

South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership

Board Meeting 17th March 2005

Business Plan Update 2004/05

Agenda Item 10

Purpose of Report

To update partners on progress in relation to the 2004/05 Business Plan.

Background

The Partnership has been contracted by DDEP to deliver a number of projects originally submitted within a business plan to spend £150,000 of DDEP grant in the financial year 2004/05. The Council, acting as the Accountable body for the Partnership, has issued individual funding agreements to the lead partners of projects detailing financial and output targets based on their approved submissions.

As reported to the January Board meeting, due to the loss of the Swadlincote Regeneration Route project, approval was sought from DDEP to amend the original Business Plan. A request was approved for an increase in grant of £12,500 to the National Forest Business Grants project and a grant of £12,500 for a new project to start work on a tourist information facility at Sharpes Pottery. Details of project progress is outlined below:

Project Reports

West Street Redevelopment Phase 1: The latest formal site meeting confirmed that, minor omissions and additions notwithstanding, building work and project delivery remain on target. Advance payments to cover the remaining DDEP expenditure and grant from the Councils Community Partnerships scheme have been set up. The next invoice for works totaling £23,208 has been issued but not paid within the February claim period. It will therefore be added to the March claim.

Findern Access Centre: The builder started work on site in early February and has made good progress as documented through weekly site meetings. An advance payment in full has been made to the Parish council to cover cash flow and aid quick payment so in terms of DDEP spend the project is on target. The only reported issue is in relationship to amendments raised by the building inspector for items such as additional fire protection and emergency lighting that were not included in the original project plan and are therefore outside the current funding.

National Forest Business Grants: Expenditure related to the two grants at Catton Estate and Rosliston Forestry Centre is scheduled for early March.

The Grid: People Express have reported a number of positive outcomes from the project to date including several people moving on to further education. Course

participants have also given very positive feedback about the project. People Express is now looking to develop further arts based OCNs and have organized additional arts and project related events. The project is on target with spend.

Credit Union Outreach Services: Moneyspider Credit Union has secured all funding required and received an advance payment of DDEP grant. They have subsequently placed orders for hardware and software that will allow them to implement the project.

Tourism Information Point at Sharpes – Phase 1

Sharpes Trust have been give an advance payment of their element of the DDEP grant are in a position to order goods and services. Similarly the District Council are poised to deliver most of their elements of Phase 1 apart from the delivery and installation of the Destination Management system which will be delayed until April. The delay will not affect the DDEP element of project expenditure. The Council is also progressing plans for delivery of Phase 2 including commission of feasibility work through a consultant.

Recommendations

That the Board note progress in relation to the 2004/05 business plan.

Financial information (for claim period to Feb 22)

Project Name	Lead Agency	Total Project Spend	DDEP Grant	Total Forecast Spend To Feb 22	DDEP Forecast Spend To Feb 22	Actual DDEP Spend To Feb 22	Comment
West Street Redevelopment Phase 1	West Street Community Partnership	119,330	50,500	80,000	50,500	25,937	See Individual project Progress reports
Findern Access Centre	Findern Parish Rooms Improvement Group	76,000	30,000	0	0	11,750	As Above
National Forest Business Grants	National Forest	77,000	28,500	32,000	16,000	0	As Above
The Grid	People Express	30,000	15,000	15,500	8,000	11,500	As Above
Moneyspider Credit Union	Credit Union Outreach Services	12,000	6,000	8,300	6,000	0	As Above
Tourism Information Point	South Derbyshire District Council	25,000	12,500	0	0	0	As Above
Admin		7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	
Total		346,830	150,000	143,30088,000		56,687	

Overview: The forecast expenditure against monthly claim periods was done as a best guess in order to speed up issue of the DDEP contract and is useful therefore as a rough guide for monitoring purposes. In general terms all projects report that they are on target to spend their DDEP grant allocation as outlined in the project progress section of the report. However some of the match funding and outputs have been delayed and will be evidenced in 2005/06.

