

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**REGENERATION
CABINET MEMBER**

HUMBER ENTERPRISE ZONE CAPITAL GRANT ALLOCATION

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Cabinet Member of the successful application by Able Humber Ports Limited for Enterprise Zone Capital Grant and the role of the council as accountable body.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Enterprise Zones are areas around the country that support both new and expanding businesses by offering incentives. There are currently 24 Enterprise Zones across England.
- 2.2 The Humber Enterprise Zone crosses the north and south banks of the Humber Estuary. It covers a total of 484 hectares. It is the largest Enterprise Zone in the country. It boasts the UK's largest available development sites adjacent to a deep water port.
- 2.3 The Able Marine Energy Park is the largest single site within an Enterprise Zone in the UK. It is bigger than all the other Enterprise Zones in the Humber put together.
- 2.4 Business Rate Relief is available on an Enterprise Zone for a 5 year period. This applies to 25ha of the Able site. Additionally, Enhanced Capital Allowances are available on 225.9 ha.
- 2.5 The government launched a £415-million fund to speed up the delivery of Enterprise Zones. Able Humber Ports Limited applied for a grant. Their application was successful. The bid secured £14.94m towards infrastructure costs. This includes for provision of 240,000sqm of commercial floorspace; 3.7km of internal access roads and 1,355m of multi-rail sidings.
- 2.6 The grant will enable the development of the site as an energy centre. This will bring businesses into the area and create thousands of local jobs.
- 2.7 The council will act as accountable body for claiming and administering the grant. We will work with DCLG through the process.

2.8 A full business case is being prepared for 24th February 2014. The business case will consider all issues including the Council's role as accountable body, due diligence clearance and state aid compliance.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 The Cabinet Member is asked to note the success of the application for funding by Able Humber Ports Limited and approve putting in place the accountable body support required to draw down the grant.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Not applicable.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 There are no resource implications. Officers from the Business Support team will support this initiative.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 Not applicable.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 The council has worked closely with Able Humber Ports Ltd on this matter.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet Member notes the successful application for Enterprise Zone funding by Able Humber Ports Limited.

8.2 That the council implements the necessary processes and procedures to ensure that the accountable body function allows the grant to be claimed and the scheme to progress as soon as possible.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report - None