooby and surrounding areas in Nottinghamshire. Accordingly the Pilgrim Father theme has always been viewed as a key plank of the North Nottinghamshire visitor "offer" – both from a local history and educational angle and more latterly to link in with opportunities afforded by the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the potential to target US interest to promote international visits to the UK in order to see and learn more about the origins of their UK ancestors.
6. This opportunity is clearly reflected in Bassetlaw District Council's Visitor Economy Strategy (consultation version), the County Council's Growth Plan and Experience Nottinghamshire's emerging Destination Management Plan.
7. Further, there is significant energy and momentum within the work of the Scrooby based Pilgrim Fathers UK Origins Association. Established by the local community in 2006, the Association is working to develop opportunities in Scrooby to interpret the story for national and international visitors leading up to 2020 and beyond with the potential for a Scrooby Visitor Centre and educational outreach activities currently being investigated.

#### **Mayflower 400**

8. Nationally, it is anticipated that much of the 2020 anniversary engagement work (within the UK and between the UK and the US) will be led by Plymouth City Council through the

development of a “Compact” between all UK interested parties. This will include Bassetlaw District Council and Experience Nottinghamshire.

9. Plymouth City Council has already approached Visit England and has their “in principle” support to the project. A meeting is scheduled for early November to further discuss the opportunities.
10. Plymouth City Council has planned a signing event for the Compact on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014. Civic leaders from Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council will be invited. Experience Nottinghamshire has also confirmed attendance at this event and as the Destination Management Organisation (DMO) is best placed, in association with Bassetlaw District Council, to lead the county’s engagement with Mayflower 400 and to ensure that local visitor attractions gain maximum coverage in any national and international promotional activities and campaigns.

### **Pilgrim Fathers Project Feasibility – Bassetlaw**

11. The 2013 Nottinghamshire Growth Plan sets out a series of actions under Theme One – Competitive Business Growth and specifically looks at the development of the Visitor Economy via work with key partners. In relation to the Pilgrim Fathers, the plan identifies a need to “scope out the potential for a new attraction based on the history of the Pilgrim Fathers in Bassetlaw” via the completion of a feasibility study in association with Bassetlaw District Council.
12. The opportunity has now arisen to commission this research with Bassetlaw colleagues. The scope of the research would be to look at the potential market capacity domestically and internationally to support interest in the Pilgrim Fathers story in Bassetlaw leading up to and beyond 2020 and then to match potential project activity (scale, scope and lead) to the identified demand based on the availability of external and partner funding support. Key to the feasibility will be recommending what type of visitor product should be developed to capitalise on the anniversary driven by a quantitative assessment of the local and international interest in the subject and the ability of partners and stakeholders to deliver events and projects that, where required, are able to remain financially sustainable into the future.
13. Bassetlaw District Council officers estimate that the feasibility study can be delivered for less than £15,000 and accordingly opportunities through existing budgets have been identified to support up to 50% of this matched by an equal contribution from Bassetlaw District Council. Both authorities would jointly manage this work.
14. In terms of the outcomes of the feasibility, it is clearly stated in Bassetlaw District Council’s draft Visitor Economy Strategy that it will not underwrite a Scrooby based Visitor Centre, but may look to facilitate work by a third party. The Strategy also notes opportunities to look to support the development of outreach activities delivered through existing facilities in Retford, website development, augmented reality trails and enhancement of the Pilgrims’ Trail by the development of circular, storied walking, riding and cycling routes.
15. The County Council in turn is unlikely to have the financial resources to provide direct funding to such projects but will work to support the delivery of any viable activities through

external funding advice and partnership work together with technical guidance through, for example, heritage advice and guidance.

16. It is anticipated that key partners such as the Pilgrim Fathers Origins Association and Experience Nottinghamshire will be involved in the study and that the results will be shared accordingly to help draw together a set of appropriate coordinated activity that is capable of:
  - a. stimulating the Visitor Economy through the “telling” of the Pilgrim Fathers story
  - b. capitalising on the Mayflower 400 work nationally and
  - c. being commercially sustainable beyond 2020.

### **Other Options Considered**

17. The options available are referenced in the report.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

18. 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**

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

### **RECOMMENDATION/S**

20. It is recommended that :
  - a) Economic Development Committee approves expenditure of up to £7,500 as a 50% contribution to a feasibility study into potential Pilgrim Fathers project(s) to support the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers landings in America and
  - b) officers support and engage with Plymouth City Council in the development and delivery of the Mayflower 400 Project.

