



Black Country Executive Joint Committee
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton

REPORT OF THE CITY DEAL AND GROWTH DEAL ADVISORY BOARD

TO

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

ON

23 NOVEMBER 2016

Black Country Local Growth Deal - DUDLEY BUS STATION REDEVELOPMENT

Grant Agreement Approval

Key Decision:	Yes
Forward Plan:	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request that the Joint Committee approves the contracting and subsequent award of Grant Agreement for the Dudley Bus Station Redevelopment, scheme development from within the Local Growth Fund (LGF) Programme – with delivery to commence in the 2016/17 financial year.
- 1.2 This scheme was approved by the LEP Board at the 18th July 2016 Board meeting, the Working Group on 7th October 2016 and the Advisory Board via email on the 11th November 2016.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Joint Committee approves for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to Grant Agreement with **Dudley Council to transfer £200,000 of LGF/LTB funding** (originally allocated to the Aldridge Station scheme) to support delivery of the Dudley Bus Station Redevelopment transport scheme development funding – with delivery to commence in the 2016/17 financial year.
- 2.2 That the Joint Committee approves that this development funding is to be underwritten by Centro (Transport for the West Midlands - TfWM).

3. REPORT DETAIL

- 3.1 A summary of the request for approval, contracting and subsequent award of Grant Agreement by the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) is outlined below.

Dudley Bus Station Redevelopment £200,000 in 2016/17

- 3.2 The aim of this development funding is to consider and set out a range of options that can be considered to inform the redevelopment of Dudley Bus Station so it is able to meet the needs of the future. The study will inform decisions on future investment and subsequent bidding for funds to redevelop the existing bus station so it remains fit for purpose.
- 3.3 The underspends in 2015/16 against LTB/LGF funds were taken up by transferring over LGF scheme costs to cover the gap. This was approved in advance by BIS, as acceptable.
- 3.4 This year Aldridge station scheme has funding allocated under LTB/LGF of £4.1m which is unlikely to be spent in total on that scheme. Black Country Transport Director has requested £1.1m be transferred into scheme development funding, of which £200,000 is allocated to development for Dudley Bus Station Redevelopment.
- 3.5 Black Country Transport Director has confirmed all of Development funding can be spent within 2016/17.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 All the costs associated with this proposal form part of the LGF programme and will be covered by allocations from government associated with this programme. This includes the use of any interest accrued by the Accountable Body to cover costs associated with the delivery of Accountable Body functions, as approved by its (Walsall Council) Cabinet on the 29th October 2014.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The appropriate Grant Agreements are in place and will be utilised by the Accountable Body (Walsall Council), and include all conditions passed onto the LEP by Government, together with all terms, conditions, performance measures and sanctions as required by the approvals/conditions received from Government or approved by the LEP Board or the Joint Committee.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 Risk is being managed through the on-going monitoring of individual projects by BCC Programme Office and their ability to deliver the required spend profiles and outputs for the programme as agreed with LEP Board and the Joint Committee.

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 None at the time of drafting.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 The scheme is at the development stage, once designs are completed formal consultation with the general public and elected members will commence. All feedback will be taken into consideration prior to construction work commencing.
- 8.2 Financial services at Centro (TfWM) and Legal Services at Dudley MBC have been consulted as part of the development of this report.

Contact Officers & Author

James Aspinall

Finance Director,
Centro (TfWM)
16 Summer Lane
B19 3SD
Email: james.aspinall@centro.org.uk
Telephone: 0121 214 7169

Mark Lavender

Joint Committee Programme Manager
Walsall Council
Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall.
WS1 1TP
Email: mark.lavender@walsall.gov.uk
Telephone: 01922 654772

Stuart Everton

Black Country Director for Transport
Wolverhampton City Council
Civic Centre, St Peter's Square,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1SH
Email: stuart.everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Telephone: 01902 554097

Alan Lunt

Strategic Director, Place
Dudley MBC
Council House, Priory Road, Dudley
DY1 1HF
Email: alan.lunt@dudley.gov.uk
Telephone: 01384 814148