

## Appendix 'C'

### **BLACKPOOL AIRPORT ENTERPRISE ZONE – Lead Rob Green**

#### **Background**

In April 2016 the Government awarded Enterprise Zone status to the Blackpool Airport site which includes Blackpool International Airport and the surrounding business parks. Blackpool Airport EZ has benefited from public sector investment including acquisition of Blackpool Airport, phase 1 infrastructure works; fencing taxiway removal and drainage. Eight new private sector developments have been completed totalling 186,517 sq ft, including Blackpool & The Fylde College's Lancashire Energy HQ, a 32,000 sq ft flagship training centre for technical and professional education for the energy sector.

Blackpool Council (EZ accountable body) has approved up to £28.8m funding by prudential borrowing for development of Phase 1 Common Edge infrastructure. Phase 1 planning application has been approved with commencement of 12 no grass sports pitches underway. Planning is secured for a speculative development 40,000 sq ft, supported by £800,000 Growth Deal Funding (subject to formal agreement) due to commence delivery September 2020.

<b>Key Performance Indicators</b>	<b>Targets</b> (over 25 year life time of EZ to 2041)	<b>Actuals to Qtr. 4 19/20</b>	<b>RAG</b>
Build, convert or re-purpose potential employment space	260,000 sqm	14,550.10 sqm	
Attract Private Sector Investment	£300m	c.£21.69m	
Jobs created	5,000	1460 (gross)	
New Businesses to the area	140	73	
Develop £x new infrastructure	£70m	£28.8m *	

\*prudentially borrowed for initial costs of new road and infrastructure, £375,000 on infrastructure, £400,000 on property acquisitions.

<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Grass football pitch contract commenced (£700,000)	June 2020
Detailed design Common Edge Changing room and 3G pitches	Sept 2020
40,000 sqft spec devt start on site	Sept 2020
Aqua Comms landing, connection made on land	Late Sept 2020
Planning submitted for next stage Phase 1 devt	Sept 2020
Private sector new build complete	August 2020
Architectural feasibility study design work for airport complete	Sept 2020
Land / property acquisitions x 2	Q3 2021
20mw gas fired generator planning granted	Sept 2020
Appoint international marketing agents LAMEC brand	Jan 2021
Fiscal benefit extension proposal to HM Treasury	Sept 2020
Revised masterplan/Delivery Plan to be considered by Accountable body	Sept 2020

<b>Risk and Issues</b>	<b>Mitigation and Actions</b>
Slight delays to construction due to Covid-19 working restrictions	Safety guidelines in place and work continuing. Progressing fiscal benefits extension proposals to government
After short period of uncertainty, property enquiries are returning but overall lack of market demand due to Covid-19/Brexit uncertainty and the commercial viability of development.	Clear marketing strategy defined and implementation underway
The airport has experienced a negative impact of Covid-19 however impact not as greatly felt as other larger regional airports and has remained open (observing restrictions) throughout pandemic.	Refresh of marketing plan, website and social media. Progressing architect's designs for new hangarage and remodelling for new commercial opportunities.