

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: The Metro Mayor and Members of the Combined Authority

Meeting: 11 January 2019

Authority/Authorities Affected: Knowsley MBC

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

Key Decision

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER: INCLUSIVE GROWTH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DIGITAL AND INNOVATION

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION SINGLE INVESTMENT FUND – ACCESS TO HALSNEAD GARDEN VILLAGE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek a Combined Authority decision on a Full Business Case submitted for funding from the Single Investment Fund and to delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service regarding negotiations of the grant funding agreement. The Combined Authority has considered the project under its 2016 call for projects, appraisal process and assurance framework.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority approve:
 - (a) the Full Business Case in relation to the Access to Halsnead Garden Village project and award Single Investment Fund support in the sum of a maximum capital grant of £12,142,325 subject to the conditions contained in Appendix 1;
 - (b) delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service and the Director of Commercial Development & Investment to negotiate detailed terms of the ensuing grant funding agreement in consultation with the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer and Combined Authority Treasurer

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. A Full Business Case application has been received from Knowsley MBC for the Halsnead Garden Village project and a detailed appraisal has been undertaken in line with the Single Investment Fund (SIF) Assurance Framework. The project is now eligible for consideration by the Combined Authority.

3.2. The appraisal adheres to the agreed SIF appraisal criteria which is compliant with the HMT Green Book Guidance and WebTAG principles. The appraisal has considered all aspects of the business case including:

- Strategic Case
- Economic Case
- Finance Case
- Commercial Case
- Management Case

3.3. The independent appraisal report is available at Appendix 2.

3.4. It should be noted that this represents a Key Decision due to the scale of investment requested. A Key Decision Notice has been prepared and published for the project.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial

4.1.1 The Combined Authority Treasurer has confirmed that the proposed funding request can be accommodated as part of the overall SIF allocation.

4.2. Human Resources

4.2.1 The Investment Team and Legal Team will lead the negotiation of the Grant Funding Agreement and the Programme Management Office will have responsibility for managing the delivery of the Combined Authority's investment.

4.3. Physical Assets

The physical assets to be created by the project are fully detailed in the appraisal report.

4.4. Information Technology

The approval of funding will not give rise to Information Technology issues.

5. RISKS AND MITIGATION

5.1. The Funding Agreement between the Combined Authority and the applicant will seek to ensure to the extent achievable that risk to the Combined Authority is managed, including in relation to State Aid.

5.2. Individual project risks are identified and considered as part of the independent appraisal process. The Programme Management Office will be responsible for ensuring that during delivery risks are understood and that the applicant takes necessary steps to mitigate these.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. Equality and Diversity implications are considered as part of the appraisal process and relevant considerations are set out in the appendices

7. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

- 7.1. All projects approved will be subject to the Combined Authority's branding guidelines and publicity requirements placed upon them as part of the Grant Funding Agreement. In addition the Combined Authority will, through its adopted communication protocols, publicise the award of funding to the projects and the associated envisaged outcomes.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1. This report presents the Access to Halsnead Garden Village project for Combined Authority approval at Full Business Case stage and to give approval as outlined to the Head of Paid Service to proceed with the negotiation of the Grant Funding Agreement.

MARK BOUSFIELD

Director of Commercial Development and Investment

COUNCILLOR P DAVIES

Portfolio Holder: Inclusive Growth, Economic Development, Digital and Innovation

Contact Officer(s):

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Access to Halsnead Garden Village Project Summary

Appendix 2 – Access to Halsnead Garden Village Appraisal Report

Appendix 3 - Full Business Case Application

Background Documents:

Nil