

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	2628
Author:	Robert Dixon
Department:	Development
Contact:	Robert Dixon (Job Title: Head of Business Growth and International Strategy, Email: robert.dixon@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 64907)
Subject:	Invest in D2N2 Nottingham City as Accountable Body
Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):	Yes
Total Value:	£2,083,490 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	Approve Nottingham City Council taking on the Accountable Body role for the D2N2 wide "Invest in D2N2" ERDF bid, to DCLG. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director Economy to negotiate and enter into a funding agreement with DCLG and contracts with the City Council's delivery partners described in this report. To appoint a Project Co-ordinator within Development and Growth for the 3 year period of the project (non-executive decision).

Reasons for the Decision(s) DD 2459 approved £0.375m spend over three years on a project with Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. This decision is to enable the Council to take on Accountable Body role alongside its partnership role with the work and outputs being delivered by a variety of partners - Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, Marketing Derby, Destination Chesterfield and Derbyshire Enterprise Partnership. Being Accountable Body the Council will take on overall responsibility for the project, with key outputs being delivered by partners. The separate partners have been working on separate bids with D2N2/DCLG. However, as private limited companies with limited balance sheets, DCLG would not approve them as separate bids. Nottingham City Council has experience in delivering ERDF projects and ensuring compliance and delivery. As a partner of the project already, Nottingham City Council benefits from the project, so acting as Accountable Body helps secure the income from the funding, and ensures best practice across the ERDF bids currently being managed by the Council. The Project Co-ordinator post within Development and Growth will undertake the administration and monitoring required for the bid and the Accountable Body role to ensure that all appropriate information and records are kept. This post will be funded from within the £2,083,491 budget for the project, which is made up from ERDF funding and match funding from partners.

That funding is no longer required and the Council is not contributing any match funding.

Other Options Considered: Not submitting a bid - rejected as the Council benefits from the financial support and economic benefits of the project
Finding another lead partner who could take on the responsibility - rejected as other existing partners did not have the experience that Nottingham City Council has, and inviting a third party in at this stage would delay the bid and risk not securing funding.

Background Papers: None

Published Works: DD2459 - Submission of final European Structural and Investment Funds bids for SME Competitiveness and Innovation Programmes and approval of NCC funding 11/05/2016

Affected Wards: Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests: None

Consultations: Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

Crime and Disorder Implications: No crime and disorder implications foreseen

Equality: EIA not required. Reasons: Decision does not relate to new policy or service

Relates to staffing:	Yes
Decision Type:	Leader's Key Decision
Subject to Call In:	Yes
Call In Expiry date:	21/10/2016
Advice Sought:	Legal, Finance, Human Resources
Legal Advice:	To take on the accountable body role for this project the City will sign an agreement with the DCLG setting out its responsibilities. That agreement is likely to make the City responsible for its chosen delivery partners. The City should have contracts with its delivery partners to ensure it can hold them to account and comply with the terms of the agreement with DCLG. The appointment of the 1FTE should be based on merit and follow the advice from the City's HR team. Advice provided by Andrew James (Team Leader Contracts and Commercial) on 03/10/2016.
Finance Advice:	Advice contained in attached document Advice provided by Susan Tytherleigh (Senior Finance Manager) on 30/09/2016. Advice documents: D2N2 Accountable Body budget for DDM latest.docx
HR Advice:	The appointment of the 1 FTE staff should be in line with Nottingham City Council's recruitment policy. Advice provided by Saema Mohammad (Service Redesign Consultant) on 29/09/2016.
Signatures:	Jon Collins (Leader of the Council) SIGNED and Dated: 11/10/2016 David Bishop (Deputy CE, CD for Development and Growth) SIGNED and Dated: 10/10/2016