



CITY DEAL

Preston, South Ribble & Lancashire

City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board – 17th July 2015

Community Infrastructure Plan (Appendix 'A' refers)

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to set out next steps required to deliver Community Infrastructure in support of development and growth under the City Deal.

Recommendation

The City Deal Executive and Stewardship Board are asked to endorse the approach and agree to undertake the Demographic Modelling which will inform the decisions around the sequencing of Community Infrastructure.

Background

The delivery of Community Infrastructure to support new housing and business growth has received a considerable amount of attention at all levels within the City Deal governance and delivery structures. This has been prompted, in part, by the recommendations set out within the AECOM report (City Deal Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire, Community Infrastructure Position Statement Final Report, March 2015), which concludes that the City Deal partners have considerable work to do in order that informed decisions on the type, amount and location of new Community Infrastructure. In addition, the report raises the very real prospect that the cost of this Infrastructure will outstrip funding and so partners will need to come together to determine priorities.

The enhanced focus on Community Infrastructure also reflects the importance partners are now giving to a more holistic offer from City Deal, to balance what could be perceived as a transport-dominated programme of delivery.

To make progress the City Deal Project Team and Programme Board have considered the optimum delivery of Community Infrastructure in terms of the most appropriate sequencing of a series of discrete work packages. These work packages draw largely on the recommendations contained in the main report on this item, but approach them in a more considered and focussed manner, acknowledging as well a distinction between the strategic scale and local scale infrastructure. Officers believe this offers the best prospect for the timely delivery of infrastructure to support growth across the area.



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The work packages are set out below:

- i) **Health and Social Care** -The delivery of supporting infrastructure is a critical and costly service which, whilst not relying on City Deal funds in the main, needs to be properly informed, to ensure (the Infrastructure) is aligned with, the scale and pattern of growth across the City Deal area. Officers are taking steps to form strong and sustainable working relationships with the health sector through the area's Health and Wellbeing Boards.
- ii) **Education** - Provision represents a critical service area which will be funded largely through the City Deal.
- iii) **Leisure and Cultural Infrastructure** - There are a number of other service areas and types of infrastructure that would benefit from a clearer and collective understanding and strategy to direct future provision. The leisure and cultural offer, recreational open space (including the Central Park) and cycling are just three areas that are identified in the emerging Infrastructure Delivery Plan that could benefit from a more holistic and coordinated approach involving all City Deal partners and their geographies. Officers will explore the potential to bring these activities forward in a unified approach.
- iv) **Community Infrastructure Improvements** - A series of relatively modest Community Infrastructure improvements have been put forward by partners (presented as part of the delivery programme proposed for 2015/18 (Item 11 on this agenda). Subject to approval, those improvements will be administered by officers through a newly created Project Board for community infrastructure.

The above service areas, and a number of others, rely on accurate and up to date predictions of the characteristics of the expanding population across the City Deal area. Priority is being given to resourcing a demographic modelling exercise which will provide the City Deal and wider partners with our best estimates of the likely demand on services.

Reports will be brought to future meetings of the Executive and Stewardship Board to update on progress on these activities.