

Mayoral Combined Authority Board

Tuesday, 08 October 2024

Programme Approvals

Is the paper exempt from the press and public? No

Reason why exempt: Not applicable

Purpose of this report: Funding Decision

Is this a Key Decision? Yes

Has it been included on the Forward Plan of Key Decisions? Yes

Portfolio: N/A

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Lead Chief Executive: N/A

Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Gareth Sutton, Executive Director, Resources and Investment

Report Author(s):

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Executive Summary

This report seeks:

1. Approval of one project change request;
 2. Acceptance of Higher Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire (HeppSY); and,
 3. Progression of three investment scheme subject to conditions set out in the Assurance Summaries
- .

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

This report is seeking approval for several investments, and to enter into contracts for each investment proposal, which will support the MCA's aspirations.

Recommendations

That the Board considers and approves:

1. Progression of City Centre Cycling / Cross City Bus to post Outline Business Case (OBC) in principle approval for up to £21.01m grant to Sheffield City Council, subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary A
2. Progression of FourJaw Growth & Innovation Support to full approval and award of £0.28m grant to FourJaw Manufacturing Analytics Ltd, subject to the conditions set out in Assurance Summary B
3. Progression of South Yorkshire Strategic Transport Model to full approval and an initial award of £2.92m grant to South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority as detailed in 2.3.
4. Acceptance of £3,500 grant from Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire (HeppSY) for the development of a partnership Uni Connect project with Careers Hub for academic year 2024/25.
5. Change request for Hybrid Air Vehicles project and,
6. Delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer to enter into legal agreements for the points above.

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

Programme Board

26 September 2024

Programme Board

11 October 2024

1. Background

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from the MCA Board for a project change request of one capital scheme, progression of three investment schemes and acceptance of one grant award.
- 1.2 Further details are provided on the proposals in the main body of the report.

2. Approvals

2.1 Sheffield City Council City Centre Cycling / Cross City Bus Transforming Cities Fund In principle Approval

This project seeks £21.001m grant towards total project costs of £21.001m at an intervention rate of 100%.

In June 2021 the MCA board approved the OBC at a value of £14.3m. Subsequently the scheme has encountered several delays, increasing costs and a scope change.

The project has now progressed with procurement having completed RIBA3 stage and final prices are due imminently. Given the slippage in timescale and increasing value, the project has been assessed as an OBC to follow the current Assurance Framework.

The scheme will deliver integrated transport improvements across Sheffield city centre, so it is an easier place to travel to and from, whilst reducing the number of trips by car, further adding to the sense of place for the city and aligning to the aims of the Future High Street bid scheme on Fargate.

The scheme will include:

- the permanent relocation of public transport from Pinstone Street creating a pedestrian friendly environment.
- the creation of high-quality transport hubs on Rockingham Street and Arundel Gate to reflect the changing nature of the city centre.
- A kerb free pedestrian route for people travelling from High Street/Church Street to the Town Hall Square, Peace Gardens, Barkers Pool, Tudor Square and the Heart of the City II (HOTC2) will be created with widened footways where possible, to make it easier, more welcoming and safer for pedestrians.
- The proposals also include a number of bus priority measures (including bus gates) to reduce through traffic using Arundel Gate, Furnival Gate, and Rockingham Street constructed to be enforceable with appropriate signage and CCTV operation.

Appendix A provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award

2.2 **FourJaw Manufacturing Analyitics Ltd** **FourJaw Growth & Innovation Support** **Investment Zone** **Full Approval**

This project seeks £0.28m grant towards total project costs of £0.54m at an intervention rate of 51.6%.

FourJaw Manufacturing Analyitics Ltd were created four years ago from a spinout company at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre. The company's machine monitoring platform enables the monitoring of productivity and energy consumption of electrically powered machinery to aid manufacturers to identify and prioritise continuous improvement opportunities.

The company has grown since its inception and currently serves over 130 manufacturers in the UK and internationally and is now seeking assistance to move to larger premises in Sheffield and fund hardware which underpins its platform to support its continued growth.

The project will support innovation within the Investment Zone and create jobs within the region.

Appendix B provides a summary of the project assurance and any suggested conditions of award.

