

**Report to the City of
Nottingham and
Nottinghamshire Economic
Prosperity Committee**

22 July 2016

Agenda Item:4

REPORT OF THE HS2 EXECUTIVE TEAM

OUTLINE HS2 GROWTH STRATEGY

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Committee about the developing HS2 Growth Strategy related to the proposed East Midlands Hub station at Toton.

Background

2. HS2 represents a transformational opportunity for the East Midlands economy, it can help the East Midlands to become a world-class commercial hub and a destination of choice for businesses.
3. It is proposed that the HS2 East Midlands Hub station is located at Toton, significant work is now underway to prepare an outline Growth Strategy for submission to government in September 2016. Preparation of the outline Growth Strategy is led by the East Midlands HS2 Strategic Board supported by the HS2 Executive and Growth Strategy Officer Group.
4. In readiness for the outline Growth Strategy submission, a high level framework has been developed which sets out the broad topics for inclusion, these are: Economic Vision, Skills and Supply Chain Opportunities, Emerging Connectivity Priorities, Hub Station Design Principles and Governance. A copy of the outline framework is appended to this report.
5. A substantive part of the HS2 outline Growth Strategy will be the output of an 'economic opportunities study' which is assessing the potential economic development opportunities that the HS2 station at Toton will provide both from land immediately around the station and from linking sites to the HS2 station.
6. This study which is being undertaken by 'ekosgen' considers a number of factors including economic baseline, a review of spatial strategies, assets and connectivity. A 'baseline workshop' is taking place on July 13th to consider the findings to date in readiness for full consideration by the HS2 Board on July 20th.

7. A second workshop is being planned for August 17th, this will be a 'Futures Workshop' and is intended for senior influencers. Members of the Economic Prosperity Committee may be interested in attending this session to share views and thinking on the economic opportunities linked with HS2 in preparation for the submission of the outline Growth Strategy.
8. A further important section of the outline HS2 Growth Strategy is employment and skills, this is to ensure that the East Midlands economy can fully capitalise on the opportunities that HS2 brings and that these opportunities can benefit local people. The employment and skills work will be split into two phases beginning with a preliminary phase to support the outline HS2 Growth Strategy.
9. Phase 1 of the employment and skills work will establish a baseline position from which to quantify the number and indicative skill levels that will be required for the construction of HS2 in the East Midlands. The work will consider the historic significance and strengths of the rail sector as a solid foundation from which to underpin HS2 investment. Consideration will also be given to the current provision which supports the sector and outlines the further requirements for capacity and capability.

Next Steps

10. Committee to consider attending the 'Futures Workshop' on August 17th to input into the development of the HS2 outline Growth Strategy and to learn more about the potential opportunities that HS2 can bring to the East Midlands economy.
11. The HS2 outline Growth Strategy framework will be populated with the key data and information in readiness for discussion with the HS2 Board on September 13th prior to submitting the document to government by the end of September 2016.
12. To secure the most advantageous economic outcome for the East Midlands and to build on the outline HS2 Growth Strategy, focused work will continue in earnest to develop a full and detailed HS2 Growth Strategy which will be submitted to government in April 2017.

Reason(s) for Recommendations

For Committee to be appraised of the progress towards the HS2 outline Growth Strategy and the opportunity to attend the 'Futures Workshop' on August 17th.

Other Options Considered

None

Statutory and Policy Implications

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

Financial implications

None

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that Committee note the content of the report and the work that is taking place to develop the HS2 Outline Growth Strategy. In addition, Committee Members to consider attending the Futures Workshop on 17th August.

Report of the HS2 Executive Team**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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Background Papers

None