

Record of Delegated Non Executive Decisions by Officers

1. Subject of decision

Accelerated Development Fund Grant Offer – Wallsend masterplan & A19 Corridor Improvements

Delegation Reference:

The Authority's Officer Delegation Scheme gives specific authority to the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development at RED3 to enter into agreements "with other funding organisations where the purpose of the agreement is to enable that organisation to provide funding support for projects within any of the programmes delivered or managed by the Authority." This specific authority enables the Director to authorise entry into the ADF Grant Fund Agreement

This decision has been delegated to one or more officer(s) under:

- (a) A specific express authorisation (provide the date, report and decision of Council, Committee or Sub-Committee etc which delegated this to the specific officer(s))
- (b) a general authorisation to take such decisions **and**, the effect of the decision is to:
- (i) grant a permission or licence;
 - (ii) affect the rights of an individual; or
 - (iii) award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Authority's financial position.

2. Name and Title of Decision Maker

John Sparkes, Director of Economic Development

3. Details of any Conflict of Interest and any Dispensation granted in respect of such Interest

None

4. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development to the Authority entering into an Accelerator Development Fund Agreement (ADF) with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) in relation to two projects in the Borough, namely:

- The preparation of the Wallsend Masterplan
- Traffic survey/feasibility work to inform A19 North of Tyne Improvements (Local Plan Housing/Employment Land enabling)

After the Authority has entered into the ADF agreements the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development is requested to appoint Capita, as the Authority's strategic partner, to prepare the Wallsend Masterplan and to carry out the A19 modelling and feasibility work.

Completion of this work will enable the Authority to develop a Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Bid in advance of the expected Government announcement of the next funding round in Spring 2022.

5. Alternative options considered

Option 2

To approve and/or reject some or all of the recommendations set out at Paragraphs 1.2 (1) (2) (3) of the report.

6. Decision(s)

(1) Authorise the Authority's entry into the Accelerator Development Grant Fund Agreement with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership so as to obtain: -

- a. £80,000 for the feasibility, design and site investigation works to inform the development of a Wallsend Masterplan
- b. £80,000 for the feasibility and business case development work on the A1056 and A19 (SRN) Corridors;

(2) Request the Director of Law and Governance in consultation with the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development and the Director of Resources to take all necessary steps to complete the Accelerator Development Grant Fund Agreement; and

(3) Authorise the appointment of Capita, as the Authority's strategic partner, to prepare the Wallsend Masterplan and to carry out the A19 survey, modelling and feasibility work.

Accepting this funding will enable the Authority to undertake feasibility and development work which will be used to inform Levelling Up applications for round 2 for Wallsend and the A19.

8. Date Decision Made

31 January 2022

9. Date of Publication

31 January 2022

*Note – this is an Urgent Decision, as agreed by the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and not subject to call-in, as agreed by the Chair of Council.

The reason for urgency is as follows:

To enable Capita, as the Authority's strategic partner, to be appointed as soon as possible to commence preparation of the Wallsend Masterplan and A19 traffic survey/modelling and feasibility work. Completion of this work will enable the Authority to develop a Levelling Up Fund (LUF) Bid in advance of the expected Government announcement of the next funding round in Spring 2022.