

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Matthew Balfour, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

DECISION NO:

17/00025

For publication

Key decision*

Yes – Expenditure over £1m

Subject: Local Growth Fund Round 3 Schemes

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport, I agree to give approval to take the schemes listed below through the next stages of development and delivery including authority to progress statutory approvals and consultation where appropriate, and to enter into funding and construction contracts.

- a) Dartford Town Centre improvements scheme, in drg. No. 4300378/000;
- b) A2500 Lower Road improvement scheme, in drg No. 43000416/000/06;
- c) A2/A28 Coast bound off-slip, Wincheap scheme, in drg. No. 5269/GA01

Specifically to:

- i) give approval to the progress the design of the schemes for development control and land charge disclosures;
- ii) give approval to progress all statutory approvals or consents required for the schemes;
- iii) give approval to carry out consultation on the schemes;
- iv) give approval to enter into Local Growth Fund funding agreement subject to the approval of the Corporate Director of Finance & Procurement, and
- v) give approval to enter into construction contracts as necessary for the delivery of the schemes subject to the approval of the Procurement Board to the recommended procurement strategy.

Reason(s) for decision:

In the Growth Deal announcements in July 2014 (Round One) and January 2015 (Round Two), the Government allocated £482 million from the Local Growth Fund to capital projects across the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) area. In January 2017, a further Growth Deal Extension was announced by Government following a SELEP Local Growth Fund Round Three submission. In total, through the three rounds, £104m Local Growth Fund has been allocated towards the delivery of 25 Highways and Transportation projects in Kent.. An additional £24m has been allocated through the Local Growth Fund to deliver 6 non-transport schemes in Kent.

Financial Implications

It has been agreed with Government that SELEP and therefore Kent County Council will receive Local Growth Fund in quarterly instalments in advance in accordance with the scheme spending profiles, subject to completion of a Transport Business Case for each project and the approval of the project by SELEP Accountability Board.

The Service Level Agreement between the SELEP Accountable Body (Essex County Council) and

Kent County Council transfers responsibility for the delivery of the LGF projects in Kent to the Council.

The match funding has been secured from other local government programmes, and developer contributions as set out above in the respective scheme paragraphs. This match funding will be secured through a legal agreement to be signed by the contributors and the County Council.

Governance

All schemes will be delivered in line with the current governance arrangements under the Local Growth Fund (KCC and SELEP). Therefore each scheme will carry out necessary consultation and equality impact assessments as part of the scheme progression.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposal was considered and endorsed by Members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 13 March 2017.

It was also noted that the schemes will require approval of a full Business Case by the SELEP Accountability Board.

Any alternatives considered:

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None



signed

4th April 2017

date

Name: Matthew Balfour