
**Economic and City Development Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

29th January 2013

Report of the Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Report – Remit for the External Funding Scrutiny Review

Summary

1. This report presents the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECDOSC) with an update on the work undertaken to date by the Task Group¹ appointed to this review, including a draft remit for the review. The Committee are asked to agree the remit in order that work can commence on this review.

Background

2. At a meeting of ECDOSC held in September 2012 Members received a briefing note on a potential scrutiny review proposed by the Chair of the Committee, Councillor Semlyen. The idea for the review was:

‘Unlocking the potential of external funding for economic development and regeneration projects’

A copy of this briefing note can be found at **Annex A** to this report.

3. At the September meeting the Committee suggested that any remit for this review might focus on European Regional Development Funding. In light of this a further paper was prepared for the Task Group and this is attached at **Annex B** and **Annex B1** to this report.
4. The Task Group met on 15th November 2012 where they considered **Annexes A, B** and **B1**, and consulted with officers to assist them in setting a remit for this review.

¹ The Task Group is comprised of Councillor Semlyen, Barnes and Burton

5. At this stage Members asked Officers questions in relation to how any monies available might be split and they indicated that it was likely that there would be an allocation of funding for the Yorkshire and Humber area, some of which would be sub-devolved to the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPS) across the region. York was currently a member of two LEPS namely the Leeds City Region LEP and the York/North Yorkshire/East Riding LEP. As yet, however, it was not known what the funding options were, how much funding would be devolved to LEP level or what the eligibility criteria would be. There were also questions still to be asked around agreeing the key priorities for the Yorkshire and Humber region and how more localised priorities for York itself would link in with any regional priorities set.
6. The Task Group felt that any funding available should be accessed for York's top investment priorities and felt there was work to do around the process of promoting York's key investment priorities within the Leeds City Region LEP in particular.
7. In light of the above the Task Group set the following remit to work to:

Aim

To be more effective and systematic in securing external funding and investment for York

Key Objectives

- (i). To assess how Leeds City Region are articulating investment priorities, specifically looking at the case of the LEP European Regional Development Funding programme being developed, and broader European funding
- (ii). To assess what resources are available to City of York Council (CYC) to effectively identify and successfully secure funding (resources in this instance including CYC staff, partnership staff, ability to provide match funding, up-skilling and training)
- (iii). To develop a plan for presenting a strong case to Leeds City Region LEP for funding York's top investment priorities
- (iv). To investigate what models are available to identify return on investment

Consultation

8. To date the Task Group have met with officers within the Council in order to set a remit for this review. It is envisaged that as the review progresses others will be consulted, including the Leader, further officers and representatives of Science City York.

Options

9. Members have the following options:

Option 1 Agree to the remit and key objectives for this review as set out in **paragraph 7** of this report

Option 2 Amend the remit and key objectives for this review

Analysis

10. Once the remit and key objectives for this review have been agreed by the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee work on the review can commence; however this Committee already has several reviews ongoing including the review around Youth Unemployment which is well underway and quite substantial. There may, therefore, be merit in the Committee reconsidering which of the reviews they are currently undertaking or looking to start ought to take priority as there are limited resources available to support these.

Council Plan 2011-2015

11. This review is linked to the '*create jobs and grow the economy*' element of the Council Plan 2011-2015.

Implications

12. **Financial** – There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations within this report; however implications may arise as the review progresses and these will be addressed accordingly.
13. **Human Resources** – There are no direct Human Resources implications associated with the recommendations within this report; however implications may arise as the review progresses and these will be addressed accordingly.
14. There are no other known implications associated with the recommendations arising from this review.

Risk Management

15. There are no risks associated with the recommendations within this report. Should risks arise as the review progresses these will be identified and clearly set out in the final report arising from the review.

Recommendations

16. Members are asked to approve the remit set out at **Paragraph 7** of this report.

Reason: To enable the Task Group to commence this review.

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Report
Approved



Date 17.01.2013

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None

Annexes

Annex A Briefing Note presented to ECDOSC - September 2012
Annex B Briefing Note for Task Group – November 2012
Annex B1 Summary of Key Points from Yorkshire and Humber European Officer's report