

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	8
Date:	6th April 2009	Status	Open
Category	2. Decision within the functions of Executive		
Subject:	Representation on the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership.		
Report by:	Head of Regeneration		
Other Officers Involved			
Director	Director of Strategy		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Regeneration		

RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS

ENVIRONMENT – Promoting and enhancing a clear and sustainable environment.

REGENERATION – Developing healthy, prosperous and sustainable communities.

SOCIAL INCLUSION – Promoting fairness, equality and lifelong learning.

ENVIRONMENT – engagement with the DDEP will present new opportunities to delivery projects which will enhance and regenerate towns and villages across the District.

REGENERATION – DDEP’s management of the Single Programme funding for the foreseeable future will enable the development of new programmes to regenerate both the physical and social environment within local communities.

SOCIAL INCLUSION – engagement in to a well established sub-regional partnership and developed/developing programmes will contribute to alleviating the high levels of deprivation in existence across parts of the district.

TARGETS

EMDA's vision is that by 2020, the East Midlands will be a flourishing region - with growing and innovative businesses, skilled people in good quality jobs, participating in healthy, inclusive communities and living in thriving and attractive places. The vision will be measured using the 'Regional Index of Sustainable Economic Wellbeing', which EMDA have developed to measure progress towards their twin aims of sustainable economic growth and economic wellbeing; and the SSPs are regarded as a vitally important key to achieving that aim. By channeling funds through the SSPs, EMDA seeks to ensure that real improvements are made at a grass roots level.

A revised DDEP Sub-Regional Investment Plan will be completed in the coming months to take account of the priority activities for the North Eastern Derbyshire local authorities.

VALUE FOR MONEY

DDEP will have responsibility for the Single Programme monies on behalf of EMDA across the Bolsover district, from 1st April 2009 for an expected 12-month period. Representation on the partnership board will ensure Bolsover's priorities are recognised and that additional financial resources can be levered into the District in order to deliver projects which meet the Corporate Aims.

THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform members of the change in management and administrative responsibility for the Single Programme following the implementation of recommendations in the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR). The change will involve the management of the 'Single Programme' moving from the Alliance SSP to the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DDEP) for an interim period during the transition of the funding to Derbyshire County Council.

DDEP was formed in early 2001, when a shadow board of public and private sector representatives was set up with the aim of creating sustainable economic regeneration through partnership working. In December 2002, the Partnership was formally accredited by the East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA) as the Sub-Regional Strategic Partnership, SSP, for the region covering the City of Derby and the boroughs of Amber Valley, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash, High Peak and South Derbyshire. From 1st April 2009, this will be extended to include Bolsover, North East Derbyshire and Chesterfield, and will no longer include City of Derby.

The DDEP will consider projects that will encourage business, create jobs, promote equality and help build strong and sustainable communities. Generally, activities supported by the DDEP will fall within one of the three key themes below:

1. **Employment and Skills:** The DDEP seeks to ensure that people in the region can access the training and education they need, to provide such a pool of talent and know-how. It aims to break down barriers to learning, addressing issues of access to childcare, providing better information about opportunities, and offering advice and guidance.
2. **Business Support:** DDEP's challenge is to encourage local people to be entrepreneurial, and to provide assistance to fledgling and growing

businesses in the region. To make the best possible use of the latest technology, facilitating broadband Internet connections across the region, and offering training in ICT systems.

3. **Infrastructure:** The DDEP will seek to ensure that region develops and modern and sustainable infrastructure. Developments will be in keeping with the history and culture of the region, and must be in harmony with the environment - one of Derbyshire's key assets.

The DDEP was incorporated in August 2003. The company board currently has 19 directors and 2 observers. From 1st April 2009, the membership will be extended to include representatives of the three North Eastern Derbyshire local authorities, but will exclude City of Derby representation. Current membership is made up of:

Dr John Foxcroft (Chair)	Chair and Finance Director, Garrandale Ltd.
Richard Brown	Chief Executive Officer, Eurostar (UK)Ltd
Richard Horsley	Managing Director, QED Public Relations Ltd
Clive James	Building Products Director, Tarmac Ltd
Bill Preece	Managing Director, Otter Controls Ltd
Mick Brown	Area Director, Derbyshire LSC
George Cowcher	CEO, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber
Prof. John Coyne	Vice Chancellor, University of Derby
Mick Creedon	Chief Constable, Derbyshire Constabulary HQ
David Croll	Chief Executive and Principal, Derby College
Pete Edwards	Chief Executive, Erewash Voluntary Action CVS
Cllr. Geoff Carlile	(Vice Chair) Cabinet Member for Regeneration Derbyshire County Council
Cllr. Stephen Hayes	Cabinet Member for Regeneration Amber Valley BC
Cllr. Hilary Jones	Leader, Derby City Council
Cllr. Lewis Rose	Leader, Derbyshire Dales District Council
Cllr. Geoff Smith	Lead Member for Regeneration Erewash Borough Council
Cllr. Tony Kemp	Executive Member for Regeneration High Peak Borough Council
Cllr. Heather Wheeler	Leader, South Derbyshire District Council
Observers:	
Andrew Morgan	Director, Skills and Communities, EMDA
Marie Fitzgerald	Government Office for the East Midlands

DDEP has been able to attract significant private sector backing from major local employers such as Toyota, Tarmac and Eurostar, alongside representatives from the public sector, universities and education, and the voluntary and community sector.

All board members are Directors of the company. The Articles state, for public members, that they must be the Leader, Deputy Leader or senior politician of the Council with Cabinet responsibility for Economic Development.

ISSUES/OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

As stated above representation is from the Leader or Deputy Leader (who also is Portfolio Holder for Regeneration at present) at board meetings. Due to commitments across a range of groups and partnerships, it may be difficult have representation at every board meeting. On occasion, with prior notice and approval from the Chair, an observer may be sent to represent the member concerned, but will carry no voting rights.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Member's time in attending meetings
Legal: DDEP Board's Memorandum and Articles of Association agreed by the East Midlands Development Agency (EMDA) will have to be amended to include the representation of the three Districts, including Bolsover. The Leader / Deputy Leader will be covered through the Council's insurance whilst acting on behalf of the authority. The Head of Regeneration will ensure that legal services have sight of any documents or agreements that may commit the Council in terms of further staff time or financial resources.

Human Resources: None.

RECOMMENDATION that;

The Board Member on DDEP is the Leader, Deputy Leader or Cabinet Member for Regeneration - this is to be at the Leader's discretion.

REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION

To ensure the Council is represented on an important regeneration body.

ATTACHMENTS: N
FILE REFERENCE:
SOURCE DOCUMENT: