

Brigg Link Road - Greater Lincolnshire Growth Deal Draft Business Case to Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Introduction

As quoted at the Examination Hearing for Matter 3 – Brigg Sites, North Lincolnshire Council provided evidence to the Inspector that an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Local Growth Funds has been submitted to the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) for a Brigg Link Road.

Due to the official Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership Draft Business Case being confidential at this stage a copy cannot be made available therefore a summary of what the Business Case contains is described below.

The EOI has been supported by the GLLEP and acknowledged by the Greater Lincolnshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP). The SEP identifies the Brigg Link Road as a key project. On page 13 direct reference is made to the Brigg Link Road as a priority for 2015/16 for infrastructure and connectivity and that the GLLEP is keen to promote this project through future Single Local Growth Fund, EU and local funding. The SEP seeks to “unlock land in the market town of Brigg...taking advantage of the projected growth on the banks of the Humber” (Evidence Base Document Reference Exam 15b).

Summary of the Business Case

The EOI sets out North Lincolnshire Councils proposals for the Brigg Link Road, identifying that the primary aim is to gain access to the potential housing sites to the north and east of Brigg which are allocated in the North Lincolnshire Local Plan and the emerging the Housing and Employment Land Allocations DPD. Furthermore it will provide a strategic regeneration proposal for the market town providing an alternative route through Brigg allowing for reduced and improved traffic flows in the town centre and local business parks.

The EOI identifies that a regeneration project is needed as North Lincolnshire Council view more traditional types of housing led growth as a key component to maintaining a healthy, growing rural economy. Brigg is the second largest of the market towns in North Lincolnshire in terms of its population and is a very popular location for living and working. It provides an important service centre for the surrounding villages and a number of villages in the West Lindsey district of Lincolnshire. The town centre is thriving with a wide range of shops and other amenities and has the widest range of services and facilities of all North Lincolnshire's market towns. It has good public transport links with Scunthorpe, Barton upon Humber and the surrounding villages. In terms of traffic issues the existing road infrastructure of the A18 which runs through the town is often extremely busy and particularly at peak times when congestion occurs regularly.

The EOI anticipated project start date is April 2016, the financial completion date is 2018 and the practical completion date is 2018. Any construction will begin through the existing North Lincolnshire Council Construction and Highways Framework arrangements.

The funding summary includes a capital growth deal of £2,000,000 with public match funding of £1,000,000 which totals £3,000,000. This gives a contribution rate of 66.67. North Lincolnshire Council have committed capital funding for the project in 2014/2015 and 2015/2016. The funding will be spent on the design and construction of a section of the new link road to improve the economic potential of Brigg through a more useable road network,

with lower levels of congestion and a quicker access to businesses existing on the Ancholme Business Park from the eastern parts of Brigg and wider North Lincolnshire. Currently the existing road system has been quoted locally as a barrier to the economic growth of Brigg as a whole and to the existing business parks.

The programme will utilise Project Management arrangements currently in force across the Council. North Lincolnshire Council has an embedded corporate risk management process that is utilised for all project delivery and involves close working with internal audit throughout the lifecycle of any project.

The Brigg Link Road supports the following spatial objectives in the LDF Adopted Core Strategy:-

Spatial Objective 3: Delivering Better Homes: - To provide a sufficient quantity and range of good quality homes that is well designed, affordable and sustainable, located close to everyday services and meets the needs of North Lincolnshire's people.

Spatial Objective 4: Creating Greater Economic Success- To create strong, competitive and diverse economy by encouraging business growth and employment opportunities supported by the delivery of strategic employment sites and improvement of the range and level of skills by developing a higher education sector.

Spatial Objective 9: Connecting North Lincolnshire- To improve North Lincolnshire's transport network to ensure that the area's major economic development opportunities are well served and that local residents have high quality access to key services and facilities without increasing the need to travel.

The Core Strategy Policy CS8 identifies that 6% of North Lincolnshire housing requirement should be delivered within Brigg. Brigg Link Road will support the delivery of this additional housing and improve the existing traffic congestion issues within the town.