

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**HIGHWAYS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS  
CABINET MEMBER**

**LOCAL PINCH POINT FUND**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To approve the submission of two bids for the recently announced Local Pinch Point Funding.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 As part of the 2012 Autumn Statement the government announced the creation of a Local Pinch Point Fund (the fund) worth £170m to remove bottlenecks on the local highway network which are impeding growth. The fund reflects the intention by government to support economic growth by tackling barriers on the local highway network that might restrict the movement of goods and people.
- 2.2 The fund is intended to secure immediate impacts on growth. As such, it is aimed at those schemes that can be delivered quickly, with the Department for Transport (DfT) funding contribution (in the form of capital) only available in financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- 2.3 The DfT is not setting a cap on the number of bids from an individual promoting authority. However, they advise that authorities should focus their efforts on the quality of bids submitted rather than the number. Depending on the overall number and quality of bids received from across the country, the DfT reserves the right to restrict the number of awards to two per promoting authority.
- 2.4 The fund is intended to promote economic growth through the rapid deployment of schemes that remove transport barriers or prevent the emergence of new transport barriers. Eligible schemes should be those that provide new or improved links to key economic sites (such as an enterprise zone, development site or urban employment centre), or which tackle congestion or address the condition of highway structures that are near to the point of becoming a barrier to access.
- 2.5 Potential projects could fall into the following two categories, with the vast majority falling into the first category given the delivery timescales for investment.

- small schemes requiring DfT funding of between £1m and £5m; and
  - by exception, large schemes requiring DfT funding above £5m but no more than £20m.
- 2.6 To ensure strong local commitment, promoters will need to contribute at least 30% of total scheme costs. The deadline for submitting bids is 5pm on 21 February 2013. Decisions on successful bids will be made as soon as possible.
- 2.7 The Cabinet Member is requested to take an urgent decision to approve the two bids as described below, in order to meet the required submission deadlines.

### 3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Having considered the guidance in the funding application pack with regard to deliverability, strategic and economic case, value for money and financial requirements, two projects are suggested for inclusion in the bid.
- Humberside International Airport (HUY) – surface access improvements
  - Mortal Ash Hill Roundabout
- 3.2 The options available to the Cabinet Member are as follows.
- 3.2.1 **Option One** – approve the submission of bids for funding to support taking forward the two projects set out above.
- 3.2.2 **Option Two** – approve the submission of a single bid for funding to support taking forward either of the projects set out above.
- 3.2.3 **Option Three** – not to bid for funding to support either of the projects set out above.
- 3.2.4 **Option Four** – identify alternative projects on which to base a bid for funding.

### 4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option one is suggested as the best option. Both projects are supported by the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership, with HUY also having support from the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership. Third party beneficiaries also support the bids. These include Humberside International Airport and Tata Steel respectively.
- 4.2 The two schemes fit with the guidance given by DfT for the small scheme category. Both schemes have the necessary local commitment funding in place. Both schemes are deliverable by the end of the financial year 2014/15.

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

**5.1 Financial**

The local funding contribution required from the council to support the two bids will come from the Property Trading Account.

**5.2 Staffing**

There are no significant staffing implications arising from this report.

**5.3 Property**

The delivery of these two projects will enhance local property developments and lead to increased employment opportunities.

**5.4 IT**

None.

**6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 – CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 There are no other implications for consideration.

**7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 Consultations have taken place with the two Local Enterprise Partnerships, Humberside International Airport, Tata Steel and relevant internal departments of the council. All are supportive of the bids.

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the submission of bids for funding via the Local Pinch Point initiative to support taking forward the following projects.

- Humberside International Airport (HUY) – surface access improvements
- Mortal Ash Hill Roundabout

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

Civic Centre  
Ashby Road  
Scunthorpe  
North Lincolnshire  
DN16 1AB  
Author: Rob Beales  
Date: 18 February 2013

**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:** None