

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Improvement and Scrutiny Committee - Resources

8 December 2016

Report of the Chief Executive

Update on the One Public Estate Programme

1 Purpose of the Report

To update the Committee on the progress of the One Public Estate (OPE) Programme within Derbyshire and across the wider North Midlands partnership.

2. Background

OPE is an initiative delivered in partnership by the Cabinet Office and the Local Government Association. It's about local government working with central government and public sector partners by using land and property initiatives to deliver service transformation through:

- Economic growth – *enabling released land/property to be used to stimulate economic growth, regeneration, new housing and jobs.*
- Integrated, customer-focussed services – *co-location and co-delivery of services to deliver service efficiencies and more customer focussed service delivery.*
- Capital receipts – *generated through the release of land/property.*
- Reduced running costs – *generated through co-location.*

OPE brings together a wide range of public bodies such as councils, NHS, 'blue-light' services, Civil Service (Probation, Courts, DWP Job Centre Plus etc.) to use land and property as the catalyst for delivering customer focussed service transformation across multiple agencies and organisations.

3 Work so far

In October 2015, officers from Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council began working together to submit a bid to the OPE Phase 3 bidding round on behalf of the 19 local authorities within Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

Whilst Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council had already worked together closely on a number of projects and were existing members of the OPE programme, Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council were not.

The Innovation and Transformation Service, in partnership with Corporate Property have acted on behalf of the County Council as the 'lead partner' for the North Midlands OPE Programme and the North Midlands partnership was awarded £75,000 funding from Phase 3 for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.

£37,500 has been received so far and this has been divided between Derbyshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council to support work to get the programme up and running. The second instalment of £37,500 will be drawn down once a set of pre-criteria has been met (Derbyshire has met this criteria and we are working with our other partners to ensure they also meet the criteria deadline of 31 December 2016).

As the work 'enabled' by OPE is highly collaborative, the bid was endorsed by the Chief Executives of the four submitting authorities as well as the Chief Executive of NHS Community Health Partnerships Board and both the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioners.

Derbyshire has used its share of the Phase 3 allocation along with £50,000 from the Transformation Challenge Award to fund a programme manager for 12 months. After a recruitment exercise the programme manager is now in place with a focus to accelerate the Derbyshire OPE programme to mirror the maturity of Nottinghamshire and deliver high quality, transformational projects for future bid submissions.

Close working between the Innovation and Transformation Service and Corporate Property now means that the Derbyshire OPE Steering Group is well established and regularly attended by a wide range of partners, including the Local Government Association and Cabinet Office. Dan Swaine, Chief Executive at Bolsover District Council and North East Derbyshire District Council is the Chair and Matthew Scarborough is the Programme Manager.

The Innovation and Transformation Service have also been instrumental in the establishment of the Strategic Land and Assets Board (SLAB), which is the strategic 'umbrella' body bringing the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire OPE groups together. The SLAB ensures that strategic and collaborative links are in place to share information, good practice and challenge the steering groups on their local work plans.

Following the successful Phase 3 bid, a further bid into Phase 4 (round 1) was submitted in June 2016 and we have recently been notified that

the North Midlands partnership has been allocated £357,000 for 2016/2017 and £66,500.

Funding has been allocated to three projects in Nottingham City/Nottinghamshire and one project in Derbyshire. The partnership has also been awarded funding to recruit a cross-partnership programme manager and a small programme support function, which will enable the North Midlands OPE Programme to move forwards more cohesively, engage more widely and further develop cross-boundary themes.

4 Moving forwards

Now that the Partnership has received the necessary capacity funding for programme management and development activities for the next 12 months, our future bids will focus on projects which involve a high level of collaboration across numerous partners (with a particular focus on increasing partnership working with Health) and seek to deliver transformational change in service delivery through not only co-location but by using property and land assets to be the catalyst for the co-delivery of services.

The North Midlands partnership will be submitting a bid to the second round of Phase 4 in October 2016 which will include at least one project from Derbyshire which we feel meets a number of the OPE priorities (regeneration, co-location, revenue savings).

Whilst Nottinghamshire has an established programme of events, the Derbyshire OPE Programme Manager will be holding a series of area based and thematic workshops over the next twelve months which will enable all of our partners (including service delivery specialists) to bring their service requirements 'to the table' to enable the identification of opportunities where OPE can be the mechanism for collaboration and transformation.

5 Recommendation

That the Committee:

1. Note the contents of this report and receive future update reports as appropriate.

Ian Stephenson
Chief Executive