

22nd March 2021

PROGRAMME APPROVALS

Purpose of Report

This paper seeks:

1. Approval of one scheme with a total value of £9.45m Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) and Getting Building Fund (GBF),
2. Approval of Four Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) Outline Business Cases (OBCs) to proceed to Full Business Cases (FBCs) and early release of development cost funding with a total value of £3.31m
3. Approval of early release of business case development cost funding for one Transforming Cities Fund Tranche 2 ('TCF2)
4. Approval of early release of business case development cost funding for one Active Travel Fund Phase 2 ('ATF2') scheme;
5. Approval of 4 change requests for existing Local Growth Fund (LGF) projects;
6. Approval of 4 change requests for existing Getting Building Fund (GBF) projects;
7. Approval of 1 change request for an existing Getting Building Fund and Transforming Cities fund Tranche 2 (TCF2) project,
8. Approval to award Adult Education Budget (AEB) Grants to 5 Further Education Establishments, 3 Local Authorities and 1 sixth form college.
9. Approval to award Adult Education Budget (AEB) funding to successful applicants through the MCA procurement exercise being currently undertaken and;
10. Approval for delegated authority to be granted to the Head of Paid service in consultation with the Section 73 Officer and the Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreement for the schemes.

Freedom of Information and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

The paper will be available under the Combined Authority Publication Scheme.

Recommendations

The MCA consider and approve:

1. Progression of "Quality Streets - Active Travel and Digital Infrastructure" project to full approval and award of £9m grant to Doncaster Borough Council subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary attached at **Appendix A**
2. Progression of "A635 Active Travel Link OBC" to FBC and delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate early release of development cost funding of up to £0.41m TCF2 to BMBC subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table attached at **Appendix B**;
3. Progression of "A61 Active Travel" OBC to FBC and delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate early release of development cost funding of up to £1.72m TCF2 business case development cost funding to BMBC subject to the conditions set out in the Appraisal Panel Summary Table attached at **Appendix C**;

4. Progression of “Parkgate” OBC to FBC and early release of development cost funding of up to £1m to South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (‘SYPTTE’) subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary attached at Appendix D
5. Progression of “Rail Station Improvements” OBC to FBC and release of development cost funding of up to £0.172m to SYPTTE subject to the conditions set out in the Assurance Panel Summary attached at Appendix E;
6. Approval to release scheme development cost funding for one scheme up to £48k, from TCF2 to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (‘BMBC’);
7. Release of scheme development cost funding for “Sheaf Valley” ATEF2 scheme, of up to £46k from ATF2 and Gainshare, to Sheffield City Council
8. Project change request from “Doncaster Urban Centre” to agree a reprofile of job outcomes from 20/21 to 21/22
9. Project change request from “DSA Car Park Expansion Loan Agreement” to agree an extension to works completion from January 2021 to May 2022 and reprofile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales.
10. Project change request from” Peak Resort” to agree a reprofile of outputs from March 2023 to March 2024
11. Project change request from” Digital Media Centre 2” to agree a reprofile of outputs from March 2021 to March 2022
12. Project change request from” Rotherham Town Centre” to agree a reprofile of £0.53m grant from 20/21 to 21/22,
13. Project change request from “Barnsley Digital Learning Sci Tech Building” to agree an extension to works completion from June 2021 to September 2021 and reprofile of £0.74m from 20/21 to 21/22 and reprofile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales
14. Project change request from “DN College Digital Infrastructure” to agree a reprofile of £0.31m from 20/21 to 21/22
15. Project change request from” Goldthorpe Strategic Land Assembly” to agree revision of conditions to enable entry into contract
16. Project change request from “Heart of the City Breathing Spaces 2” to agree a reprofile of £0.41m GBF funding from 2021/22 into 20/21 and £0.4m TCF funding from 20/21 and £1.38m from 2021/22 into 2022/23
17. Progression of “AEB – Grant Provider Agreements” to full approval and award
18. Progression of “AEB Procurement Funding Agreements” to full approval and award
19. Delegated Authority to be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate level of development costs and enter into legal agreements, following receipt of clarity on development cost requests for the schemes listed at recommendation 3 and 4 above and detailed in sections 2.2 and 2.3 below.
20. Delegated authority be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the schemes covered above.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for a number of funding awards and project changes requests. The report further recommends a number of delegations to officers to expedite the award of contracts and grant awards in a timely manner.

Getting Building Fund and Transforming Cities Fund Awards

- 1.2 On 30th June 2020 the MCA was awarded £33.6m GBF to invest in ‘shovel-ready’ projects that will provide stimulus to local economies. The funds need to be defrayed by 31st March 2022 which allows an 18-month delivery window.

In March 2020 the Department for Transport ('DfT') approved a grant award of £166.3m for the MCA's TCF aspirations. This grant was allocated from April 2019 to March 2023 resourcing a programme of transformational public transport, active travel and rail initiatives.

In March 2020 the MCA approved the early release of scheme development costs in the following manner:

- release up to 2% of the total scheme cost (as included in the bid/SOBC) to facilitate the development of the OBC.
- release further costs (based on a costed fee plan) following approval of the OBC to enable the schemes to progress to FBC

This paper requests;

- approval of one combined GBF /TCF2 funded scheme subject to any conditions to be set out in the Assurance Panel Summary with a total value of £9m;
- approval of progression of four schemes to Full Business Case (FBC) and early release of up to £3.3m development costs subject to any conditions to be set out in the Assurance Panel Summary, with total scheme values of £23.9m and
- approval to release development costs of £48k for one new scheme, to be added to the TCF2 programme pipeline.

Active Travel Fund Awards

- 1.3** In December 2020 the MCA was awarded £5.46m funding for the Active Travel Fund Phase 2 ('ATF2') towards total programme costs of £7.7m, matched by £2.24m Gainshare (the approval for which is sought in a further paper on this agenda). The grant was allocated to the 4 Local Authorities for active travel activity to March 2022 and builds upon the temporary provisions as proposed during ATEF1.

In June 2020 the MCA approved the early release of up to 2% of total scheme costs to facilitate the development of the business case. This paper requests permission for development cost funding for one scheme to be released detailed in section 2.7 below.

Project Change Requests

- 1.4** In recognition of unforeseen circumstances that can arise during the project delivery phase, the approved Assurance Framework establishes a formal process for the acceptance of change requests. These change requests could be financial, requiring reprofiling of funds, or could be to amend deliverables or timescales.

The Assurance Framework established that some change requests will be presented for approval to the relevant Thematic Board, in line with their agreed delegation levels whilst others will require the approval of the MCA Board. In line with the agreed Assurance Framework there are 4 change requests proposed through this report which require MCA approval. These are detailed in sections 2.8 to 2.19 below.

Adult Education Budget

- 1.5** AEB funding will be devolved to the MCA from 1st August 2021 and the process to commission AEB-funded provision is underway

The total value of AEB to be devolved to the MCA is expected to be c£38.5m, of which c£36m will be AEB and c£2.5m will be additional money for Level 3 provision as part of the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee. This paper requests delegated authority to be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the AEB provision detailed in section 2.20 below.

2. Proposal and justification

2.1 Quality Streets – Active Travel and Digital Infrastructure Project – GBF/TCF2 Fund

Appendix A provides a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of award.

The Project – This investment is for a £9m grant comprising of £5.5m GBF and £3.5m TCF2 towards total project costs of £9.45m.

The scheme is complementary to the previously funded Local Growth Fund schemes, providing an improved link between the areas of investment, to continue delivery of the Doncaster Quality Streets programme. The programme will support and enable new investment in the town's urban employment and residential development zones, linking the City Gateway to the Civic and Cultural Quarter. The overall aim of the scheme is to develop a streetscape that is suitable for all road users and caters for the urban centre through supporting pedestrians, bike users, disabled and buses in a safer environment.

The Benefits and Outcomes - An estimated 15,893sqm of infrastructure improvements, including -

- 1.4km of cycle lanes on Wood Street, Cleveland Street, Duke Street and St Sepulchre Gate
- Highway improvements including single carriageway and road narrowing
- Public realm improvements to St Sepulchre Gate, Duke Street, Cleveland Street and Wood Street
- Improved bus stops and real time information points
- Installation of ducting to enable digital infrastructure provision to improve digital connectivity

Key risks are noted regarding robust consultation requirements and alignment with SYPTTE to enable necessary bus route changes, however the level of risk appears acceptable and capable of being managed.

2.2 A635 Active Travel Link – TCF2 Fund

Appendix B provides a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of award.

The Project – This investment is for £2.24m from TCF2, with development costs to be released of £0.41m to BMBC.

The A635 Active Travel Link Scheme is a package of measures which seeks to promote walking and cycling connectivity on the A635 between Stairfoot Roundabout and Hollygrove Round in Goldthorpe. The scheme comprises -

- Provide a crossing facility for Oakhill Primary Academy;
- Widen footways that run parallel along the A635;
- Improved bus stop facilities with real time information, shelters and seating for patrons;
- Improve junctions along the route with side roads allowing active travel priority when crossing the junction;
- Improved street lighting
- Wayfinder and signage.
-

The Benefits and Outcomes - The outputs are –

- 24km of improved walking and cycling infrastructure;
- 72km of new walking and cycling infrastructure;
- 20 junction improvements to benefit non-car modes, with 7 bus gates.

Detailed methodological concerns have been highlighted during assurance which will impact the value for money assessment, particularly further work being required to determine non monetised benefits. This will need to be resolved before an FBC can be approved and is detailed in full within Appendix B.

The development costs requested significantly exceed the levels set out in the MCA Assurance Framework and further analysis is required to understand the activities and costs included. This paper seeks delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate level of development costs and enter into legal agreements following receipt of clarity on the development cost request.

2.3 A61 Active Travel Route – TCF2 Fund

Appendix C provides a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of award.

The Project – This investment is for £5.20m from TCF2, with development costs to be released of £1.72m to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

The A61 Active Travel Scheme is a package of measures which seeks to promote walking and cycling connectivity between Barnsley and Royston via Smithies. The scheme comprises:

- Sections of on and off-road routes
- Improvements to pedestrian crossings into Toucans
- Wayfinding signage
- Improvements to public realm
- Resurfacing of existing sections of the routes

The Benefits and Outcomes - The outputs are -

- 24km of improved walking and cycling infrastructure
- 72km of new walking and cycling infrastructure
- 20 junction improvements to benefit non-car modes, with 7 bus gates

A significant risk allocation is noted and considered prudent at this stage given it reflects uncertainty regarding land acquisition and ground investigations. Detailed methodological concerns have been highlighted during assurance which will impact the value for money assessment, particularly further work being required to determine non monetised benefits.

This will need to be resolved before and FBC can be approved and is detailed in full within Appendix C.

The development costs requested significantly exceed the levels set out in the MCA Assurance Framework and further analysis is required to understand the activities and costs included. This paper seeks delegated authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to agree an appropriate level of development costs and enter into legal agreements following receipt of clarity on the development cost request.

2.4 Parkgate Package – TCF2 Fund

Appendix D provides a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of award

The Project – This investment is for £11.52m from TCF2 towards project costs of £12.86m, with development costs to be released of £1.01m to SYPTE.

The scheme comprises three interventions -

- Parkgate Shopping Link Road - a new 800m link road across a former steelworks and railway siding site from the A6123 Aldwarke Lane into the rear of the Parkgate Shopping complex
- A 300 space Park and Ride site at the tram-train stop
- Widening to the southern entry and exit arms of the Taylors Lane roundabout on the A633 with provision of a strip to link to adjoining footways to allow for possible later conversion to cycleway

The Benefits and Outcomes - The proposals aim to reduce congestion on the A633 by diverting traffic destined for the retail park from the east side away from the congested roundabouts, shortening journeys and freeing road space for traffic passing by. It will also provide a dedicated Park and Ride site for the tram-train stop at the retail park, expected to draw commuters from car. It complements expenditure at adjacent sites by making provision for a walking/cycle lane. The scheme will make a small contribution to improving bus journey time reliability during peak periods and encouraging the continued economic growth in Rotherham and the Dearne Valley, including improved transport links between the two.

Access requirements through Parkgate Shopping Centre to allow connection to the Shopping Park is noted as a key risk, however SYPTE have advised that preparation of a legal agreement with the landowner has commenced. Therefore, the level of risk appears acceptable and capable of being managed, nevertheless the legal agreement will need to be in place prior to FBC submission.

2.5 Station Improvements – TCF2 Fund

Appendix E provides a summary of the scheme appraisal and the suggested conditions of award.

The Project - This investment is for £3.45m from TCF2, towards total project costs of £3.46m, with development costs to be released to SYPTE of £0.17m.

The scheme comprises of a package of improvements to 11 rail stations across South Yorkshire - Barnsley, Bolton on Dearne, Goldthorpe, Thurnscoe, Wombwell, Adwick, Bentley, Conisborough, Hatfield and Stainforth, Kirk Sandal, Conisbrough, Mexborough - aimed at providing customers with café and secure facilities that are accessible, gives readily available service information, and offers a pleasant waiting environment with appropriate amenities.

The Benefits and Outcomes - The scheme covers design and implementation of a range of small-scale station infrastructure improvements and compliments other active travel schemes being brought forward separately that connect to the stations. The scheme also aligns with national policy to encourage use of lower carbon transport modes (public transport) and zero carbon modes.

The need for a delivery agreement between SYPTE and the franchise owner and potential delays which may be caused to procurement as a result of a renewal of franchise contracts are noted as key risks. However, the delivery agreement is pending finalisation and work is underway to renew the framework to enable procurement to commence. Therefore, the level of risk appears acceptable and capable of being managed.

2.6 TCF2 Pipeline

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council has submitted five Expressions of Interest proposing inclusion onto the TCF2 programme pipeline of three active travel hubs and two active travel routes that are complementary to those already included. A strategic review has been completed and the Transport and Environment Board recommended acceptance on to the TFC2 pipeline.

Scheme development costs of up to £48k for Barnsley Active Travel Hub are recommended to be released, due to estimate project costs of c.£2.4m.

Development funding is made available to fund the OBC, progression beyond this point is entirely contingent on funding being available in the TCF2 programme.

2.7 ATF2 Programme

The 4 Local Authorities have submitted proposals to deliver 8 projects focusing upon Active Travel Lanes and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, totalling £7.40m. In order to facilitate the development of 2 Business Justification Cases and 6 OBCs, development cost funding of up to £0.10m was approved to be released at the Transport and Environment Board on the 4th March 2021. This report recommends the Board approve £46k for Sheaf Valley (SCC), noting that this project's total costs are in excess of the Thematic Board delegation. To summarise -

		Development Costs	Project Costs
		£k	£k
Active Travel Links			
BMBC	Elsecar	£12	£575
DMBC	Conisbrough to Warmsworth	£20	£1,000
RMBC	Broom	£30	£1,500
SCC	Sheaf Valley	£46	£2,300
SCC	City Centre Cycle Hub	£6	£300
Low Traffic Neighbourhoods			
BMBC	Goldthorpe	£11	£550
DMBC	Thorne and Moorends	£8	£380
SCC	Netheredge and Crookes	£16	£795
Total		£148	£7,400
ATF2		£103	£5,160
Gainshare		£45	£2,240

2.8 LGF Change Requests

2.9 Doncaster Urban Centre

On 9th October 2020 Doncaster Borough Council completed delivery of a 3,251 sqm (35,000 sqft) cinema and restaurant development on a vacant plot adjacent to the Cast Theatre, in the heart of Doncaster's Civic & Cultural Quarter.

The development comprises a 1,672 sqm (17,997 sqft) 6 screen cinema to be operated by Savoy Cinemas Ltd and an adjacent terrace of family restaurant units extending to a total of 1,579 sqm (17,000 sqft), sub divided into units of circa 4,000–5,000 sqft.

