

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....21st January 2021

1. Title of Item/Report

Indigenous Growth Fund Update

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet were provided with an update on the Tees Valley Indigenous Growth Fund (IGF) along with a proposed IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme to stimulate inward investment, support economic growth, and be a catalyst for job creation across the Borough using the IGF that the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA) had allocated to the Council.

The TVCA Investment Plan allocated £50m to the IGF, a programme developed to support the Strategic Economic Plan objective to develop 'Place' through area regeneration in support of economic growth. The fund provided capital support to the five Local Authorities for a range of interventions including:

- remediation/regeneration of vacant and derelict land and property;
- public realm initiatives aimed at creating vibrant town centres;
- strategic housing initiatives aimed at creating vibrant town centres;
- investment specialist culture and tourism accommodation
- investment in the provision of specialist (sector specific) business accommodation and fit-out.
- Operating costs for discrete programmes designed to support associated capital expenditure.

A Programme Business Case had been approved by TVCA Cabinet and the five Local Authorities were now developing proposals for individual projects.

For Stockton, our aim was to support people and encourage business growth as well as public and private investment that further strengthened the performance of Stockton-on-Tees as a thriving and productive Borough. This is fuelled by the Borough's key employment locations such as Wynyard Business Park, Durham Lane and Teesside Industrial Estates and Belasis Business Park as well as the major industrial areas of North Tees and Seal Sands each home to major international business specialising in petro-chemicals, energy, biotechnologies and advanced

manufacturing. Alongside these specialist business incubation facilities such as Fusion Hive on North Shore serve the emerging digital and creative sector.

The report set out the opportunities for investment across a number of activities and outlined the next steps including some early inward investment opportunities.

Approval from Cabinet was sought for the activities identified within the IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme, and for the forward funding of highway infrastructure works to support an inward investment opportunity within the Borough.

In addition and as part of this programme of initiatives, the Council had been approached regarding an inward investment opportunity within the Borough that had the potential to create circa 300 jobs. To unlock this strategic employment land there was a need to forward fund £2.25m of highway junction improvements, the details of which were summarised.

RESOLVED that:-

1. Cabinet approve the IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme and note the the allocation of resources from the Indigenous Growth Fund.
2. Cabinet approve the forward funding of £2.25m highway junction improvements as part of the IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme with a condition that a proportion of that forward fund is recovered through planning S106 contributions for the site.
3. Cabinet delegate authority to the Director of Finance, Development and Business Services in consultation with the Leader of the Council for expenditure of the Indigenous Growth Fund for interventions identified in the 'Programme' up to £1m in value.
4. Cabinet note that individual interventions identified in 'Programme' over £1m in value and in addition to recommendation 2, will be brought back to future Cabinet meetings for approval.

### 3. Reasons for the Decision

To provide Members with an update on the Tees Valley Indigenous Growth Fund (IGF) and an overview of the proposed IGF Strategic Initiatives Programme.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected  
None
5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest  
None
6. Details of any Dispensations  
N/A
7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed  
Midnight - Friday 29th January 2021

Proper Officer  
25 January 2021