

Economy Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 20 September 2016

Edinburgh BioQuarter

Item number	7.2
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

Executive Summary

The City of Edinburgh Council is a partner in the Edinburgh BioQuarter along with NHS Lothian, the University of Edinburgh and Scottish Enterprise. The partners have agreed to appoint a programme team to support the delivery of the next stage of this life sciences campus. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Council's financial contribution to the programme team.

Links

Coalition Pledges	P15
Council Priorities	CP5 , CP8 , CP11 , CP12
Single Outcome Agreement	SO1

Edinburgh BioQuarter

1. Recommendations

The Economy Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 Approve a Council contribution in principle of one quarter of the costs of the programme team, provided through in-kind and financial support, up to a maximum contribution of £563,000 over a five year period commencing 2016/17, in line with each partner's contribution. This funding to be met from the Economy Service revenue budget over the five year period.
- 1.2 Approve an annual contribution of one quarter of the programme team costs through in-kind and financial support from the Economy Service budget in 2016/17.
- 1.3 Approve, in principle, the Council's contribution for 2017/18 from the Economy Service budget, subject to approval in the Council's budget in early 2017.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Economy Committee of 28 April 2016 approved new governance arrangements for the Edinburgh BioQuarter. The City of Edinburgh Council is a formal partner in this new structure, along with NHS Lothian, the University of Edinburgh and Scottish Enterprise. The Edinburgh BioQuarter Strategy Board has agreed to appoint a programme team to drive forward the ambitious plans for this life sciences campus. This is in addition to the substantial support provided on an in-kind basis by each of the partners in terms of the development of plots on site, and joint activities such as investment promotion.
- 2.2 The report to the Economy Committee of 28 April 2016 stated that there was no financial commitment arising from the Heads of Terms agreement and that any further financial commitment would be subject to agreement with the Executive Director and/or Committee as appropriate.

3. Main report

- 3.1 The report to the Economy Committee of 28 April 2016 provided details of the governance structure of the Edinburgh BioQuarter and the Heads of Terms for the Council's engagement in the partnership.

- 3.2 The Edinburgh BioQuarter Vision is to develop and promote the Edinburgh BioQuarter as a leading life sciences campus which drives innovation and delivers healthcare, research and economic benefits.
- 3.3 The Edinburgh BioQuarter Programme Team is being created to provide the critical skills and resources required to drive the development and implementation of a Business Plan which will align activity and investment from all Edinburgh BioQuarter partners and ensure successful delivery of shared strategic objectives. The Programme Team will comprise four people and will be led by an experienced Programme Director.
- 3.4 The Director is a critical senior management role with specific accountability for the strategic implementation of the next phase of delivery. This will include the development and delivery of a partnership wide business plan which will incorporate up to £400m of partnership infrastructure investment over the next five years. The role will include identifying private sector investment globally. The Programme Director will be regarded both internally and externally as the leader of Edinburgh BioQuarter and will play a key role in developing, influencing and maintaining a large number of key partner and stakeholder relationships around the common vision. Two further senior roles will cover collaboration on-site and with the local community, and marketing and business development to position the Edinburgh BioQuarter as a leading life science campus to attract research collaborations and investment. The final role will provide administrative support.
- 3.5 This report recommends the City of Edinburgh Council contributes one quarter of the funding for the Programme Team roles only.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 Companies investing in Edinburgh and creating new jobs within the city. Raising the profile of Edinburgh's life sciences strengths and global competitiveness.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 The maximum contribution is £563,000 over a five year period commencing 2016/17, in line with each partner's contribution.
- 5.2 This report recommends that City of Edinburgh Council contributes one quarter of the funding for the Programme Team for a period of up to five years.
- 5.3 Funding for year one, 2016/17 has been identified within the Economy Service budget. Indicative funding for year two, 2017/18 has also been identified from the Economy Service budget, (subject to approval in the Council budget in early 2017). Funding for the remaining years, up to a maximum of £563,000, will be approved annually in line with the Council's budget setting process and met from the Economy Service budget. This maximum figure of £563,000 includes a modest

contribution to the BioQuarter website / marketing (6%) and may be less depending on the date of the staff appointments, and in-kind desk and meeting space.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The Council's engagement in the Edinburgh BioQuarter is governed by the Heads of Terms approved by the Economy Committee on 28 April 2016.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 The Council's Economic Strategy was subject to a full Equality Impact Assessment.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 The City of Edinburgh Council determined (in consultation with Historic Scotland, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish National Heritage) that the Economic Strategy did not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 The Council works closely with partners and stakeholders to support the development of the Edinburgh BioQuarter.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 Not applicable.

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11. Links

Coalition Pledges P15 - Work with public organisations, the private sector and social enterprise to promote Edinburgh to investors

Council Priorities CP5 – Business growth and investment

**Single Outcome
Agreement
Appendices**

CP8 – Access to work and learning
CP11 – An accessible, connected city
CP12 – A built environment to match our ambition
SO1 - Edinburgh's Economy delivers increased investment, jobs
and opportunities for all
None