



Quarterly Report of the Green Port Growth Programme.

July 2012

Executive Summary

- 1 The interim programme manager has now been in post since 30th April and has been working on the programme governance with our Hull City Council partners, legal agreements have been drafted for SLA and an overarching partnership agreement to cover the delivery of the programme.
- 2 The final draft of the first year delivery plan has been completed and sent to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) there immediate response has been very favourable and approval for the delivery plan should be with us by the end of the month.
- 3 All the business plans have been approved except the Research and Development strand which is due in by the end of the month.
- 4 Approval for Strand commencements has been given by the Programme Board for Skills, Business Grants, Business Support, and Inward Investment.
- 5 There has been no expenditure incurred on the programme in the first quarter from March to the end of June.

Year One Delivery Plan DCLG

There have been two meetings with representatives of DCLG regarding the Delivery Plan, DCLG are very happy with the plan and the few small alterations requested by them to the plan have been made and the plan resubmitted for approval early this month. It is hoped that full approval of the delivery plan will be made early in August and we will be one of the first to get the Delivery Plan approved and programme commenced.

Programme Governance.

The programme is a partnership between Hull City Council (HUCC) and East Riding Council (ERYCC) and to enable a workable governance structure to be implemented it has been agreed that there will be an overriding partnership agreement between HCC and ERYCC with defined service level agreements between each strand and ERYC. The draft agreements have been amended by both authorities' legal team and it intended that the partnership agreement will be in place by early August and the Service Level Agreement will also be completed by the same time scale.

Strand Business Plans.

Skills

The skills strands have been split into four individual business plans and the strand for Apprentices, Up-Skilling have been approved and the apprentices wage subsidy strand is under way with staff interviewing companies with a view to place apprentices before the September deadline. There have also been enquiries regarding the up-skilling for retraining of welders.

The remaining strands of the skills project are not due to commence until later in to the programme

Inward Investment.

The two business plans from HCC and the Chamber of Commerce which form the inward investment strand have now been agreed but not as yet been approved by the Programme Board, the strand leads are however already speaking to several companies with regard to re locating to the area.

Business Support

Business support business plan has been approved and a pilot scheme of company audits is due to commence in early August and with a tender response by the 03th July and a provisional start date for the pilot of the 13th August.

Business Grants

There has been a high level of interest in the business grant project from a wide range of companies.

Action Plan

- 1 The main aim of the next 4 weeks is to complete the partnership agreement and the SLA's to allow strands to commence project work.
- 2 The two Councils are evaluating existing computer systems to determine the best way of joint reporting of the outcomes and beneficiary data.
- 3 The Site Assembly strand RGF3 bid is to be monitored and developed in line with any BIS requirements.
- 4 Any ERDF bids are to be progressed.

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