



To: Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee
Report by: The Head of Corporate Strategy
Relevant scrutiny committee: STRATEGY AND RESOURCES 20 January 2014
Wards affected: All Wards

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND OUR INVOLVEMENT

Non- Key Decision

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The Leader of the Council attends the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. This report gives scrutiny members a feel for the direction these partnerships are moving in, their developing priorities and other associated work, notably the developing Greater Cambridge City Deal. It is part of a commitment given in the Council's "[Principles of Partnership Working](#)" that the Council's lead member provide an annual account of their work.
- 1.2 The majority of projects awarded residual reward grant, from the former Local Strategic Partnership, have now concluded their work and a Grant Monitoring Update is provided by the administering body, Cambridgeshire Community Foundation, for the interest of members.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Leader is recommended to:
 - a) Continue to work with the partnerships (LEP and Cambridge Community Safety Partnership) and the development of the Greater Cambridge City Deal, to ensure that the strategic issues affecting Cambridge and matters of concern to Cambridge citizens are responded to. This includes maintaining the economic success of our area, whilst respecting its unique character, and continuing to address and prevent incidents of anti-social behaviour and crime.

3. Overview

3.1 The strategic partnerships that are covered in this paper include:

- **Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership (LEP)**
- **Greater Cambridge City Deal**
- **Cambridge Community Safety Partnership**
- **Use of residual reward grant from the former LSP**

3.2 There are other significant partnerships that the Council is involved with, outside of the partnerships referred to here. These include: Cambridgeshire's **Health and Wellbeing Board** and its locality body, the Cambridge Local Health Partnership, Cambridgeshire's **Children's Trust** and its locality body, Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Area Partnership, and the **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership (RECAP)**. The progress of these partnerships will be provided in a separate briefing to members and the Council's Partnership web-pages updated to include these briefings.

4. **Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership**

4.1 The **Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership** (the LEP) is based on the economic areas of Cambridge and Peterborough, alongside neighbouring market towns and communities in Cambridgeshire, together with Rutland, West Norfolk and King's Lynn. It was formed in September 2010 and the Leader of the Council presently sits within its nine member strong Board as one of four local authority members. The Board has met eight times in the past year. Meeting agenda and minutes of previous meetings are published in advance of Board meetings on the LEP [website](#).

4.2 The LEP's Growth Prospectus has since been developed into an Operational Plan for 2013-2014 to help focus the work of the LEP and provide a vision for the area. An [Executive Summary of the LEP's Operational Plan](#) shows its achievements to date and priorities for action in the future.

4.3 The full Operational Plan was published in April 2013 and identified the following five priority areas and targets associated with them:

- Enabling the development and occupation of Alconbury Enterprise Zone in line with partners' vision for the site
 - Advocating and influencing improvements to our area's transport infrastructure
 - Enabling business-led skills provision and improving the work readiness of the unemployed in target areas
 - Promoting enterprise growth and innovation
 - Improving international promotion, increasing inward investment and exporting
- 4.4 The Operational Plan presently serves as the basis for the Strategic Economic Plan required by Government to allow the LEP to bid for a share of a new Single Growth Fund, which was confirmed in the Government's Spending Review in 2013. Investing in Britain's Future 2013, sets out the government's strategic plan to build, repair and renew the UK's key infrastructure and showed its intentions to support local growth by bringing the resources under the strategic influence of business led Local Enterprise Partnerships. This followed the publication of Lord Heseltine's Report 'No stone unturned in the pursuit of growth'. The Government has committed £2bn a year for five years to a Single Growth Pot and the LEP will be competing to secure funds from it.
- 4.5 This fund will be available from April 2015. A Local Growth Strategy, involving multi-year economic plans, will be the key tool for bidding into this important funding pot and will be submitted by the LEP shortly (December 2013) and then serve as the basis for the negotiation of a Growth Deal with the Government for the LEPs allocation of the Growth Fund.
- 4.6 **As part of a consultation exercise conducted by the LEP during the autumn, the Council submitted a number of expressions of interest for projects to help inform the LEP about local priorities and to identify potential bids for investment. It is likely that the initial draft of the Local Growth Strategy will be broad and then refined through negotiation. The Council has also provided evidence to identify local growth issues and priorities set out in its developing Local Plan.**

