

Appendix 12 – Local Growth Fund programme (update 2.11.18)

1.1 Growth Deals under the Local Growth Fund (LGF) programme provide funds to local enterprise partnerships or LEPs (partnerships between local authorities and businesses) for projects that benefit the local area and economy. The first wave of Growth Deals was announced on 7 July 2014.

1.2 Hartlepool Borough Council is part of the new Tees Valley Combined Authority that was previously the Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU) LEP. Hartlepool is part of this along with Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Darlington Borough Councils. Following the Local Growth Fund announcement in 2014 a programme of access improvements was put together for Tees Valley under the project title of 'Sustainable Access to Employment'. The bid in late 2014 eventually received £8.3m of LGF support for a 4-year programme lasting from 2016/17 to 2019/20.

1.3 Following a review of the Sustainable Access to Employment programme in late 2015 it was decided that a detailed process of due diligence should be undertaken. The aim of the due diligence process is to assess the strategic, economic, commercial, financial, management and legal business case. This is being carried out in two stages, firstly for the whole Tees Valley Sustainable Access to Employment programme and secondly for each individual project that make up the programme. It is proposed that the project due diligence will be carried out on an annual basis considering only those projects that are to be implemented in the following year.

1.4 The nature of implementing a programme of this complexity combined with the need to review all project ideas under the due diligence process highlighted merit in adding to the overall LGF project 'long list'. Additional project ideas for Hartlepool for the LGF programme were therefore submitted in January 2016. It should be stressed that this is only a wish list and that the current Tees Valley programme is significantly oversubscribed. The projects on the 'long list' are also at an early stage of development. This does mean that logistics such as obtaining landowner permission, establishing rights of access, obtaining planning permission and construction limitations are still to be considered and may result in some projects not being advanced.

1.5 The key vision for the Sustainable Access to Employment Programme is;

To develop Tees Valley as a high value, low-carbon economy which thrives on diversity and inclusivity and where employment opportunities are open to all residents. In order for this to happen, sustainable access to employment is an essential ingredient and physical barriers to work, such as lacking a car or poor public transport links, need to be overcome.

1.6 Projects have been organised against three key themes. These are;

- Access from housing developments
- Inter urban / rural links
- Access to employment and Town Centres

1.7 The current list of LGF projects for Hartlepool include those projects that formed the basis of the original bid in 2014 combined with potential ideas added in 2016 and 2017. It should be stressed that at the current time no project is guaranteed funding and much will depend on the project due diligence process. The projects that formed part of the original bid in 2014 were;

Project year for implementation	Project reference	Project description	Current status
2016/17	TV7	A689 Cycleway – phase 1	<i>Completed May 2017</i>
2016/17	TV8	Access to Oaksway	<i>Completed May 2017</i>
2017/18	TV10	Southern business zone access	<i>Not being advanced due to potential cost and logistics issues</i>
2018/19	TV32	Hartlepool Town Centre and Marina Sustainable Access Improvements	<i>Following developments this scheme is no longer considered relevant in its current form</i>

1.8 The additional projects added in 2016 and 2017 are;

Project year for implementation	Project reference	Project description	Current status
2017/18	TV48	Oaksway to NCN 14	<i>Not being advanced for this programme</i>
2017/18	TV49	Brenda Road cycle lanes upgrade	<i>Completed May 2018</i>
2017/18	TV52	A689 cycleway (phase 1)	<i>On reserve list for this programme but unlikely to be advanced</i>
2018/19	TV46	Tees Road cycleway from Old Zinc Road to Borough boundary	<i>Not being advanced due to cost and logistics issues. Options for future being considered with Stockton BC</i>
2018/19	TV47	Bishop Cuthbert northern, eastern and southern links	<i>In design for planned implementation in 2019. Other routes in immediate area are also being considered.</i>
2018/19	TV55	NCN14 resurfacing near to Cowpen Bewley	<i>Passed Due Diligence assessment for implementation in late 2018/ early 2019</i>
2019/20	TV50	Tees Road cycleway	<i>Not being advanced for this programme</i>
2019/20	TV51	A689 Stockton Road to Brenda Road	<i>In design for planned implementation in 2019</i>

2019/20	TV52	A689 cycleway (phase 2)	<i>On reserve list for this programme but unlikely to be advanced</i>
2019/20	TV53	Hart Lane walkway/cycleway from Hart to Throston	<i>Not being advanced for this programme</i>
2019/20	TV54	A689 Cycleway/walkway from Brenda Road roundabout to Burn Road roundabout	<i>In design for planned implementation in 2019/20</i>

1.9 There are also schemes that are being advanced by Stockton Borough Council as part of their LGF programme that have relevance to Hartlepool. These include; Billingham/Belasis Enterprise Zone links; Walkway/Cycleway from Port Clarence to Greatham Beck and pedestrian/cyclist bridge over the A689 at Wynyard. These schemes will link to proposals being advanced in Hartlepool.