

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**REGENERATION
CABINET MEMBER**

HUMBER UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Cabinet Member on the progress towards developing a University Technical College (UTC) in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 To seek approval to facilitate the project management on behalf of the Humber UTC Board, subject to approval of the bid.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 A UTC is a state funded school for 14-19 year olds. The difference to a traditional 11-16 school is that it has a significant business input in its running and representation on its Governing Body. Students study traditional curriculum subjects including English, Mathematics and Science. They will however specialise in specific areas that will prepare pupils for the world of work.
- 2.2 The education sponsor for the Humber UTC is Hull University and Able UK Limited is the lead employer working with other local businesses (Tata Steel, Centrica, Total Lindsey Oil Refinery and Clugston Construction). Also involved are local education provider; North Lindsey College and Team Humber Marine Alliance who represent numerous SME companies across the Humber area. North Lincolnshire Council is also a key partner.
- 2.3 The Humber UTC Board has worked on a development proposal for the UTC over the last year. They submitted a bid for funding for a UTC that will specialise in Engineering and Renewables. The proposed opening date is September 2015. The bid was submitted to the Department for Education on 4 October 2013.
- 2.4 The Humber UTC was successfully shortlisted to attend an interview as the second stage in the funding approval process. The interview took place on 19 November 2013. A decision on whether it has been successful to receive funding is expected in early January 2014.
- 2.5 If the bid for funding is successful the Humber UTC Board will need to initiate the project management as a matter of urgency to ensure that the timescale to open in September 2015 can be achieved. It is therefore

essential that the procurement for the project management is progressed as far as possible before a funding decision is made. The UTC Board therefore requires an existing partner to facilitate this process.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Option 1 - North Lincolnshire Council facilitate the project management procurement process so that the UTC Board is in a position to appoint a project manager to ensure that the timescale to open by September 2015 is achieved. The Council will contract for the project management on behalf of the UTC.
- 3.2 Option 2 – Not to facilitate the project management procurement on behalf of the Humber UTC Board.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 will allow the procurement process to be undertaken prior to the decision on funding being made to ensure that the Humber UTC Board can appoint a project manager if, and as soon as, a positive decision is received to ensure that the school is delivered within the timescale required. The Council has experience of delivering major capital infrastructure projects including a successful Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme. It has the processes and procedures established to ensure the prompt appointment of a project manager.
- 4.2 Option 2 will require that the Humber UTC Board takes alternative steps to identify another partner to facilitate the process, thereby delaying the timescale.

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

- 5.1 The Council has an approved budget to support the development of the Humber UTC within the Regeneration portfolio. Finance is available to appoint a project manager subject to approval of the Humber UTC funding bid.
- 5.2 Project management costs are expected to be in the region of between £30,000-£50,000, depending on the final specification agreed by the Humber UTC Board (ie length of appointment and specific functions/responsibilities).
- 5.3 Staffing resource from the Regeneration Division is provided on the Humber UTC Advisory Group. They will help facilitate the project management appointment.

5.4 Office accommodation and IT support will be provided through “hot desking” within the Regeneration Division as well as with other Humber UTC partners.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 The appointment of project management for the UTC does not have any adverse outcomes in relation to the integrated impact assessment.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 The Humber UTC Board has considered which partners could support the development of the Humber UTC through facilitating the appointment of project management. They are supportive of the council taking this forward.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the update be noted.

8.2 That the Council agree to facilitate the appointment of project management for the Humber UTC.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report - None