- 4.7 This forms part of a wider evidence gathering exercise conducted by the LEP to create its economic strategy and investment plan. Throughout the process the LEP has worked with partners and experts to focus on identifying key economic priorities and actions that will unlock growth potential
- Pinpointing opportunities for economic growth
 - Ascertaining the barriers to economic growth and ways of tackling them
 - Identifying the priority actions, projects and investments that will unlock growth
 - Campaign on major issues, actions and investments that will unlock growth potential
- 4.8 The Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnerships share was £60m over the six year period. In late August 2013 the LEP held two European Funding Strategy workshops to gather project ideas across and feedback, in each of the European Commission's Thematic Objectives covering support for SMEs, low carbon, skills, employment and social inclusion, from a range of key stakeholders.
- 4.9 **Cambridge City Council submitted a number of project ideas, some supporting Cambridgeshire County Council initiatives, mainly under the Promoting Social Inclusion and Combating Poverty Theme.**
- 4.10 The LEP submitted its draft European Structural Investment Funding strategy to the Government in early October. The final proposals will be agreed with the Government in early 2014. It is anticipated that the LEP's strategic economic plan and ESI funds strategy will run as an integrated package despite ESI funds being available from mid-2014 and Growth Deals from April 2015.
- 4.11 The LEP feels it will have succeeded when it has aligned European and other funding sources to its priorities, as set out in its economic strategy and action plan, and is enabling the delivery projects on the ground.

- 4.12 Alongside the delivery of an economic vision and strategy for the LEP area, the LEP is focused on enabling the creation of employment opportunities by:
- Attracting investment and employment to the LEP area – particularly within the Enterprise Zone at Alconbury
 - Improving the market profile of our area to attract investment and enterprise
 - Investing our Growing Places Funding into infrastructure projects that create employment
- 4.13 One key role of the LEP's is to seek ways to overcome infrastructure issues that are holding back the economic development of the area. The LEP is seen by Government, because it is business led, as a leading proponent in taking infrastructure issues forward, such as the provision of strategic funding for congested roads, campaigning for improvements to the rail network, or supporting work to deliver better broadband for both businesses.
- 4.14 The LEP has made an in principle commitment of £50 million towards the upgrading of the A14 funded by future Business Rates receipts from Alconbury Enterprise Zone) making them the single largest contributor to the scheme.
- 4.15 Another role the LEP is presently playing is to help change the skills funding and commissioning system to enable education and training provision to better meet the needs of local businesses, and to work with enterprises, education and training providers and employers to help ensure provision meets local needs. The LEP is looking to ensure that a greater amount of Skills Funding Agency funds are aligned to locally agreed priorities by 2015. It has also launched a new Skills Survey to better understand the complex skills and training needs of local businesses.
- 4.16 **Over the past year it has become increasingly apparent that LEPs are now a key vehicle for stimulating economic growth and that local authorities will need to respond to this reality, as getting things done will often rely heavily on support from it (financial and collection of evidence). Understanding, influencing and matching the LEP ambitions will be important and ensuring key**

local plans are aligned, such as the Local Development Framework, will be challenging.

5. Greater Cambridge City Deal

5.1 City Deals are agreements between Government and a city region that devolve greater powers and funding to the local area. A [summary](#) of the Greater Cambridge City Deal proposals was set out in a report to Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting in July 2013.

5.2 The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Autumn Statement 2013, published on 6th December 2013 contained the following item:

"The government is committed to delivering with Greater Cambridge their proposals on Gain Share - a payment by results mechanism whereby the local area will be able to keep a larger proportion of the proceeds of economic growth generated in, and around, the city of Cambridge. This recognises the growth potential that exists in Greater Cambridge and will drive economic growth and accelerate transport and housing infrastructure by unlocking over £1 billion of investment. The Government will announce details of how this proposal will work alongside Budget 2014. Further information on City Deals will be announced in due course."

5.3 **The process of negotiating and agreeing a good City Deal with Government for Greater Cambridge is continuing and any emerging deal will be brought back to the Council for a decision before an implementation plan is agreed. Additional resources secured in the City Deal should increase the level of economic growth, jobs and prosperity in the City Deal geography, which would benefit residents and businesses across the County and wider LEP area.**

6. Cambridge Community Safety Partnership

6.1 The Cambridge Community Safety Partnership ("the Cambridge CSP") involves a number of agencies concerned with tackling and reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in Cambridge. The Cambridge CSP's main task continues to be to understand the community safety issues Cambridge is experiencing; decide which of

these are the most important to deal with; and then decide what actions can be taken collectively, adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by the individual agencies. These actions are detailed in a document called the Community Safety Plan, which runs for three years. The current plan started on 1 April 2011.

