

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

01 December 2014

Report of the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health

Part 1- Public

Matters For Information

1 LOCAL GROWTH FUND PROJECTS

Summary

This report provides an update on the awards via the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) Strategic Economic Plan (SEP).

1.1 Funding for Transport Schemes

- 1.1.1 In July 2014 awards made to each of the 39 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in England were announced. The **Tonbridge town centre regeneration scheme** was awarded a share of the Government's Single Local Growth Fund (SLGF) allocation of £2.37 million. It should be noted that receipt of the SLGF award of £2.37 million is subject to the scheme business case being accepted by the LEP. KCC will be leading the implementation of this project as Highway Authority but the Borough Council will of course maintain a strong input, continuing the partnership approach we have adopted for the scheme. At the time of writing this report it is understood that the project may have to be completed by March 2016 but as soon as a programme is formed further advice will be provided to Members. This is likely to include a further briefing session for local Members in advance of any agreed public engagement.
- 1.1.2 In addition to this there are funding streams for West Kent available through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF). This funding totalling £4.5m (but subject to additional match funding) is available for the West Kent Authorities of Tonbridge & Malling, Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells together with Maidstone Borough Council (for the purpose of this award) between 2015 and 2021. Meetings are being held at a senior level between each authority and KCC to coordinate how this money should be allocated to ensure we deliver some high-impact schemes with clear objectives.
- 1.1.3 TMBC are likely to be looking for funding to support improvements to the bus, car and pedestrian interface at some of our key railway stations. Southeastern is currently developing plans for some improvements to the facilities for buses, pedestrians and cyclists serving **Snodland station** together with additional parking. Although Southeastern have access to some funding streams a contribution from the LSTF would ensure we achieve prompt delivery of a quality

scheme here which would support the “High Speed” service stopping at Snodland in the New Year. We are also in contact with the bus operators to try and ensure that appropriate bus links are provided to the station to meet the High Speed trains which should, hopefully, minimise any on-street parking problems which might materialise should this service prove popular with commuters travelling from further afield. We are also looking to bring forward some proposals for improvements at **Tonbridge station** and possibly another station location depending on the final availability of funding and the deliverability of projects.

1.2 Junction 4 of the M20

1.2.1 This is also the subject of an award from the Single Local Growth Fund. £2.19m has been allocated pending approval of the business case. With ‘match’ contribution of £2.25m the total amount expected for the scheme is £4.5m. The scheme will be progressed by the KCC Major Projects team with a start date programmed for March 2016.

1.3 Legal Implications

1.3.1 None

1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.4.1 None directly for the Borough Council

1.5 Risk Assessment

1.5.1 Not required.

1.6 Policy Considerations

1.6.1 Community

Background papers:

contact: Mike O’Brien

Nil

Steve Humphrey
Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health