

**CITY OF NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ECONOMIC
PROSPERITY COMMITTEE – 21 FEBRUARY 2014**

Subject:	Business and third sector engagement with the EPC		
Presenting authority / representative):	Mick Burrows, Chief Executive, Nottinghamshire County Council		
Report author and contact details:	Matt Lockley, Team Manager, Economic Development 0115 9772446		
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Subject to call-in
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Value of decision:	To be determined		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital
Authorities affected:	All		Date of consultation with relevant authorities: N/A
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/constituent authorities):			
The N2 Economic Prosperity Committee is a joint committee of local authorities. Its terms of reference do not allow for formal co-options. Feedback from Government departments suggests that business and third sector participation in decisions delegated to the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee will need to be secured, particularly in relation to any decisions on EU / Local Growth funds that are delegated to the Committee.			
Exempt information: None			
Recommendation(s):			
1 That Committee approves one of the options put forward in this report for securing business advisors to the Committee.			
2 That Committee approves that Networking Action for Voluntary Organisations (NAVO) be asked to nominate a third sector advisor to the Committee.			

1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

The N2 Economic Prosperity Committee has been established as a Joint Committee of local authorities. Co-options are not possible according to the terms of reference. Government feedback (from DCLG and BIS) suggests that business and third sector input into the work of the Committee should be secured.

2 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

The N2 Economic Prosperity Committee forms part of the decision-making governance for the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and as such will have an important role to play in terms of prioritising investment in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire through funding sources such as the EU Structural Investment Fund (EU-SIF) and Single Local Growth Fund (SLGF). Due to constitutional constraints, the Committee cannot formally co-opt representatives of the wider stakeholder and partner community. Given the nature and scope of decision-making that the Committee will undertake, it is felt necessary to seek advisory support from the business and third sectors. This will also ensure compliance with DCLG and BIS requirements for transparency and openness in decision-making.

Nottinghamshire's Chief Executives considered the requirement for business representation at their meeting on 31st January 2014. Three options were proposed (note: maximum of two business advisors envisaged):

- (a) Representative model – request a nominated advisor from the Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses or Nottingham Growth Board and Nottinghamshire Business Engagement Group;
- (b) D2N2 model – propose that existing D2N2 Board members representing the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire business community (Trevor Fletcher and Peter Gadsby) be invited as advisors to the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee, or nominate one business representative each;
- (c) Selective model – Committee Members to consider and nominate a business leader from their networks who could be invited to act as advisor to the Committee. Further consideration of a short-list would be required with this option.

In terms of third sector representation, the Economic Prosperity Working Group recommends that Networking Action for Voluntary Organisations (NAVO) be asked to nominate one advisor to the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee.

It should be noted that none of the advisors to the Committee will have a voting role, as this would not be consistent with the terms of reference for the Committee.

Wider linkages to the Nottingham Growth Board, Nottinghamshire Business Engagement Group, local business clubs and developer fora will also need to be explored in the context of the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee. A further report on this will be brought to the next meeting of the Committee.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

None – options are outlined above.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

Financial implications to be determined based upon which of the recommendation the EPC agrees.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

None.

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

None.

7 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or

X

decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)

(b) No

(c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in any attached EIA.

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN WRITING THIS REPORT (NOT INCLUDING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS OR CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION)

None.

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN THIS REPORT

None.

11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT

None.