South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership

Board meeting 18th March 2004

Agenda Item 9

Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership

The Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DDEP) is the sub-regional economic partnership serving the whole of Derbyshire with the exception of the districts or boroughs of Chesterfield, North East Derbyshire and Bolsover who are part of a partnership with part of Nottinghamshire.

The East Midlands Development Agency (emda) has recently approved the DDEP Business Plan and copies will be available for board members at the meeting. From the Business Plan it can be seen that they have established funding streams to achieve objectives and targets that are linked to the regional economic development strategy.

Specifically they have identified a funding opportunity for Local Strategic Partnerships, and the DDEP invited LSP representatives to a meeting to outline their proposals. The Vice Chair, Cllr Barry Whyman MBE, and Ian Reid attended the meeting and a note of the meeting is attached to this report at annexe A.

It can be seen from the note that the DDEP has created a funding opportunity for the LSP for projects that **contribute to their business plan targets**. The impression gained at the meeting was that the DDEP would adopt a flexible approach to supporting building blocks or capacity, which would assist delivery of the targets over the medium term. However we were left in little doubt that the approach of the DDEP, in funding projects via the LSP route, was under close scrutiny by emda, and we must work together to deliver the specified targets for this mechanism to become established.

Conclusions

There is an excellent opportunity to access up to £150k for projects, which support the DDEP's business plan targets. A minimum of £150k matched funding will be required, of which no more than 50% can be "in kind"

Developing, managing and supporting a work programme to access these funds will be a new management task for the LSP Board, which will require resources which will not be reimbursed.

The LSP board should quickly devise and establish a mechanism to create a programme to access these funds.

Recommendations for Board

We need to urgently identify what projects we wish to bring forward for DDEP funding as part of a programme bid from the LSP.

We establish a working group to devise a programme for submission to the DDEP in April. The submission will be reported to the Board meeting in May to agree detailed delivery of the programme.

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Annex A

Note of Meeting between
Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership
Representatives of Local Strategic Partnerships from

- **Amber Valley**
- **Erewash**
- **South Derbyshire**

Held at Genesis Centre, Alfreton on 19 February 2004

Present

DDEP	
David Wright	(Director)
Justin Lecky	(Advisor)
Amber Valley	
Adrian Evans	Chair, Amber Valley Partnership
Francis Walters	Manager, Amber Valley Partnership
Rosemary Whitehouse	AVBC
Erewash	
Cllr. Carol Hart	Erewash Partnership
Roberta Norris	EBC
South Derbyshire	
Cllr Barry Whyman MBE	Vice Chair South Derbyshire LSP
Ian Reid	SDDC

DW outlined the key elements of the DDEP Business Plan, now approved by emda. Key themes are

- Leaning Skills for Employment and Life
- Energising Business and Entrepreneurs
- Infrastructure for a Modern Economy

There are also projects for the

- Peak District Rural Action Zone
- Supporting Community and Voluntary Sector Activity
- Influencing Economic Development

It is the last project, which targets funding through LSPs that was the focus of the meeting. DW gave some background to the projects. In particular, the CVS project provided 3 year tapered funding (£150k, £100k, £50k) to support work through a CVS Hub to enable the sector "to play a decisive and active role in Economic Development in the sub-region".

The "Influencing Economic Development" project will allow each LSP to access £150k in accordance with the project description (attached).
In summary, proposals should

- Pump prime economic activity
- Target £150k of support from DDEP
- Have a 50/50 revenue/capital split
- Have a leverage of at least 50/50 and target 75/25
- Leverage should be at least 50% cash

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- Be for one year only
- Be part of an overall LSP plan which should include
    - Overview of ambitions
    - Priorities
    - Examples of projects/activities/themes
    - Customer/client groups
    - Links to the DDEP strategy

LSPs should look to which schemes could be bids to the 3 main themes, but the DDEP did not expect to receive a list of schemes which had failed to make the "£150k" list.

The Model DDEP contract will be much tighter than the previous emda approach, with more control and monitoring – we should be prepared. Spend profile will be built into the contract.

Funding cannot support core activities, especially staffing. New activity can be funded, including management (staffing) costs up to 5%. Maximum support for existing staffing is therefore £7.5k and audit will ensure that this is a real value added contribution.