

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment
Date:	12 November 2019
Title:	Transforming Cities Fund Bids Update
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: Graham Wright

Tel: 01962 845148

Email: graham.wright@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- 1.1. That approval be given to the revised list of candidate schemes, as set out in the supporting report, for inclusion in the final Strategic Outline Business Case.
- 1.2. That authority is delegated to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment, in consultation with Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council and Isle of Wight Council via the respective joint working arrangements, to agree the final Strategic Outline Business Case submissions, including in each case a legally binding Local Assurance Framework that clearly demonstrates how Transforming Cities Fund funding will be allocated between the parties across each programme area.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The Department for Transport (DfT) has established a process of co-development with each city accepted onto the Transforming Cities Fund programme. It is therefore important that the local authorities engage thoroughly with the DfT in developing their Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) Tranche 2 proposals to stand the best chance of securing the optimum level of funding. It is important to note that all 12 cities remain in the competition to secure funding and whilst each city region may receive some level of TCF Tranche 2 funding, this and the actual level of funding is not guaranteed.
- 2.2. On 4 June 2019, the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment approved a list of candidate schemes as the basis for the draft Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) submissions in June. Further work has now been undertaken on the feasibility of each scheme and on wider proposals for each TCF bid. This work has enabled the list of schemes to be updated to support the final SOBC submissions in November.
- 2.3. Technical work to support the SOBC submissions is ongoing and given the very challenging DfT timetable for the TCF programme, this is likely to continue up to the deadline for submission. It is important that the content of

each bid is agreed across each partnership, and to allow the required time for the necessary collaborative working it is considered appropriate that approval of the final SOBC is delegated to the Director in consultation with the informal Boards set up under the respective joint working arrangements.

- 2.4. TCF funding allocations by the DfT will be to the lead bid authorities which in both cases will be the respective city councils. It is therefore important for all parties to be clear in the final SOBCs, through legally binding Local Assurance Frameworks, on how funding will be allocated across each city area.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not to submit a Tranche 2 bid. This option has been rejected on the basis that, having been accepted by DfT onto the TCF programme, there is a very reasonable prospect that some capital funding will be forthcoming from a Tranche 2 submission.
- 3.2. Not to co-develop proposals with the respective partners. This option has been rejected on the basis that the key criteria set out by the DfT for the TCF seeks to improve productivity by improving connectivity between cities and their suburbs. Bids based upon either the cities or county administrative areas would fail to meet these basic criteria which cross administrative boundaries.
- 3.3. To delay agreement with partner authorities on the allocation of any funding made available by the DfT until after the bid submission. This option has been rejected as it is considered important that all parties, including the DfT, are clear about how funding to each city area would be allocated prior to a decision on any funding allocations by the DfT.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

12 November 2019

**Executive Member for Economy, Transport and
Environment
Councillor Rob Humby**