

Housing and Infrastructure Board

03 November 2022

Infrastructure Projects – New Pipeline Schemes

Is the paper exempt from the press and public?	No
--	----

Purpose of this report:	Policy Decision
-------------------------	-----------------

Is this a Key Decision?	No
-------------------------	----

Has it been included on the Forward Plan?	No
---	----

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

John Dowie, Executive Director of Infrastructure and Place (Interim)

Report Author(s):

Matt Bartle

Matt.Bartle@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Colin Blackburn

Colin.Blackburn@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report sets out the proposal for adding two new schemes onto the Infrastructure Project Pipeline.

What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?

Investment in these new schemes will contribute towards delivering regeneration, the creation of new jobs and improve digital inclusion which will have a positive impact on the people and places across South Yorkshire.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:

1. Approve the two schemes listed in paragraphs 2.1 and 2.2 as part of the Infrastructure Project pipeline.
2. Reconfirm the Board's approval for the three flood schemes in paragraph 2.3 as part of the pipeline of flood alleviation and resilience infrastructure.
3. Reconfirm the Board's approval for the two Brownfield Housing Fund schemes in paragraph 2.4 as part of the Brownfield Housing Fund pipeline.

Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

Programme Management Board (PMO)

13 September 2022 (2x new schemes)

Housing and Infrastructure Board

31 August 2022 (3x flood schemes)

1. Background

- 1.1 Two new schemes identified for inclusion onto the Infrastructure Project pipeline are summarised below. Project Mandate forms have been completed for each (see Appendix A and B) and the Interim Director of Infrastructure and Place and the Programme Management Board have considered these schemes and are supportive of them being added onto the Infrastructure Project Pipeline.
- 1.2 The Barnsley Civic scheme is proposed to be funded from the SYMCA Gainshare capital fund. The Digital Voucher Top Up scheme is proposed to be funded from the Superfast South Yorkshire 'Clawback' funding being received by SYMCA, the first payment of which will be received by SYMCA shortly.
- 1.3 There are also three flood mitigation schemes and two Brownfield Housing Fund schemes which were approved onto the Project Pipelines at the previous Board meeting on 31 August 2022; as noted in the Minutes (see Agenda Item 5). However, as that Board meeting was not quorate, it is requested that the Board reconfirms its approval for these schemes.

2. Proposal and justification

2.1 Barnsley Civic Eldon Street Capital Development, Barnsley

This scheme is referenced in the Barnsley MBC Place Plan. Eldon Street capital development at Barnsley Civic will revitalise an established character building in Barnsley Town Centre opposite the Glass Works development and transport interchange, including a renewed frontage onto the busy Eldon Street. A bar, restaurant and coffee shop will be developed on the ground and first floors. High quality offices will be provided on the second floor for cultural / creative organisations or similar, with the third floor being for a renewed Art School. The development will highlight original features and become a creative space for community classes and for community hires. This will bring new income into the Civic which will enable new opportunities for development of local artists, the presentation of high-quality work in the theatre and gallery, and more creative engagement work across the borough.

The funding ask is c£1.1m to cover cost escalations due to the impact of the global pandemic and current market volatility.

2.2 Digital Voucher Scheme Top UP: South Yorkshire Wide

The Government is providing up to £210m funding later next year to help connect rural and remote areas with gigabit broadband infrastructure which is typically more expensive to deliver. The UK Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme (GBVS) provides vouchers worth up to £1,500 for homes and £3,500 for businesses in rural locations to help cover these costs, but there

is an opportunity for SYMCA to introduce local 'top up' funding alongside the voucher subsidy to increase the funding available per property.

The South Yorkshire Digital Infrastructure Strategy (2021) identified that around 170,000 premises in the region (20% of total premises) are not scheduled to receive 'gigabit-capable' broadband by the industry by 2025/26. The Delivery Plan accompanying the Strategy identifies a short-term priority action (within the next two years) around supporting gigabit connectivity rollouts, including exploring funding a 'top up' of the Gigabit broadband voucher system to further incentivise rural deployment. This will help to support delivery of gigabit capable connections (where eligible) working alongside the roll-out of the Government's Project Gigabit programme.

This project would commit an initial £0.5m of SYMCA Superfast South Yorkshire 'Clawback' funding, which is the minimum investment required to join the GBVS), to deliver a local top up voucher scheme in South Yorkshire, plus an additional £50 per project administration cost payable to BDUK. This would result in a larger overall voucher value per property which would enable more of the non-connected homes and businesses across South Yorkshire to be targeted.

At the time of writing, discussions with BDUK have indicated that the Government may be considering bringing forward the GBVS, with a potential relaunch later this year. A verbal update in this respect will be provided in the meeting.

2.3 Flood Mitigation Schemes

At the previous meeting on the 31 August 2022 the Board agreed to support the following three schemes being added onto the Infrastructure Pipeline (as noted in the Minutes of the meeting – see Item 5). Due to that meeting not being quorate, it is requested that the Board reconfirms its support for these three schemes which included releasing £0.1m as development funding for each scheme to accelerate project development.

- Fishlake Flood Risk Management Scheme, Doncaster
- Worsbrough Reservoir, Barnsley
- Rotherham Renaissance Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2G, Rotherham

2.4 Brownfield Housing Fund Schemes

Similarly, at the previous meeting on the 31 August 2022 the Board agreed to support the following two schemes being added onto the Brownfield Housing Fund Pipeline (as noted in the Minutes of the meeting – see Item 5). Due to that meeting not being quorate, it is requested that the Board reconfirms its support for these two schemes.

- Gleadless Valley- Gaunt Road Scheme, Sheffield
- Gleadless Valley- Hemsworth OPIL Scheme, Sheffield

Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

3.1 Option 1

Not approving or delaying acceptance of these schemes onto the Infrastructure Project pipeline.

3.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Not approving or delaying approval for these schemes would result in a slower pace of delivery and spend to support regeneration, new job creation and flood mitigation measures. The schemes are agreed priorities, and the SYMCA PMO Board is satisfied that the schemes are deliverable.

3.3 Option 2

Approve acceptance of the scheme onto Infrastructure Project pipeline.

3.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Key risks relate to the availability of match funding resources to deliver the schemes, but these are considered minimal risks.

3.5 Recommended Option

Option 2

4. Consultation on Proposal

The SYMCA PMO has considered the Project Mandate proposal and supports the proposed use of Gainshare funding for the two new schemes. The Board has previously indicated its support for the flood mitigation schemes.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

The SYMCA Executive will work with the relevant local authorities to develop and deliver the schemes. The timelines for the new pipeline schemes are set out in the Project Mandate forms accompanying this report.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice

The proposed funding asks of each of the schemes for Gainshare capital funding aligns with the purposes of the funding to contribute to the delivery of capital schemes.

7. Legal Implications and Advice

There are no direct legal issues arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications and Advice

None as a direct result of this report.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice

There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

10. Climate Change Implications and Advice

None as a direct result of this report.

11. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice

None as a direct result of this report.

12. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice

There will be opportunities for publicity and marketing when the proposed schemes are being delivered.

List of Appendices Included*

A – Project Mandate form: Barnsley Civic Eldon Street Capital Development, Barnsley

B – Project Mandate form: Digital Voucher Top-Up, South Yorkshire wide.

Background Papers

None