Change proposed and reasons:

The contract has an outcome of 102 jobs due to be created in financial year 2020/21. Due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic these have not been achieved and therefore a

request to transfer the proposed delivery of job outcomes, and the associated clawback provision, into financial year 2021/22 has been made.

2.10 DSA Car Park Expansion Loan Agreement

A change request to extend the works completion date from April 2020 to January 2021 due to the discovery of a protected species on site was previously considered and approved by the MCA on 1st June 2020. A relocation exercise was undertaken in late Summer/Autumn 2020, but further lizards have now been found and a second deferral of Phase II of the carpark expansion, has now been proposed along with the reprofile of job outputs in accordance with the revised timescales. This species is protected by legislation and can only be relocated during the summer months.

2.11 Peak Resort

LGF Funding was awarded to Chesterfield Borough Council to improve access to the Peak Resort site in 2016. The public infrastructure has been constructed and all spend was completed and fully defrayed as per contractual requirements by March 2018. 30% clawback applies to delivery of the jobs outcome which are targeted to be delivered by 31st March 2023.

Change proposed and reasons:

Peak Resort is an all year-round tourist and leisure destination, the scope of which has been subject to significant changes over the last year, in particular due to COVID 19. There have been significant changes to the approach of the wider project and works on site. The scheme promoter has consistently demonstrated robust project management procedures and works were completed to contractual targets with all relevant evidence and information submitted to the MCA Exec as required.

The change requested is to allow a 12month extension to the timescales for the project outputs and outcomes only from March 2023 to March 2024.

2.12 Digital Media Centre 2

LGF funding enabled the Recipient to deliver a new Digital Media Centre in Barnsley. The Project acquired and refurbished The Core building, delivering three floors of “grow on” office space, a ground floor co-working space and provision of a tech lab facility. Building works completed in September 2020

Change proposed and reasons:

Due to the continued impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, which also resulted in a delay in completion of the refurbishment, the rate of occupation of DMC 02 has been slower than was initially anticipated.

The change requested is to allow a 12month extension to the timescales for the project outputs and outcomes only from March 2021 to March 2022.

2.13 GBF Change Requests

2.14 Rotherham Town Centre

On 16th November 2020 a grant of £2.18m of GBF was awarded to Rotherham Borough District Council for works within the adopted Masterplan for Rotherham Town Centre.

Proposed works include:

HE Hub Acquisition & Demolition - the site will house the new Community Sector Hub building to sit alongside the relocated Central Library.

Riverside Precinct acquisition & demolition - demolish the existing buildings on the site and undertake preparatory works to prepare the site for future development.

Improvements to the key streets in the heart of the pedestrianised Rotherham Town Centre. Works will include the complete resurfacing of Bridgegate, Effingham Street, College Street and Howard Street, as well as the replacement of all existing street furniture and lighting.

Change proposed and reasons:

Due to the pressures of the on-going Covid pandemic there has been a delay to the start on site. The forecast start date was Sept 2020 and this is now forecast as Jan 2021.

RMBC have requested to reprofile £0.532m grant from 20/21 to 21/22 with no change to works completion date of delivery of outputs.

2.15 Barnsley Digital Learning Sci Tech Building

The scheme is to re-purpose the ground floor of Barnsley Colleges Digital Innovation Hub to add further value to the current refurbishment of this building funded by LGF and DfE to provide a world class digital learning experience. The project builds on the partnership between BMBC, the College and numerous employers to create a Digital Campus in Barnsley, supporting the growth of indigenous digital companies and attracting inward investment.

Change proposed and reasons:

The physical site delivery of the project has been delayed due to issues that were not possible to have been foreseen – namely the sub structure and mains power cables owned by Northern PowerGrid.

