

Agenda Item 4

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| Report to Accountability Board | Forward Plan reference number: N/A |
| Date of Accountability Board Meeting: 13 th November, 2015 Date of report: 5 th November, 2015 | |
| Title of report: Business Case Sign Off | |
| Report by: David Godfrey | |
| Enquiries to: david.godfrey@kent.gov.uk | |

1. Purpose of report

1.1. The purpose of this paper is to:

- Agree the business cases for schemes brought forward through the Independent Technical Evaluator (ITE) process to enable funding to be devolved to scheme sponsors (county and unitary councils) as part of our capital programme management.

2. Recommendations

2.1. The Board is asked to:

- Approve the following schemes for funding achieving high value for money and medium to high certainty of achieving this:
 - A28 Sturry Road Integrated Transport Package (£2.0m)
 - Maidstone Sustainable Access to Employment (£2.0m)
 - Eastbourne and South Wealden Walking and Cycling Package (specific components only – £2.0m)
 - Kent & Medway Growth Hub (£6.0m)
 - North Bexhill Access Road (£7.6m)
- Following approval at the last Accountability Board to fund the Sittingbourne Town Centre project (£2.5m) within contingent conditions to be met to the satisfaction of the Independent Technical Evaluator and Local Enterprise Partnership, acknowledge that these conditions have been met and funding has been approved subject to the Accountable Body's approval.
- Following approval in principle at the last Accountability Board to fund and bring forward delivery of a non-transport component of the Southend Central Area Action Plan, approve in full funding for this component (£0.72m) and for delivery in 2015/16 instead of 2016/17.

3. Supporting Papers

3.1. In support of this paper, appendices contain:

- Report of the Independent Technical Evaluator

4. Background

4.1. This report brings forward, for release of funding, projects that have successfully completed the Independent Technical Evaluation process, a condition of our Assurance Framework agreed with Government.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. Approval can be provided to schemes in principle as they meet the requirements of the agreed SELEP Assurance Framework. However, funding is subject to confirmation from Government of future years' Local Growth Fund allocations.

5.2. It should be noted that some schemes are subject to re-profiling requested as part of the Capital Programme Monitoring report presented to the board alongside this paper.

5.3. It should be noted that the Capital Programme Monitoring report includes a recommendation to re-profile £0.49m of Local Growth Funding from Essex County Council to Southend-on-Sea Borough Council to meet their funding gap for this scheme in 2015/16.

6. Legal Implications

6.1. None at present.

7. Staffing and other resource implications

7.1. None

8. Equality and Diversity implications

8.1. None

9. List of Appendices

9.1. Appendix 1 Report of Independent Technical Evaluator

(available at www.essex.gov.uk if not circulated with this report)

10. List of Background Papers

10.1. None

(Any request for any background papers listed here should be made to the person named at the front of the report who will be able to help with any enquiries)

| Role | Date |
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| Accountable Body sign off Lorna Norris On behalf of Margaret Lee | 5 th November 2015 |