

Decision under Delegated Powers

Officer Requesting Decision

Paul Gilding, Principal Planning Officer

Officer Making the Decision

Richard Bennett, Head of Planning and Regeneration

Recommendation

That approval is given to enter into a Partnering Agreement, executed as a deed, with Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and the district authority partners with a commitment of £5,406 towards the commissioning of consultants.

Reason

To define the terms and conditions for the joint procurement and funding of a consultancy to undertake a study into the strategic distribution sector in Leicester and Leicestershire to inform the development of an overall strategy and future policy responses.

Authority for Decision

Under the provisions of section 8.2 of the Constitution, the Head of Service has delegated authority to sign contracts up to a value of £50,000 entered into on behalf of the Council in the course of the discharge of a Council function.

Decision and Date

09/12/19



Background

Since 2012 the Leicestershire local planning authorities have commissioned a number of studies on the warehousing and logistics sector. These have provided a better understanding of the sector; confirmed its strategic nature and importance; identified future minimum need; and, recommended a strategy to enable this to be met. Development completions and pipeline supply to 2031 within the area currently exceeds the minimum forecast requirement; however, speculative applications and industry demand remains high.

The aim of this study is to underpin a collaborative approach to the sector, taking account of the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth. This will inform the preparation of Local Plans at an early stage and provide the evidence needed to determine how and to what extent logistics and

associated freight infrastructure needs to grow and change to 2041 and in the longer term to 2050, to ensure that barriers are removed and provision is optimally and sustainably planned.

The study will support the transition to a proactive place-shaping approach to planning for the logistics sector that plans soundly and objectively for sufficient growth, removes barriers, manages and mitigates the effects of change, and facilitates innovation.

The Partnering Agreement has been checked by Legal Services and is considered legally sound.

Comments from HR

The report has no HR implications

Financial Implications

The total estimated costs of the commission will run to a maximum £50,000 with a maximum £5,406 being apportioned to Charnwood Borough Council, as set out in schedule 3 to the Partnering Agreement. The costs will be met from existing budget.

Risk Management

No specific risks have been identified with this report.

Key Decision:

No

Background Papers:

Draft Partnering Agreement
(Harborough District Council)