

LEP – Getting Building Fund Programme – Lead Anne-Marie Parkinson

Background

The Getting Building Fund is a £900 million government programme to deliver jobs, skills and infrastructure across the country. This investment is targeted in areas facing the biggest economic challenges as a result of the pandemic. It is supporting the delivery of shovel-ready infrastructure projects, agreed with Mayoral Combined Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships to boost economic growth, and fuel local recovery and jobs.

In August 2020, government announced a funding allocation of £34.1m to Lancashire LEP from the Getting Building Fund. Following the announcement government undertook a review of the schemes submitted by the Lancashire LEP, where in agreement with the LEP the £34.1m was allocated to ten projects.

Performance

Delivery

In terms of progress to date all ten projects provided a 5-Case Business Case, which was Independently appraised, have received LEP Board Funding approval, and have completed contracting with the LEP (GFA).

Works have commenced on all ten projects, with some slippage to delivery. This is not unusual at the start of a new programme, especially when operating in a constricted delivery programme for a capital programme such as this. There are no delivery concerns at present to highlight to LEP Board Members.

The programme has benefitted from the close working relationship between the LEP Officers and Project Managers since inception, with on-going regular discussions to support delivery, maximise opportunity and identify areas of risk which may materialise.

Projects are required to provide reporting (financial claims & progress reports) on a quarterly basis, following completion of contracting (GFA), as such the 1st reporting for all projects commenced at Quarter 4 2020/21. Please find attached to this document a summary which contains an update for each project as at the last set of reporting to 30th June 2021.

In addition the LEP is required to provide quarterly reporting returns to BEIS. No queries have been raised on reporting submitted to date.

Projected KPIs / Outputs

The table below contains the forecasted outputs for all ten projects, as confirmed via the completion of the Business Case Independent Assurance and the completion of contracting (GFA) for each project.

Actuals are expected to be reported from March 2022, against forecasts as detailed below.

KPI / Output Description	Forecast
Jobs Created / Safeguarded	1,474
Construction Jobs	309
Housing Unit Unlocked or Delivered (1006 delivered / 30 unlocked)	1,036
Commercial & R&D floor space (sqm)	67,388
Learning space improved or created (sqm)	412
Businesses or institutions assisted	197
KG of CO2 emissions avoided	670,564
Public Realm or Green Space created (sqm)	23,480

New super/ultrafast broadband connections	113
Roads, cycle lanes and walk ways maintained and built (km)	2.484
Other Investment £m	£78.89m

Programme Milestones

Milestone	Date	Comments
Programme funding allocated to projects	Aug 20	Complete
Programme funding approved by LEP Board	Sep 20	Complete
Government Offer letter received	Sep 20	Received
Subsidy Control Compliance achieved on all projects.	Mar 21	8 compliant, 2 pending decision
Subsidy Control Transparency Database completed	Mar 21	Currently with LCC legal to establish requirements
Communications Milestones Identified	Nov 20 - Mar 21	Commenced
Social Value embedded within the programme	Nov 20 - Mar 21	Commenced
Programme funding contracted to projects	Nov 20 - Mar 21	Commenced
Programme Review	Dec 21	
Projects achieve practical completion	Mar 22	
Evaluation / Case studies collected	Mar 22	
Programme contracted targets achieved	Mar 25	

Risks

A Single Portfolio Risk Register for the combined programmes is attached to the main report. One risk to highlight as recorded on the risk register is the requirement to complete the Subsidy Control reporting for the funding contracted to projects. This is currently being progressed with LCC Legal colleagues.