

## Item 9 - Subgroup summary report

Report of **SPMG Subgroup Chair** in relation to the meeting of **8<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**For:** (I) Information (R) Ratification (D) Discussion and decision

### Key agenda items discussed:

- Appointment of additional district SPMG member: Martin Hamilton, Newcastle-u-Lyme CEO.
- Ceramic Valley Enterprise Zone (CVEZ) Strategic Implementation Plan.  
*Caroline Mairs (Investment Services Manager, MakeIt) and Matthew Chadburn (Strategic Manager (Finance), Stoke-on-Trent City Council)*
- Growth Hub update - January 2022  
*Chris Plant, Director of Business Services, Chambers*
- Q3 Programme progress and outputs reporting:
  - SSLEP GBF report Q3 2021-22 v2
  - SSLEP LGD report Q3 2021-22 v2
  - City Deal update Q3 2021-22
- Monitoring and Evaluation Plans – these were approved by SPMG and have been submitted to BEIS, completing the Audit action.

### Notable changes, successes or risks

#### **Electronic Decisions – summary of outcomes:**

The S151 Officer confirmed that both Board electronic decisions in January were quorate and that there was a clear majority.:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> electronic decision 04/01/22:

- A). Cornhill Small Business Units – Board **APPROVED** SPMG's recommendation to withdraw funding
- B). GBF spend slippage – Board **APPROVED** SPMG's recommendation to use Freedoms & Flexibilities to enable GBF slipped spend to be carried forward to Q1 2022/23 to allow schemes to complete.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> electronic decision 27/01/22

- Powering Up Enterprise – Board **APPROVED** SPMG's recommendation to vote for Option A - to remove the CoRE project from the programme in order to deliver the remaining 5 projects.

#### **Programme reporting Q3 21/22**

- **LGF**
  - Houses: 154 built in Q3, bringing the total to 708 (71% of target). The SSLEP target, should be reached by Autumn this year. Housing numbers are accelerating rapidly. Further developer contracts, Reserved matters and planning currently in progress indicate additional developers coming on site on the larger sites, which will increase speed of outputs delivery.
  - Jobs: Significant movement on 2 of the larger sites: estimated 700 jobs (not included in the reporting figures yet as still awaiting confirmation). On a third large site, the first phase of speculative

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units totals 235,000 sq ft, due to complete Feb/March 22. A further planning application has been approved for a 172,000 sq ft feet facility.

- **GBF**

- The revised programme comprises 13 schemes, all contracted.
- Programme changes:
  - Following the Board decision to withdraw GBF funding from the Cornhill scheme, grant has been reallocated to the three schemes who were due to receive both GBF and SSLEP reserve funding (Church St. Gaming Hub / Cleveland Future Skills Hub / SEF G JCB Robotics). No SSLEP reserve funding is now required to progress these schemes as there is now sufficient GBF to fulfil their original grant requests.
  - Powering Up Enterprise. The CoRE project has been removed from the programme. The saving from this will be directed to support the remaining 5 projects in the scheme to mitigate exceptional cost increases.

- **Risks:**

- GBF spend slippage – this has been mitigated by Board's decision to support the S151's proposed Freedoms & Flexibilities, allowing slippage to be spent on an SCC scheme and then switched back to the respective GBF schemes to allow them to complete in Q1 22/23.
- Rising supplier costs and supply delays are impacting on projects.

### Decisions and/or Recommendations

New SPMG district member:

- Request Board ratification of appointment of Martin Hamilton as an SPMG district member.

### APPENDICES

**Appdx a.i.** Ceramic Valley Enterprise Zone (CVEZ) Strategic Implementation Plan

**Appdx a.ii** Ceramic valley Enterprise Zone – slide pack

**Appdx b.** Growth Hub update – January 2022

**Appdx c.** SSLEP GBF report Q3 2021-22 v2 **(on SSLEP website only).**

**Appdx d.** SSLEP LGD report Q3 2021-22 v2 **(on SSLEP website only).**

**Appdx e.** City Deal update Q3 2021-22 **(on SSLEP website only).**

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