



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

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Report of Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme Manager.

Report to Inner West Leeds Area Committee.

Date: 17th February 2010.

Subject: Update on the Leeds Bradford Corridor. (LBC).

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| <p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Armley Bramley and Stanningley</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p> | <p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/></p> | |
| <p>Council Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call in Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p> |

Executive Summary.

Inner West Leeds is a strategically significant part of the LBC, because it forms the gateway into the wider Leeds Bradford Corridor. Therefore because of its location Inner West Leeds has been identified as a key area for regeneration and sustainable growth.

The Governance arrangements for the Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme Board highlights the importance of the Board to be overarching and strategic when it governs the programme. This will ensure that it does not duplicate the work of other important governance arrangements (such as the West Leeds Gateway Programme Board) and that it can influence wider strategic investment decisions in the Leeds City Region.

Purpose Of This Report.

To update the Inner West Leeds Area Committee of the progress made in setting up and delivering the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme of work.

Background Information.

The Leeds Bradford Corridor is a key component of the Leeds City Region because of its strategic location between two major cities who are working together to deliver sustainable growth. The Leeds Bradford Corridor programme will help deliver housing, transport, employment and green space projects in the area. It is anticipated that if key local projects (such as projects in Inner West Leeds) have an overall strategic direction then this will add

up to a bigger collaborative win over time for the Leeds Bradford Corridor and the Leeds City Region.

Main Issues.

What could this mean for Inner West Leeds?

Inner West Leeds needs to be part of a wider strategic programme of work (ie the Leeds Bradford Corridor) in order to attract resource and commitment to fund some of its key projects. Although the West Leeds Gateway and Fairfields were set up before the LBC programme started it was always anticipated that this area of Leeds would have to fit into a larger programme to attract resource and commitment.

In order to deliver a strategic programme of work there needs to be a strong narrative so people understand what the Leeds Bradford Corridor is aiming to do, and will demonstrate how the individual projects complement each other to produce added value. A draft Strategic Framework has been prepared that starts to provide this narrative.

The draft Strategic Framework has four strategic themes. (housing, transport, employment and green space). A revised map has also been drafted and is enclosed with this paper. The map helps Members to understand how Inner West Leeds fits into the wider strategic setting of the Leeds Bradford Corridor.

Over the lifetime of the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme Inner West Leeds will benefit from projects being delivered under each strategic theme where appropriate. In Inner West Leeds a substantial amount of these projects already fit under the West Leeds Area Gateway programme and the housing scheme at Fairfields.

West Leeds Gateway.

The West Leeds Area Gateway has projects which are covered by the Leeds Bradford Strategic themes of housing, employment and transport. The future delivery of these projects relies on their inclusion as part of the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme. This will enable the gateway to benefit from increased visibility to regional stakeholders giving it a greater opportunity to attract resource and commitment. The West Leeds Gateway is a key neighbourhood and it mirrors the Laisterdyke/Barkerend neighbourhood of Bradford. As the two neighbourhoods develop they will become key components of the future development of the Leeds Bradford Corridor.

Fairfields

Fairfields is a key housing project and is funded through the award of £20m of Northern Challenge National Affordable Housing Programme. This project and subsequent projects will now benefit from the recognition that it now forms part of the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme;

Transport

As the Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme is developed it is anticipated that transport projects will become more prominent and this will benefit Inner West Leeds. These projects have yet being defined in detail but there will be a greater emphasis on encouraging people to use sustainable uses of transport, improving public transport and linking new transport links to housing developments.

Employment

This is an important part of the Leeds Bradford Corridor and initiatives are likely to be focused on strengthening the entrepreneurial business culture in the area. Already in the West Leeds Area Gateway and in Bramley there are Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) supported projects. Where appropriate capital schemes will include training and local labour initiatives which will improve the employment prospects for local people.

The Governance arrangements for the Leeds Bradford Corridor.

The success of the Leeds Bradford Corridor relies on the strong collaborative relationship between the two councils, having a strong strategic footing with the Leeds City Region and having a deliverable programme of projects.

The Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme Board needs to have an overarching and strategic approach when governing the programme. It does not need to duplicate other governance arrangements in the Leeds Bradford Corridor.

The Chair of the Board is Cllr Adrian Naylor (Executive Member for Regeneration and Economy Portfolio – City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council (CBMDC), Vice Chair is Cllr A Carter (Lead Member for Development and Joint Leader– Leeds City Council) .and Cllr Richard Lewis (Deputy Leader of the Labour Group – Leeds City Council).

The Board membership reflects the type of projects that are to be delivered in the area. This resulted in key personnel from Yorkshire Forward, Homes and Communities Agency and Metro being invited onto the Board. The Board will have two high level officers from Bradford and Leeds. (one from each council).

The first Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme board meeting was held on the 11th November 2009. The draft Strategic Framework was endorsed as a working document. The terms of reference and communications plan were also agreed with amendments. The area committees in Leeds and Bradford as well as the individual governance boards (such as the West Leeds Gateway Board and the Holmewood Partnership in Bradford) are important components of the Leeds Bradford Corridor governance arrangements. These form part of the Leeds Bradford Corridor's wider stakeholder groups and will act as a sounding board for projects as they are developed. A governance structure is attached for information.

Implications For Council Policy and Governance.

The relationship between Leeds and Bradford councils is collaborative and is based on the recognition that the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme can only be delivered by joint working. The Board is a non constituted body whose members will ensure appropriate decisions are taken by their employing constitutions as necessary. Cllr A Carter is Joint Leader of Leeds City Council and Executive Member for Development and acts as vice chair on the Leeds Bradford Corridor Programme Board.

Legal and Resource Implications.

None.

Conclusions.

Inner West Leeds will continue to play an increasingly strategic role in the Corridor and the wider City Region over the lifetime of the Leeds Bradford Corridor programme.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and make any comments.

Background Papers

None.