

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 4th JUNE 2009

EX6 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DARESBUY SCIENCE AND INNOVATION CAMPUS JOINT VENTURE

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Environment on the establishment of the Daresbury Science and innovation Campus Joint Venture.

The report explained that over the last several years Halton Borough Council had worked with a number of partners to deliver a major international science based campus at Daresbury, building on the presence of the established Laboratory. To move delivery forward, it had been concluded that this could best be achieved by the establishment of a joint venture company. This report set out process for the formation of a joint venture company and the implications for the Council.

An amendment to recommendation 2.1 (ii) of the report was tabled at the meeting and noted as below as (2).

RESOLVED: That

- 1) The principle of the joint venture as set out in this report be supported;
- 2) The Council's land ownership at Daresbury Firs is included in the joint venture subject to its continuing in its existing use, unless otherwise agreed by this Council;
- 3) The Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services be authorised to take any necessary action to establish the joint venture; and
- 4) The Strategic Director, Environment, in consultation with the Operational Director, Legal Services be authorised to take such action in relation to the use or disposal of land at Daresbury Firs as may be necessary to give effect to the Joint venture.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD 16TH JULY 2009

EXB28 BSF OUTLINE BUSINESS PLAN

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Young People which provided a summary of the peer assessment undertaken on the BSF Outline Business Case (OBC), the outcome of the assessment.

The Board was advised that the MRA meeting praised Halton for the level of stakeholder engagement in the process, the quality of the BSF Outline Business Case, and responsiveness of the Council to any queries and clarifications they had raised. They confirmed their approval for Halton's Outline Business Case subject to the following three technical conditions:

- HM Treasury approval;
- Confirmation by The Council Executive Board of the Council's commitment to post LEP costs; and,
- The approval of the statutory consultation on the "Grange Schools" (Nursery, Infant, Junior and Comprehensive) before the end of September 2009.

The Board was further advised that HM Treasury approval had subsequently been confirmed. On 24 September 2009, the Executive Board would be asked to make a decision on the outcome of the statutory consultation to close The Grange Nursery, Infant and Junior Schools; change the age range of The Grange Comprehensive from 3-16 years (offering 0-16 provision with support from the day care service) and enlarging the school so that it becomes The Grange School.

In addition, approval was sought to confirm the Local Education Partnership (LEP) funding post, thus ensuring all the conditions set by the MRA meeting as listed in 3.4 of the report had been met.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the requirements of the Outline Business Case as set out in the report be approved;
- (2) the Council continues to monitor BSF programme costs closely, making agreed funding available to ensure the effective delivery of the Programme within the expected timescales; and
- (3) Following the establishment of the Local Education Partnership

(LEP) the internal project costs estimated at £300,000 will continue to be committed by the Council during both construction and post construction phase to ensure contract monitoring and support functions can be maintained.

EXB22 WIDNES WATERFRONT PHASE 2 MASTERPLAN FRAMEWORK & DELIVERY STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment that sought approval and adoption of the Masterplan Framework and Delivery Strategy for the Widnes Waterfront, which had been prepared in partnership with the Council by consultants Taylor Young supported by the BE Group and Faber Maunsell.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Widnes Waterfront Masterplan Framework and Delivery Strategy Phase 2 undertaken by Taylor Young for Halton Borough Council be endorsed; and
- (2) the Strategic Director for Environment, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Planning, Transportation and Development, be authorised to develop and deliver the Masterplan Framework in consultation with landowners, business's, developers and grant aid bodies.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB MEETING HELD 16TH JULY 2009

ES11 REGIONAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment which sought authority for Halton Borough Council to become the managing agent for the North West Development Agency Regional Enterprise Programme for Halton.

The Board was advised that in the two years since Enterprising Halton had been launched the programme had dealt with 890 start-up enquiries, assisted 172 new business start-ups which had created an additional 134 jobs over and above the business owners. Fifteen new businesses had also registered for VAT.

RESOLVED: That Authority be given for Halton Borough Council to become the managing agent for the North West Development Agency Business

Start Up programme within Halton.

