



To: Executive Councillor for Customer Services and
Resources : Councillor Julie Smith
Report by: James Nightingale, Head of ICT Client Services
Relevant scrutiny Strategy and Resources Scrutiny 9 July 2012
committee: Committee
Wards affected: All Wards

FUTURE CITIES DEMONSTRATOR PROJECT BID

Key Decision

1. Executive summary

Cambridge City Council is eligible to bid for funding for a large scale demonstrator for “future cities”: projects. These are designed to integrate systems across cities in order to deliver new approaches for delivering a good local economy and excellent quality of life.

This paper outlines the background to the bid and seeks to put in place appropriate arrangements to determine if the City should submit a bid and, if so, the content of that bid.

Bids must be submitted by 5th July, so this is being raised as an urgent decision.

2. Recommendations

The Executive Councillor is recommended:

- To authorise officers to undertake work to determine the opportunities and implications of submitting a bid for the Future Cities Demonstrator Project.
- To agree to proposals outlined for Member involvement.
- To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Executive Councillor, Chair and Spokes of the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee to determine whether the Council should submit a bid and, if so, what the basis of the bid should be.

3. Background

Bid Background

Initially announced in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's 2011 Autumn statement, the Technology Strategy Board has allocated £25m to invest in a Future Cities demonstrator.

The project will demonstrate, at scale and in use, the additional value that can be created by integrating a city's systems. The project will enable businesses to test – in practice – new solutions for connecting and integrating individual city systems, and will allow cities to explore new approaches to delivering a good local economy and excellent quality of life, whilst reducing the environmental footprint and increasing resilience to environmental change.

The funding will be awarded to the city or urban area in the UK that submits the best proposal for a large scale 'future cities demonstrator', showing how the city's multiple systems will be integrated and how challenges in the city will be addressed.

In the context of this competition, a city is a contiguous urban area with a population of at least 125,000. Cambridge, with bordering areas of South Cambridgeshire, meets those criteria.

The competition will run in two stages. The programme has invited local governments and local authorities to initially bid for one of twenty £50,000 grants to carry out a feasibility study and to develop their demonstrator project proposal. Deadline 5 July; winners announced 20 July 2012

The cities that have completed the feasibility study will then be invited to submit a proposal for the large scale demonstrator – and in January 2013, one successful city will be awarded £24m funding to implement their proposal.

<https://connect.innovateuk.org/web/future-cities-special-interest-group/future-cities-demonstrator>

Progress to Date

During the short timescales available, officers at the County have been consulting with various stakeholders across Cambridge, and drafting a potential bid.

4. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

No substantial commitments are foreseen for the feasibility stage of the project, other than officer time to support the work. One of the outputs expected from this study would be an assessment of the financial implications for each partner of the full implementation project.

(b) Staffing Implications

Resources would need to be identified to undertake the initial project work to formulate a bid, if this is approved, including specialist support in a number of professional areas.

(c) Equal Opportunities Implications

The feasibility study will determine whether an Equalities Impact Assessment is required

(d) Environmental Implications

A key aim of the project is to contribute to environmental, so the work should serve to contribute to the City's Carbon Management Plan, and have wider environmental benefits for the City.

(e) Consultation

Consultation with key stakeholders from public and third sectors, business and academic bodies will be key to the feasibility study stage.

(f) Community Safety

No direct implications.

5. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

- Future cities demonstrator brochure

6. Appendices

None

7. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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