The 'as is' plans did not include full details of the substructure and the detailed surveys required prior to commencement of construction have identified a potential problem regarding a concrete slab which is in situ. An additional complication came to light where it was identified that the mains power feed to the building passes under the proposed construction site. This, again, could not be identified until the physical investigations and searches were complete. The cost has been approved within budget but has caused a delay. These works must be completed prior to the main works and has caused a 3-month delay resulting in a request to an extension to works completion from June 2021 to September 2021 and reprofile of £0.74m from 20/21 to 21/22 and reprofile of outputs and outcomes in accordance with the revised timescales

2.16 DN Colleges Digital Infrastructure

Due to the impact of the pandemic the project aim is to enable an acceleration of the College's digital strategy, including the move to distance learning and home working which identified a high priority need for mobile devices. Additional project elements focus on Office 365 developments, password tools to facilitate remote connectivity, new teaching software to ensure that a blended teaching model is successfully embedded. All of these digital developments will enable Doncaster College to help drive forward the local economy and the demand for digital skills through an infrastructure that fully enables digital connectivity.

Change proposed and reasons:

The project has experienced supply issues relating to the current pandemic and Brexit. There have been significant delays in the delivery of key items relating to the connectivity project. This has then further delayed the procurement of Edge switches and Meraki access points for which there is an 80-day lag time. The impact of these delays has

resulted in a request to reprofile £0.31m from Q4 20/21 to Q1 21/22. This will not impact the ability to complete the project within the delivery window.

2.17 Goldthorpe Strategic Land Assembly

In January 21 a grant of £0.58m was awarded to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC), subject to conditions, by the Housing and Infrastructure Board to deliver a new access/roundabout to the ES10 employment site towards the eastern end of the M1 J36 Economic Growth Corridor.

Change proposed and reasons:

The approval conditions prior to contract execution included:

- Following the procurement of a contractor, BMBC to confirm the final tender price is in line with the FBC Financial Case
- Confirmation of planning approval and the successful negotiation of 3rd party land acquisition.

Due to BMBC internal approvals, and the requirements of the procurement process, BMBC are requesting that conditions above are moved from 'conditions to be satisfied prior to contract execution' to 'conditions to be satisfied before drawdown of funding'

2.18 TCF2/GBF Change Request

2.19 Heart of the City 2 Breathing Spaces

On 16th November 2020 a grant of £4m of Getting Building Fund was approved for works within the Heart of the City Programme in Sheffield City centre. On 25th January 2021 a further £2m from the Transforming Cities Fund was approved. The proposed works included the creation of three new spaces in Sheffield City Centre: a landscaped pocket park on Block G including a cycle hub; a vibrant small square on Carver Street with seating terraces for adjoining cafes and civic space and there will be an expansion and improvement of the area between the Peace Gardens and Town Hall, and the proposed Radisson Blu hotel on Pinstone Street. TCF funded works will reduce private vehicle movements to improve capacity and reliability of public transport and provide safer routes to promote active travel.

Change proposed and reasons:

After discussions with Transport/Highways engineers and undertaking a cost exercise the project is requesting a reprofile of funding resulting in £0.04m of GBF brought forward from 2021/22 into the current financial year and £0.4m TCF funding from 20/21 and £1.38m from 2021/22 into 2022/23 resulting in a significant amount of the TCF spend in 2022/23

2.20 Adult Education Budget

A dual approach to commissioning provision is being taken across South Yorkshire to ensure the needs of residents can be met, taking into account the long-term skills challenges across the region, the impact of the pandemic and the need to support employment opportunities in key growth sectors.

Grant funding agreements with Further Education colleges and Local Authorities based in South Yorkshire. - The MCA have been actively engaging with all grant funded providers in development of 3-year delivery plans. Across the board, the plans that have now been submitted demonstrate an increased level of ambition. Devolved AEB funding to South Yorkshire based grant providers will be allocated on an agreed payment profile and reconciled in-year. Grant providers must not over deliver against this allocation without the

express agreement of the MCA. Any under-performance will be discussed with the provider and the MCA retain the right to re-allocate that funding to another grant provider in-year. Any under-performance at the end year reconciliation point would either be returned to the MCA by the provider or through a reduction in the 2022/23 allocation.

