

ALLOCATION AND SPENDING OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR GROWTH

To: **Joint Strategic Growth Implementation Committee**

Date: **17th October 2007**

From: **Senior Officer Board**

Purpose: **This paper sets out progress with the spending of additional funds secured for growth in the major development sites.**

Recommendation: **JSGIC is recommended to:**

- **Note progress with spending the additional £1.4m grant and the need to expedite implementation of agreed studies.**
- **Note the criteria for agreeing allocation of funding for studies for the remainder of the financial year.**

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Committee has endorsed the recruitment of additional posts, the costs of which would total £1.4M per year. However, as full year funding will not be required in 2007/08 due to the time taken by the recruitment process, significant funding is available for studies.
- 1.2 At the last meeting, the Committee endorsed resource allocations for Priority 1 projects and noted that the list of Priority 2 projects required further assessment. It was noted that officers will continue to monitor the budget through the Senior Officer Board and provide further reports to the Committee on progress on the use of these resources.

2. RECRUITMENT

A comprehensive recruitment campaign has commenced for the new posts.

3. PROGRESS

- 3.1 The Senior Officer Board is closely monitoring the budget process to ensure the available funds are fully committed. Temporary arrangements are being used as appropriate to cover vacancies.
- 3.2 It is proposed that further allocation of funds for studies will be based on the following criteria:
 - a. Directly related to delivering growth
 - b. Deliverability within timescale
 - c. Indicative costs provided
 - d. Details of other partners provided
 - e. Project management arrangements identified