



GROWTH POINT – REFRESH OF PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT FOR DERBY HOUSING MARKET AREA

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To consider and comment on the priorities for potential Growth Funding to be included in the refreshed Growth Point Programme of Development for the Derby Housing Market Area.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Government designated the Three Cities and Three Counties (6 Cs) area as a Growth Point in 2006. The 6 Cs encompasses the sub -regional Housing Market Areas (HMAs) of Leicester, Nottingham and Derby, the Derby HMA covering the City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley. As a Growth Point, the area will undergo additional housing development, consistent with regional plan targets, and is eligible for resources to support this from the Government's Growth Fund.
- 2.2 In October 2007, each Growth Point submitted a Programme of Development (PoD) document to Government. The PoD set out the vision and rationale for growth, a housing trajectory showing how and when sites will come forward and a list of proposed infrastructure projects supporting housing delivery. The infrastructure section included a programme showing how additional growth funding from Government might support these projects.
- 2.3 The Government used the submitted PoDs as a basis for allocating growth funding for 2008/09. The Derby HMA received £2.59m capital and £350k revenue of growth funding as its share of the overall block allocation to the 6Cs. This has been distributed to specific projects following a meeting of the Derby HMA Joint Advisory Board on 29 April 2008. Revenue funds will be used on joint HMA projects. Derby City has been allocated £1.55m capital (inclusive of 15% over programming for flexibility between partners), as reported to Cabinet on 29 July. The schemes approved for Derby are summarised below:
 - Bus station improved concourse £250k
 - City Centre public realm £900k
 - Affordable Housing delivery £250k
 - Littleover/Blagreaves City Park £150k

- 2.4 The Government has recently asked Growth Point partnerships to submit refreshed PoDs by 1 October 2008. The revised PoDs will again be used to assess the award of growth funding, this time for the two years 2009/10 and 2010/11. Indicative allocations last year and recent advice from the 6 Cs Programme Board suggest that the minimum expectation for Derby HMA will be in the region of £2.5m capital for each year, which implies annual City allocations of about £1.5m.
- 2.5 The format for the PoD Refresh will be similar to last year's document. There will be an overarching 6 Cs section, with a detailed Appendix for each of the three HMAs. Much of the information submitted previously will remain valid, but there is a need to revisit the capital projects section in particular to tailor this more closely to the level of funding that is actually likely to be available.
- 2.6 Appendix 2 identifies a pool of currently identified projects with potential for full or partial funding in 2009/11 from the growth fund. Most of these projects were included in last year's PoD, but some are new. The proposed funding amounts included in the table are notional in some cases, but the total amount of funding represented is clearly greatly in excess of the overall likely allocation. There will therefore be a need to prioritise the proposed projects in finalising this element of the PoD before it is submitted.
- 2.7 The Derby HMA Joint Advisory Board has agreed a set of criteria that should be taken into account when selecting and prioritising growth funded projects. These are:
- Deliverability
 - Fit with priority housing sites in the trajectory
 - Additionality
 - Strategic intervention
 - Partnership
 - Sustainability
 - Value for money
 - Clarity
 - Visible local benefits

Members' views are sought on which projects should be given priority in the light of these criteria. Any further suggestions for projects to be included would by necessity be dependant on indicative costings being available within the short timescale.

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Background papers:	6 Cs Growth Point Programme of development
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 - Growth Point Programme of Development – Pool of Possible Capital Projects for Growth Funding 2009/11

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 Additional resources from the Growth Point funds will complement the Council's revenue and capital programmes.

Legal

- 2.1 The Programme of Development is not a statutory document. The minimum amount of housing growth to be delivered in Derby is being established through the Regional Spatial Strategy, which forms part of the statutory development plan.

Personnel

- 3.1 Managing the Growth Point Programme of Development and planning to deliver the additional housing is having a significant impact on staffing resources at all three local authorities in the Derby HMA. The establishment of three HMA growth point posts using some of the revenue element of the growth funding received has been approved.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The PoD can include projects to support the delivery of affordable and special needs housing.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 5.1 The PoD is wide ranging in scope and has the potential to support all corporate priorities.