

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet Member - Technical Services
Cabinet

DATE: 20th January 2010
27th January 2010
4th February 2010

SUBJECT: Funding Opportunities – Progress Report 3

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Alan Moore, Strategic Director Communities

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi 3447
Stuart Waldron 4006

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To inform Members of the progress made with regard to Expressions of Interest submitted for funding, and provide an update of further external funding opportunities.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To comply with standard portfolio reporting procedures and to seek endorsement of the Expressions of Interest submitted to date.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:-

Cabinet Member for Regeneration:-

- Endorse the submission of Expressions of Interest as shown in Annex A of this report,

Cabinet Member for Technical Services, and Cabinet :-

- Note the report

KEY DECISION: NO

FORWARD PLAN: NO

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately after the call in period

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

There are only limited opportunities to secure external funding to deliver Sefton Council projects, particularly under the current European funded North West Operational Plan. Failure to respond to bidding opportunities would either prolong the time taken to deliver these projects, and or in the worse case scenario may not happen at all.

IMPLICATIONS:**Budget/Policy Framework:**

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources:-				
Sefton LTP				
Section 106 Money				
Specific Capital Resources:- ERDF RDA				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS:-

FD 2 THE FINANCE DIRECTOR HAS BEEN CONSULTED AND HIS COMMENTS HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED INTO THIS REPORT

Legal,
Technical Services

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	/		
2	Creating Safe Communities	/		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	/		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	/		
5	Environmental Sustainability	/		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	/		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	/		
8	Children and Young People	/		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Cabinet Report entitle 'Funding Opportunities Progress Report 2' dated 30th September 2009

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet Member (Regeneration), the Cabinet and the Cabinet Member (Technical Services), at their meetings on 23rd September, 30th September and 2nd October 2009 respectively considered a report entitled 'Funding Opportunities – Progress Report 2'. The report provided information on current funding opportunities, and sought Members endorsement on those Expressions of Interest submitted.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on previously submitted Expressions of Interest, seeks endorsement of Expressions of Interest/Concept Forms submitted since then (please see Annex A), and provides information on funding opportunities that have arisen since the previous report, (please see Annex B).

2.0 RDA/ERDF Public Realm Projects

- 2.1 Members may recall the Dunningbridge Road Corridor scheme was approved for more detailed designed and costing by the RDA. Further report will be presented when RDA funding has been secured to include the scheme in Council's Capital Programme for 2010/11. The total cost of the scheme is £1.2 million, of which RDA will be funding £800,000, with the balance coming from Sefton LTP (£100,000) and Section 106 money (£300,00).

3.0 Action Area 4.3 – Development of Sites

- 3.1 Regrettably the RDA has approved none of the three external projects submitted under these measures. In the case of TREND, this project passed the Expression of Interest hurdle, but due to the applicant seeking revenue support, it was turned down. With regard to SAFE Production Ltd the applicant was relying on securing a site on Canal Street, Bootle, but was unsuccessful. Alternative sites are being explored, but due time constraints it is unlikely that this project would be implemented.

Applicant	Scheme	Total Cost	Contributions From:-		Current Status
			ERDF	Applicant's Own	
South Sefton Development Trust	To fit out workspace for social enterprise	£100,000	£45,000	£55,000	Unsuccessful
TREND	Start-up workshops	£200,000	£90,000	£110,000	Unsuccessful at concept stage
SAFE Productions Ltd	26 new Start-up Units	£1,000,000	£450,000	£550,000	Unable secure a site

4.0 Action Areas 3.2 & 4.3 – Land Remediation and Site Servicing

- 4.1 Of the three Expressions of Interests submitted under these action areas, the RDA is only supporting the Demolition of Balliol House scheme. The Demolition of Balliol House scheme is currently progressing to Concept stage, and when this is approved further report will presented in the near future. In addition

officers are currently exploring alternative funding from the Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme 2010/11 for Southport Commerce Park.

Applicant	Scheme	Total Cost	Contributions From:-			Current Status
			RDA/ERDF	Sefton	Others	
Sefton Council	Peerless Site, Bootle	£12,500,000	£12,500,000	-	-	Not supported
Sefton Council	Demolition of Balliol House	£1,415,000	£707,500	£707,500	-	Moved to Concept Stage
Sefton Council	Southport Commerce Park	£2,375,858	£1,101,858	£1,074,000	£200,000	Not supported

5.0 Action Area 1.2

5.1 A very speculative Expression of Interest was submitted on 10th August 2009 as per the RDA's deadline for this Action Area. The aim of this project was to deliver targeted specialist support to rural food producing businesses and supply chains, to service the hospitality sector in Southport. Whilst the RDA liked the bid unfortunately it was not approved as the activities contained in the proposal were only targeted at Sefton, and not sub-regionally. However discussions are taking place with Food NW, whose bid was approved, and they would like to explore the opportunity of including Sefton's proposals in their delivery plan.

