

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGIC POLICY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUDGET** held on 3 November 2015 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor Ms A Western

47/15 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

48/15 **D2N2 VISITOR ECONOMY ACCOMMODATION INVESTMENT AND QUALITY STUDY** In 2013 the County Council commissioned Colliers International to produce a detailed Visitor Economy Review and Investment Study on behalf of D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). As a result, the D2N2 Visitor Economy Action Group (led by the two Destination Management Organisations, Visit Peak District and Derbyshire and Experience Nottinghamshire, and including representation from the four top tier local authorities), had developed an action plan to take forward the key recommendations of the Colliers' review. The proposed study would be commissioned and procured by Nottinghamshire County Council on behalf of the D2N2 LEP and would be divided into three parts:

- Market overview;
- Investment portfolio; and
- Development strategy.

RESOLVED to approve a funding contribution of £5,000 from the Economy and Regeneration budget to support the commissioning and preparation of the proposed D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) Visitor Economy Accommodation Investment and Quality Study.

49/15 **D2N2 GROWTH HUB – MATCH FUNDING** In March 2015, D2N2 launched the first 'call for projects' through the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Programme 2014-20. The call requested expressions of interest across three ERDF priority areas for submission to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) by the end of May 2015. The D2N2 calls were as follows:

- Priority Axis 1: Promoting Research & Innovation.

- Priority Axis 3: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs).
- Priority Axis 4: Supporting the shift towards a Low Carbon Economy.

Following submission of an initial expression of interest in summer 2015, the Council had been invited to submit a full application for the D2N2 Growth Hub for consideration by the DCLG by 5 November 2015. As part of this process, applicants must confirm the total funding package was in place, including match funding contributions from delivery partners.

The “D2N2 Growth Hub” project had been invited to submit a full application as part of the Priority Axis 3 of the D2N2 ESIF programme. The applicant and lead partner was Nottingham City Council, working alongside East Midlands Chamber, D2N2 LEP, Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, High Peak Borough Council, Ashfield District Council, Mansfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Derbyshire County Council.

Subject to approval, the project would operate over three years (2016-18) with a total investment package of £4,309,942 (including £2,154,971 ERDF) and would deliver 1,160 ‘business assist’ outputs and 294 new jobs.

RESOLVED to approve a funding contribution of £12,000 per year for three years from 2016-17 from the Economy and Regeneration budget towards the proposed “D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) Growth Hub” project.

50/15 D2 (DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE) INWARD INVESTMENT PROJECT – MATCH FUNDING In March 2015, D2N2 launched the first ‘call for projects’ through the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Programme 2014-20. The call requested expressions of interest across three ERDF priority areas for submission to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) by the end of May 2015. The D2N2 calls were as follows:

- Priority Axis 1: Promoting Research & Innovation.
- Priority Axis 3: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs).
- Priority Axis 4: Supporting the shift towards a Low Carbon Economy.

Following submission of an initial expression of interest in summer 2015, the Council had been invited to submit a full application for the D2N2 Growth Hub for consideration by the DCLG by 5 November 2015. As part of this process, applicants must confirm the total funding package was in place, including match funding contributions from delivery partners.

The “D2 Inward Investment” project had been invited to submit a full application for support via Priority Axis 3 of the D2N2 ESIF programme. The applicant and lead partner was Marketing Derby, working alongside delivery partners Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP) and Destination Chesterfield. The project would deliver co-ordinated inward investment activity across the D2 area and would require close working with all district and borough councils in Derbyshire.

Subject to approval, the project would be implemented over a three year period (2016-18) and would attract a total investment package of £1.33m (including £651,555 ERDF). In addition to Derbyshire County Council’s proposed investment via DEP, £405,000 and £91,500 match funding had been confirmed from Marketing Derby and Destination Chesterfield respectively.

The aim of the project was to attract businesses and additional employment opportunities into Derby and Derbyshire. The project would build upon the success of existing inward investment activity across the County provided through the DEP “Invest in Derbyshire” service. To enable a more intensive, targeted business support offer, it was proposed Derbyshire County Council’s match funding would support an additional 0.5 full time equivalent (FTE) in addition to the existing 0.5 FTE Senior Economic Development Officer deployed to manage the DEP “Invest in Derbyshire” service. This resource would work closely with additional staffing in Marketing Derby and Destination Chesterfield to provide a more responsive, local service working alongside contacts in borough and district local authorities, and enhanced marketing activity through events, publications and digital media.

RESOLVED to approve (1) a total funding contribution of £90,000 over three years to be taken from the balance on the Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP) budget and transferred to an earmarked reserve; and

(2) the development of 50% salary costs for one Senior Economic Development Officer (DEP) as match funding during the lifetime of the project.

51/15 CORE REVENUE FUNDING TO SUPPORT D2N2 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP D2N2 was funded partially by Government and programme funding but required match revenue funding to ensure it remained operational. The four top tier local authorities had provided equal, annual revenue contributions since inception, with the understanding the D2N2 would become self-financing in the mid-term. Derbyshire County Council’s annual contribution to the LEP for the last four years had been £62,500 and it was proposed the same contribution for 2015-16 be provided.

RESOLVED to approve the revenue contribution of £62,500 from the Economy and Regeneration budget to support the running of D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) Local Enterprise Partnership for the financial year 2015-16.