

Report of **Audit & Finance Subgroup Chair** in relation to the meeting of:

**5<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

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

**Key agenda items discussed:**

- Risk Register
- Assets and Liabilities Mapping
- Growth Hub Report 2022
- Q2 22-23 LEP Finance Dashboard

**Notable changes, successes or risks**

**Risk Register**

- A revised and simplified Risk Register has been produced and approved.
- An outline providing context to how risks are identified, assessed and managed was approved.
- The GBF Cleveland Future Skills Hub project parent company (Aspire Housing) are actively managing the situation to mitigate the impact a closure wherever possible, including working towards establishing a solution to achieve meeting any remaining GBF outputs.
- The District Heat Network scheme currently holds a City Deal Grant balance of £7,585,002 as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 22 which is to be spent by Q1 24/25.
- GBF Project Drakelow anticipated start date January 2023.

**Assets and Liabilities Mapping**

- An assets and liabilities document has been produced to illustrate those contracts that the SSLEP are accountable for or support. The document was provisional approved at the A&F meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September and is currently being used as part of the transition discussions for the development and implementation of the approved SSLEP Delivery Plan.

**Growth Hub Report 2022**

- A presentation on the current 22/23 SSLEPs Growth Hub budget was discussed at A&F.
- Partner contributions proposals are required to be confirmed.

**Q2 22-23 LEP Finance Dashboard**

- The GBF Grant carry forward of £2.806m has been fully drawn down by the 5 remaining GBF schemes/projects and the LEP's GBF Grant Funding Programme is now closed.
- City Deal – The District Heat Network has profiled its 22-23 CD grant spend at £0.438m and has, to date, spent £0.131m. If the profiled grant spend is met this year, there will remain a further £7.147m of CD Grant to be invested in this significant infrastructure scheme by Q1 24-25.
- CVEZ business rates are expected to be in surplus by 30-31 and target business rates uplift is now expected to be £6.165m by 2041.
- I54 EZ – All borrowings will be paid back in 24-25.
- i54 business rates are currently estimated at £4.9m. Of which SSLEP will receive a 50% share at £2.9m pa.

- GPF – 1 Panel approved loan is currently awaiting its final Funding Agreement.
- Further GPF Loan 'Open Calls' are currently on hold until the SSLEP Transition Group outcomes are known.
- ESIF commitments and grant spend to date have been revised as @ June 22 following receipt of the first bi-annual ESIF Performance report from Gov't.
- ESF Grant allocation is 80% committed and 65% claimed to date.
- ERDF Grant is 87% committed and total claimed incl. match to date is £117.82m.
- EAFRD Grant allocation is 79.4% committed and 41.8% claimed to date leaving £1.474m of committed grant spend yet to be claimed.
- DIT Internalisation Fund - of the revised total available grant allocation £754,496 there is still an estimated £374,314 at the end of August uncommitted (subject to the committed pipeline bids being awarded).
- All LEP Revenue Grants are 'on course' to be fully spent by 31st March 23.
- LEP 'Unrestricted' Reserves are currently estimated at c£1.71m as @ 31st March 23.

### **Decisions and/or Ratifications**

1. Approval of the Q2 22-23 LEP Finance dashboard.

### **Appendices**

1. Q2 22-23 DRAFT LEP Finance Dashboard
2. The Risk Register Update Paper
3. Growth Hub Presentation and Paper

Full details of the meeting including agenda pack, presentations and minutes can be requested from [john.broad@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.broad@staffordshire.gov.uk)