2.3 South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority South Yorkshire Strategic Transport Model Full Approval

This project seeks an initial £2.9m to enable procurement, development, data collection, build and testing of the model. The total project costs are c£4.689m which will cover a 10-year period.

The project is a critical initiative aimed at improving the region's transport planning capabilities. The model is a vital tool for securing Department for Transport (DfT) funding and ensuring that regional transport plans align with national priorities, as the model provides the data-driven insights necessary for making robust investment decisions and demonstrating the value of proposed infrastructure projects.

The project will develop an industry-standard strategic transport model to simulate regional transportation patterns, forecast future demands, and inform long-term strategic decisions. This model will focus on large-scale transport dynamics, such as road networks and public transport systems, supporting major infrastructure planning and policy development.

While the strategic transport model will focus on large-scale infrastructure, existing tools such as the Active Mode Appraisal Toolkit (AMAT) and Cycling Level of Service (CLoS) will continue to be used to evaluate walking and cycling schemes, ensuring a comprehensive approach to transport planning.

The project includes the scoping of an active travel model. The development of the active travel model would be commissioned once the scoping is complete and will be integrated with the strategic model.

The initial funding will support:

- Procurement of contractors and technical experts.
- Data collection activities starting in March 2025.
- Development, calibration, and validation of the model.
- Scoping of Active Travel tools to complement the strategic model's capabilities.

3 Grant Acceptance

3.1 Higher Education Progression Partnership South Yorkshire

Uni Connect Partnership project Acceptance of £3,500 grant

SYMCA has secured £3,500 to develop a partnership project with HeppSY to further develop links between the South Yorkshire Careers Hub and regional universities. The project will fund a digital membership platform and support for students, fostering links with sixth form institutions to propel students from areas of low opportunities into top universities. The project aims to deliver an increased uptake in sixth form institutions' participation and increased university and apprenticeship applications among South Yorkshire students.

4 Project change Request Approval

4.1 Hybrid Air Vehicles (HAV) Contract Condition Change Request

The Hybrid Air Vehicles project was awarded a £7m loan by the MCA board in March 2023 with several conditions of award. All conditions prior to loan agreement execution have been met, however, to mitigate the risk of further delays to project launch and to make progress of Airlander in South Yorkshire the project is seeking to access £1m of the loan to enable critical path activities on the aircraft and site workstreams and allow more time for match funding to be raised.

HAV have deployed £1.2m into the project since February and continue to work towards match fund requirements.

5. Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

5.1 Option 1

Approve all recommendations.

5.2 Option 1 Risks and Mitigations

Approval of the progression of the investment propositions will result in a commitment being made against the programme budgets and continuation of activity.

5.3 Option 2

Reject some, or all, of the recommendations.

5.4 Option 2 Risks and Mitigations

Rejection of the recommendations in this report would mean the region foregoing the forecast benefits arising from the investments and the delivery of the activity at risk.

5.5 Recommended Option

Option 1

6. Consultation on Proposal

- 6.1 Discussions for these proposals has continued with the Portfolio Leads and SYMCA business partners.
- 7. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision.**
7.1 Subject to the approval of the recommendations and approval by the MCA, the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Section 73 and Monitoring Officer will progress to enter into legal agreements for the schemes.
- 8. Financial and Procurement Implications and Advice**
8.1 All proposals presented within this report can be fully funded from available resource.
- 9. Legal Implications and Advice**
9.1 The legal implications of the proposals have been fully considered by a representative of the Monitoring Officer.
- 10. Human Resources Implications and Advice**
10.1 None
- 11. Equality and Diversity Implications and Advice**
11.1 8.1 Equality and Diversity implications are taken into account as part of the proposals considerations.
- 12. Climate Change Implications and Advice**
12.1 Climate change implications are considered as part of the proposal considerations.
- 13. Information and Communication Technology Implications and Advice**
13.1 **None**
- 14. Communications and Marketing Implications and Advice**
14.1 The approvals provide positive opportunities to highlight the difference the MCA's investments will make to people and places across South Yorkshire and how Members are taking action to support the regions recovery from COVID.

List of Appendices Included:

- A. Assurance Summary A – City Centre Cycling / Cross City Bus
- B. Assurance Summary B– FourJaw Growth & Innovation Support

Background Papers:

None