6.0 Action Area 1.3

6.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 17th December 2009 agreed to the submission of a sub-regional project under this action area, for which Sefton Council will be the accountable body. The aim of this some £22.8 million 'REECH' project is to directly stimulate the market for low carbon and environmental technologies and renewable energies via their application within existing social and low income housing. The initial Expression of Interest was approved by the RDA, and officers from the five local authorities, plus Halton, and representatives from TMP, RSLs, will be submitting the concept form by 29th January 2010 deadline.

7.0 Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010-2012

7.1 The Cabinet at the same meeting on 17th December 2009 also agreed to Sefton Council supporting Formby Parish Council in the development, and submission of a £500,000 bid under the Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010-2012 Programme. I am pleased to report that the bid was submitted on 29th December 2009, and the first stage decision is expected on 18th January 2010.

8.0 The Big Lottery

8.1 The Frank Hornby Trust has engaged consultants to develop a Stage 1 bid for Heritage Lottery Grant. The Trust is seeking some £200,000 for fit out costs for the Frank Hornby Centre at Maghull Leisure Centre, and the Stage 1 bid will need to be submitted by 28th February 2010 deadline.

9.0 Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

9.1 Through the work being carried out by the Altside Business Village Partnership, a developer is proposing to submit a Planning application in January 2010 for the development of a Marina in Lydiate. Discussions have been held between Sefton officers, representatives from the RDPE for Merseyside and the developer, and it is likely that RDPE would be prepared to consider providing significant financial support for this project. Officers are also looking at other funding opportunities under this Programme.

10.0 Rural Strategy and an Action Plan for Merseyside

10.1 A presentation was given at Bootle Town Hall in December 2009 by consultants 'Rural Innovation' on the final draft of the Rural Strategy. Further meeting will be convened early this year with a range of interested public and private sector organisations in order to develop Action Plans for each of the district. Members may recall that the RDA has given an undertaking to financially support these action plans.

11.0 Financial Implications

11.1 The Dunningbridge Road Corridor project is likely to be approved soon by the RDA, and one of the conditions is likely to be the need to complete the scheme before December 2010. The cost of the scheme is being met from the following:-

• ERDF	= £600,000
• RDA	= £200,000
• Section 106	= £300,000
• <u>Sefton LTP</u>	<u>= £100,000</u>
Total	= £1,200,000

ANNEX B

CURRENT FUNDNG OPPORTUNTIES

Funding Name	Funding Body	Amount Available	Deadline for EOI Submission	Date by which project must start	Date by which project must finish	Key Criteria
Rural Development Programme	National/European Grant	Total Budget for the sub-region £2m	On going	ASAP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range Interventions, including Farm diversification, Rural tourism, supporting rural economy, access etc.
Heritage Grants	Big Lottery	£50,000 to over £5m	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance nation's diverse heritage • To encourage more people to be involved in their heritage
Future Jobs Fund	Dept. for Works and Pensions	£1.0 billion	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create 150,000 new jobs • Looking for Partnership bids • Must be linked to locally agreed work and skills strategies

Access To Nature	Big Lottery	Total Budget £25m, and grants available between £50,000, and £500,000 (Can be more if project nationally significant) Intervention rate between 70% and 90%	Stage 1 closes 1 st February 2010, and stage 2 closes 4 th May 2010	N/A	N/A	Access to Nature aims to encourage more people to enjoy the outdoors, particularly those who face social exclusion or those that currently have little or no contact with the natural environment - perhaps because they lack the confidence to get out and enjoy natural places or have few opportunities to do so.
Arts in Empty Spaces	Arts Council England	Total Budget £500,000	Starts from 1 st April 2010	N/A	N/A	Priority given to those local authorities in receipt of Empty Shops Revival Fund, which Sefton is.
Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme 2010/11	DEFRA	Yet to be determined		April 2010	March 2011.	fund intrusive investigation projects on land which is potentially contaminated, and remediation projects on sites which are contaminated. Money paid under the Programme is for capital expenditure. The Programme exists to help authorities carry out duties under contaminated land legislation (Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990).

E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund	E.ON	£20,000	Any time	N/A	N/A	<p>Grants of up to £20,000 to community groups and not for profit for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the purchase and installation of one or more renewable energy technologies (e.g. wind, solar thermal, PV, wood etc) <input type="checkbox"/> the renovation of existing facilities to incorporate micro-generation technology (e.g. the reinstatement of a watermill and the purchase of a turbine to produce hydro-electricity) <input type="checkbox"/> an energy efficiency makeover for building that could demonstrate significant energy savings and also behavioural change amongst users <input type="checkbox"/> the use of new or innovative technology to deliver either energy savings or micro-generation capacity. <p>To be eligible for support from the Sustainable Energy Fund, organisations must benefit specific groups namely: Education, vulnerable people; and people in fuel poverty.</p>
------------------------------	------	---------	----------	-----	-----	---

European Commission and European Investment Bank launch European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA) facility	European Local Energy Assistance Grant (UK)	€15 million grant aid	Any time			The European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB), the bank of the EU Member States, have launched a grant aid initiative to help local and regional authorities make investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The ELENA facility aims at helping cities and regions implement viable investment projects in the areas of energy efficiency; renewable energy sources and sustainable urban transport