### **Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris**

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

### **Constitutional Comments [SLB 07.11.2014]**

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

### **Financial Comments [SEM 06.11.2014]**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**  
All Bassetlaw divisions

18 November 2014

Agenda Item: 9

**REPORT OF THE GROUP MANAGER, CORPORATE STRATEGY****VOTE AUTHORISED UNDER URGENCY PROCEDURE:  
RENEWAL OF MANSFIELD BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)  
FOR 2015-2020****Purpose of the Report**

1. To advise Members of a vote in favour of the renewal of the Mansfield Business Improvement District (BID) scheme that was authorised under the urgency procedure.

**Information and advice**

2. The Mansfield Business Improvement District (BID) was formally established in 2010 following a vote in favour by businesses in the town centre. BIDs are business led bodies that are formed to improve a defined commercial area, usually town centres with a retail and / or leisure focus.
3. BIDs can operate for a maximum of five years. If they wish to continue they must go through a renewal ballot process to secure another term of up to five years.
4. BIDs are funded through a levy, which is a percentage of the constituent businesses' rateable value. Once a BID is established the levy is mandatory for all businesses in the area covered by the BID. Many BIDs exclude the smallest businesses and charities from the levy. The levy is collected by the district council along with business rates and is then passed over to the BID company for use on the projects and services set out in the BID proposal.
5. The Mansfield BID 2015-2020 business plan describes the priority activities and funding profile for the organisation. There will be a fixed 2% levy applied to all non-domestic properties within the BID area that have a rateable value of £2,500 or more.
6. The County Council is eligible to vote in the BID renewal ballot by virtue of it being the occupier of the Mansfield Bus Station. The ballot was open from 17<sup>th</sup> October to 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014, hence the requirement to seek authorisation to vote under the urgency procedure.

7. A vote in favour was submitted by the deadline. It was authorised through the provisions for urgent decisions by the Chief Executive (Option C, Part C of the Constitution – decision by the Chief Executive) due to the ballot closing date being outside of the Committee cycle.
8. The County Council's vote in favour reflects the fact that town centre regeneration is a priority in the Council's Strategic Plan and Economic Development Strategy.

### **Reason(s) for Recommendations**

9. Decisions taken through the urgency procedures are required to be reported to the next available Committee meeting.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

10. 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)**

11. It is recommended that Committee notes the use of the urgency procedure to authorise the Council's vote in favour of renewal of the Mansfield Business Improvement District.

### **Report of the Group Manager, Corporate Strategy, Celia Morris**

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Celia Morris, 72043

### **Constitutional Comments [KK 10.11.2014]**

The proposal in this report is within the remit of the Economic Development Committee and is for noting only.

### **Financial Comments [SEM 10.11.2014]**

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

### **Background Papers**

Seizing our town's future together – 2015-2020 A Business Plan for the renewal of the Mansfield Business Improvement District.

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

All Mansfield divisions





**18 November 2014**

**Agenda Item: 10**

**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.
6. A joint briefing for Members of Economic Development Committee and Transport & Highways Committee has been arranged for 11 December 2014 at 12:30 pm at County Hall in order to seek Members' initial views on the proposed Combined Authority for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Combined Authorities are legally discrete public authorities established by groups of Councils to bring greater collaboration to the regeneration and growth aspirations and transport ambitions of the areas that they cover. Further details will be circulated to Members closer to the date.

**Other Options Considered**

7. None.

#### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

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

#### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

9. 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**

<b><u>Report Title</u></b>	<b><u>Brief summary of agenda item</u></b>	<b><u>For Decision or Information ?</u></b>	<b><u>Lead Officer</u></b>	<b><u>Report Author</u></b>
<b>6 January 2015</b>				
Nottinghamshire Business Investment Zones	To review progress with the Nottinghamshire Business Investment Zones initiative	Information	Geoff George	Hilary Porter
Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Skills and Employment Board update	To consider an update on the work of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Skills and Employment Board	Information	Celia Morris	Celia Morris
Youth Employment Strategy – progress update	To receive a progress update on the two projects funded through the Council’s Youth Employment Strategy	Information	Fiona Anderson	Hilary Porter / Trish Adams
SPARK Nottinghamshire evaluation	To consider the final evaluation of the SPARK Nottinghamshire 2014 programme	Information	Hilary Porter	Hilary Porter
Key Account Management – performance update	To consider the outcomes of the pilot ‘key account management’ approach and possible changes to the model	Decision	Matt Lockley	Mandy Ramm
Town centre research project findings	To receive an update on work commissioned through the Economic Development budget on key town centres in Nottinghamshire	Information (possible decision)	Sam Jones	Sam Jones
<b>3 February 2015</b>				
D2N2 Growth Hub	To outline to Members the proposals for and progress on the establishment of a D2N2 Growth Hub	Information	Geoff George	Geoff George
Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund	To update Members on the performance of the Capital Fund to date	Decision	Geoff George	Trish Adams
<b>3 March 2015</b>				
Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire – programme update				

*Italics = suggestions*