Proposed AEB Grant Allocations

Provider	“Core” Base 18/19 Allocation	“Growth” 15% Additional Funding	Total
Barnsley College	£1.78m	£0.26m	£2.04m
Barnsley MBC	£2m	£0.3m	£2.31m
DN Colleges Group	£2.8m	£0.4m	£3.27m
Doncaster MBC	£0.67m	£0.1m	£0.77m
Longley Park SFC	£0.04m	£0.06m	£0.05m
Northern College	£2.36m	£0.35m	£2.71m
RNN Group	£3.94m	£0.59m	£4.53m
Sheffield City Council	£1.85m	£0.28m	£2.12m
Sheffield College	£8.76m	£1.3m	£10m

The allocations for the Adult Skills Offer funding for Level 3 provision to a maximum of £2.79m are currently still under review.

Procured Provision – through Call-Off Contracts to providers who are successfully appointed to a new MCA Framework Agreement. The AEB procurement process was launched on 18th December. The value of this procurement is expected to be £10.2m in 2021/22 and £30.6m over 3 years. The MCA have received in excess of 190 bids from 120 providers and are currently starting the evaluation process and are confident of being able to award the contracts in May, with delivery in place from 1st August 2021.

Due to timescales this paper requests delegated authority to be given to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to award and enter into legal agreements for the AEB and Level 3 provision with a list of successful awards being presented at the June MCA.

3 Consideration of alternative approaches

3.1 Do nothing:

TCF2 - Inability to release development costs or approve the project presented today may result in a slower pace of delivery and loss of activity/spend to the programme

GBF – Guidance received from Government states that Sheffield City Region will be expected to deliver the agreed projects and any significant changes to the projects will be discussed and agreed with the Government in advance.

LGF Change Requests - LGF projects presented in this paper do not have any impact on profiled spend. If the scheme change requests are not approved, then the schemes would become undeliverable within the current timeframe and cause significant risk to the scheme promoters.

ATEF2 Programme – Inability to release development costs may result in a slower pace of delivery

4. Implications

4.1 Financial

The projects presented for approval today are profiled to drawdown £5.5m from the GBF allocation of £33.6m and 6.8m from the TCF2 allocation of £166m.

The GBF change requests reprofiling will not have an adverse effect on the overall target of £33.6m due to be fully defrayed by March 2022.

The TCF change request reprofiling will not have an adverse effect on the overall target of £166.3m due to be fully defrayed by March 2023.

The ATEF2 project presented for approval of early release of development funding is profiled to drawdown £46k from the allocation of £7.7m.

The funding for the LGF projects has been previously defrayed and therefore has no impact on the target for LGF in the financial year 2020/2021.

4.2 Legal

The legal implications of the project have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer and included in the recommendations agreed by the Assurance Panel as presented in the supporting information.

4.3 Risk Management

Risk management is a key requirement for each of the submissions and is incorporated into the OBC and FBC submissions. Where weaknesses have been identified in the FBCs in terms of risk management, further work to capture and mitigate these risks is included as a condition of award in the appraisal panel summary sheets. Risks and Issues management is reported quarterly to the MCA Executive as part of contract monitoring.

High risk schemes will continue to be monitored and any changes will be reported back to the Executive Boards and MCA.

4.4 Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

Appropriate equality and diversity considerations are taken into account as part of the assessment of the project business case.

5. Communications

- 5.1** The business cases for all schemes presents opportunities for positive communications; officers from the MCA Executive Team will work with the relevant officers on joint communications activity at the appropriate.

6. Appendices/Annexes

- 6.1** Appendix A: Quality Streets Assurance Panel Summary
Appendix B: A635 Active Travel Assurance Panel Summary
Appendix C: A61 Active Travel Assurance Panel Summary
Appendix D: Parkgate Package Assurance Panel Summary
Appendix E: Rail Station Improvements Rail Station Improvements

Post **Assistant Director – Programme and Performance Unit**
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Background papers used in the preparation of this report are available for inspection at: 11 Broad Street West, Sheffield S1 2BQ