- 6.2 The [Annual Review for 2013](#) (second year of the Community Safety Plan) covering the period 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013 highlights that crime had reduced overall by 7.1% in the period covered by the review and that recorded crime in the partnership's priority areas had reduced by substantially more. When the review is carried out the opportunity is taken to check that the plans priorities are still relevant using a Strategic Assessment.
- 6.3 As a result of the application of the Strategic Assessment, and taking into account the new Policing Plan prepared by the Police and Crime Commissioner, it was decided that two of the priorities would remain broadly the same for 2013/14 and that new priorities for acquisitive crimes types, that have particular impact on victims, be added. The Cambridge Community Safety Partnership's priorities for 2013/14 are:
- **Reducing alcohol-related violent crime**
 - **Reducing anti-social behaviour**
 - **Responding to emerging trends of victim-based acquisitive crime**
 - **Track and support the county-wide work being carried out on domestic abuse and Integrated Offender Management.**
- 6.4 For 2013/14, as previously reported, the Community Safety Fund had been directed to the Police and Crime Commissioner to allocate to projects that that help with the delivery of the objectives in the Policing Plan. It was not known whether the Cambridge CSP would receive a similar share to that allocated by the County Council in 2012/13 but in the eventuality, the Commissioner provided the Cambridge CSP with the same allocation of £45,820 for 2013/14.
- 6.5 This funding has been allocated by the Cambridge CSP in 2013/14 to projects looking to address the priority areas and to add value to the day to day activities of the organisations involved in the partnership. The combined cost of these projects is £41,787. Some of the priority areas have multi-agency task groups in place to help commission and guide targeted work.

6.6 Every quarter the Cambridge CSP requires project lead officers to submit progress reports, which are considered by the partnership at its meetings. In addition quarterly crime and disorder reports showing progress against the aims and targets in the Community Safety Plan are considered. So far, during 2013, it appears that recorded incidents within each of the priority areas are continuing to show substantial reductions. It is not known whether this downward trend will be sustainable given the restructuring and budget reductions taking place in partner organisations. This will be a matter considered in the future by the Cambridge CSP.

7. Use of Residual Reward Grant of the former Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Strategic Partnership (“LSP”)

7.1 The former LSP was wound up in March 2012. Before the LSP was dissolved it asked Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) to administer and distribute the remaining balance of its Reward Grant, standing at £100,000. A Service Level Agreement with CCF was prepared setting out the way this should be done. The LSP said it would like the grant to be focused on reducing inequalities across its area (Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire).

7.2 CCF have provided a Grant Monitoring Update (October 2013) that gives more detail about the way the grant was allocated and, based on monitoring returns from 17 of the 27 bodies awarded the grant, it highlights some case studies to illustrate the use of the grant. This is shown in Appendix 1, and is for information. The full list of bodies awarded grants can be found at the Council’s Partnership web-pages. All projects are expected to conclude by July 2014. A final report will then be provided by CCF giving account for all the grants awarded.

8. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

The LEP is responsible for drawing down significant levels of resources to improve infrastructure to support the growth of Cambridge. The City Council does have interdependencies with the partnership and could face additional pressures if some fail to deliver or redirect resources. The advent of the Police and Crime Commissioner could divert some funding away from the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) has been managing Reward Grant on behalf of the

former LSP. The funding has been given to CCF to allocate over 2 rounds to reduce financial risk to the Councils.

- (b) **Staffing Implications** (if not covered in Consultations Section)
This may depend on the success of bids, but at this stage it is too early to get a feel for possible implications.
- (c) **Equal Opportunities Implications**
The LEP will identify ways of involving all communities, including those who are more disadvantaged. Emphasis will be on providing training and other measures to move people back into work. The Community Safety Partnership also looks at the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour on vulnerable groups of people, who often suffer disproportionately to other groups. Vulnerable groups of people are the target for Reward Grant.
- (d) **Environmental Implications**
Business models that promote low carbon use and improve the sustainability of developments will be supported by the LEP.
- (e) **Procurement**
The partnerships are likely to procure or commission services to achieve their aims.
- (f) **Consultation**
The individual bidding streams will specify the groups of people to be consulted, especially where targeted work is required.
- (g) **Community Safety**
To improve community safety is the purpose of the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership.

9. Background papers

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

- LEP Board papers can be found here:
<http://www.yourlocalenterprisepartnership.co.uk/yourlep/board/board-meetings/>
- LEP Growth Prospectus can be found here:
<http://www.yourlocalenterprisepartnership.co.uk/growth-prospectus/>
- LEP Operational Plan for 2013/14 can be found here:
<http://www.yourlocalenterprisepartnership.co.uk/yourlep/operational-plan/>
- Government Policy document: Investing in Our Futures 2013 can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/investing-in-britains-future>
- LEP Draft European Structural Investment Funding Strategy can be found here:
<http://www.yourlocalenterprisepartnership.co.uk/european-funding-strategy-workshops/>

- Papers about the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership used in the compilation of this report can be found here:
<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/safer-communities>
- The papers showing bids for Reward Grant funding are appended.

10. Appendices

Appended to this report:

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation October 2013 Update is shown in **Appendix 1**.

11. Inspection of papers

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

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