

HERTFORDSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT BODY

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LOCAL GROWTH FUND – THIRD ROUND EMERGING PROPOSALS

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1 Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Update the LTB on the Government's third round of the Local Growth Fund
- To seek endorsement for the emerging transport schemes for consideration by the LEP through their prioritisation and ranking process

2 Background

2.1 As part of the Government's devolution agenda a Local Growth Fund (LGF) has been developed, for which Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) can bid to deliver projects that support growth within their boundary.

2.2 The LEP secured significant funding totalling approximately £225 million to deliver a range of projects linked to employment and housing growth in the county through the last LGF rounds, for which a large proportion was indicatively allocated towards transport schemes. The timeframe for delivery of schemes through the LGF is 2015/16 – 2020/21, with previous rounds seeing funding award, indicatively for the period but allocated on a financial yearly basis.

2.3 It is anticipated that the next round of LGF (LGF3) will be for schemes to be developed and delivered between 2017/18 – 2020/21.

3. Recommendation

3.1 It is requested that the Board:

1. Note this report
2. Endorse the emerging transport schemes for consideration by the LEP through their prioritisation and ranking process

4. Overview

4.1 It is expected that the next round of allocating LGF will commence after the completion of the Comprehensive Spending Review. LEPs have been asked to start preparing their proposals and have a draft ready before Christmas. There is limited information on the amount of funding or sources of funding that will be made available and so we are trying to develop a wide range of proposals that will be suitable for funding.

- 4.2 Hertfordshire LEP issued a call for projects in early September. The deadline for submission is 9 October. Once proposals have been received, there will be an initial sift by the LEP Executive Team and they will have a light touch appraisal and be prioritised based on deliverability, strategic fit, range of impact and value for money. The key output will remain new homes and jobs.
- 4.3 Each of the LEPs Programme Boards will consider the prioritisation as it relates to the type of project which will come within its remit. The Strategic Infrastructure Board is due to meet on 23 October to determine the priorities for infrastructure investment. The LTB acts as an advisory body to the LEP. The final priorities are due to be agreed by the LEP Board at its meeting on 19 November.
- 4.4 As part of the re-allocation of funding to Croxley Rail Link, it was decided that the transport projects which were due to receive funding would remain a priority and that the LEP would seek funding for them through future Growth Deals.
- 4.5 Following the call the County Council has undertaken a process of scheme identification and prioritisation within each of the three LEP – SEP corridors and added a wider ranging East West corridor. The corridors are defined as the M1/M25, A1, and A10/M11 and East / West
- 4.6 This process has taken into account schemes that align with supporting housing and employment growth and are deliverable within the funding period as key considerations. Any additional schemes identified through this process have been added to the transport projects that were previously due to receive funding (see 4.4).
- 4.7 Due to the uncertainty regarding any future opportunities to secure funding through the LGF, indicative values have been included for the latter years with particular respect to larger scale capital works within the funding period to support housing and employment growth within the county. These values are subject to being confirmed through Growth and Transport Plans and or Local Plans and other infrastructure studies and will require, development, political endorsement, wider matched-funding, and any local permission that may be required before delivery can progress. As such a number of revenue funded Growth and Transport Plans have been included in the table attached for consideration.
- 4.8 The recommended list of schemes for submission to Hertfordshire LEP are attached at Appendix i.