

COUNCIL CABINET 2 OCTOBER 2007

ITEM 11

Report of Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport

3 Cities and 3 Counties New Growth Point Programme of Development

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Last year the Government invited bids for areas to become New Growth Points areas of increased house building which may be eligible for additional funding for infrastructure. A bid was submitted by the 3 Cities/3 Counties based on housing proposals in the draft Regional Plan and covering the Derby, Nottingham and Leicester Housing Market Areas (HMAs). This was accepted in October 2006 and pilot funding awarded for the Cathedral Green public realm improvements.
- 1.2 The Government has asked each Growth Point area to submit a 'Programme of Development'. This should highlight the programme for delivering housing requirements up to 2026 and identify what supporting infrastructure projects are needed. The Programme should demonstrate how additional Growth Point related funding for such projects would assist in housing delivery.
- 1.3 A draft 3 Cities/3 Counties Programme was submitted to Government in August and has been subject to targeted consultation. The finalised Programme must be submitted by 1 October. The Programme consists of an overarching '6Cs' section with more detailed appendices for each HMA. The Derby HMA covers the whole of Derby City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley. There have been discussions between the City Councils and the relevant County and District Councils on the Programme.
- 1.4 The Programme identifies a series of projects in the Derby HMA which would require a total of £32m funding over the period 2008/11. The Programme of Development will be assessed by Government and will be the basis for a block funding allocation to be decided in December. It is proposed that delivery of funding will be coordinated through Programme Management Boards operating at both 3 Cities and HMA levels.

RECOMMENDATION

2. To endorse the Programme of Development submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government on behalf of the 3 Cities and 3 Counties Partnership for Growth.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. To be eligible for consideration for a New Growth Point funding allocation, the Programme of Development must be submitted to Government on 1 October 2007.



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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The New Growth Points initiative was launched by Government last year. Local authorities proposing increased rates of new housing development were invited to apply for growth point status. The Government indicated that successful authorities would be eligible for additional funding for infrastructure projects helping to support housing delivery.
- 1.2 Working in partnership, the Three Cities and Three Counties (the '6 Cs')prepared and submitted a joint bid for the Nottingham, Leicester and Derby Housing Market Areas (HMAs), as defined in the draft East Midlands Regional Plan. The bid was based on the scale and distribution of housing proposed in the draft Regional Plan for the period up to 2026. The Government accepted the bid in October 2006 and awarded some pilot funding, including £3.6m for the Cathedral Green public realm improvements.
- 1.3 The Derby HMA covers the whole of Derby City, South Derbyshire and Amber Valley. The draft Regional Plan states that this area should provide an additional net 1770 homes a year over the period 2001 2026. Of this, 980 a year will be needed in and around Derby itself, including extensions of the urban area into the neighbouring districts. These figures could increase when the Government approves the final version of the Regional Plan in 2008.
- 1.4 The Government has now asked Growth Point areas to submit a 'Programme of Development' by 1 October 2007. This is intended to provide a strategic view of the actions needed to deliver the level of housing envisaged. The Programme must set out the planning strategy to be followed, highlighting key housing sites and the need for new sites to be identified, in the form of a year by year 'housing trajectory'. The Programme should consider the associated infrastructure requirements and indicate what projects are scheduled or needed. It should demonstrate how additional growth point related funding for such projects over the period 2008/11 could be used to support housing delivery.
- 1.5 A draft 3 Cities/3 Counties Programme was submitted to Government in August and has been subject to targeted consultation. The deadline for the finalised Programme is 1 October, so Cabinet is asked to endorse the decision of the Leader and Chief Executive to agree to submission of the Programme on that date.

- 1.6 The Programme consists of an overarching '6Cs' section with more detailed appendices covering Green Infrastructure and each HMA. The Derby HMA section has been prepared through joint working with Derbyshire County Council and South Derbyshire and Amber Valley District.
- 1.7 The overarching 6 Cs Programme of Development and the Green Infrastructure and Derby HMA sections comprise Appendices 3, 4 and 5 (on CMIS). Appendix 2 contains a summary list of the potential 2008/11 projects for which it is suggested Growth Point funding is sought specifically for the Derby HMA.
- 1.8 The finalised Programme of Development will be assessed by Government and this will be the basis for a block funding allocation to be announced in December. Individual projects will not be approved and it will be the responsibility of growth point authorities and partnerships to allocate funding on the basis of agreed priorities. The 6 Cs Programme envisages that delivery will be coordinated through Programme Management Boards operating at both sub regional and HMA level.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2. No other options were considered since submission of a Programme is a prerequisite for Government funding under the new growth point initiative.

For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices: Rob Salmon 255020 e-mail rob.salmon@derby.gov.uk

3 Cities and 3 Counties Growth Point Bid

Appendix 1 – Implications

Appendix 2 – Proposed medium term infrastructure projects

Appendix 3 - 3 Cities and 3 Counties Programme of Development (CMIS only)

Appendix 4 – Programme of Development Appendix 1 – Derby HMA (CMIS only)

Appendix 5 – Programme of Development Appendix 4 – Strategic Green

Infrastructure (CMIS only)

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. Submission of the Programme of Development may lead to a block funding allocation for spending on a range of capital and revenue projects to support housing development as indicated in Appendix 2.

Legal

2. The New Growth Point is not a statutory designation and the Programme of Development is not a statutory document. The overall levels of new housing for the authorities in the Derby HMA will be finalised through the Government's decision on the review of the East Midlands Regional Plan which will be made in 2008. Additional sites for housing development to meet needs up until 2026 in line with the Regional Plan will be identified through the Local Development Framework.

Personnel

3. Delivery of the Programme of Development will place additional demands on staff resources. The Programme therefore includes an element of proposed funding to provide increased capacity, including a programme coordinator and planning and transport posts for each HMA.

Equalities impact

4. Increased housing delivery should entail a proportionate increase in the amount of affordable housing and housing to meet special needs.

Corporate Priorities

5. The Programme of Development supports most of the corporate priorities, but particularly making us proud of our neighbourhoods and creating a 21st century City Centre.