

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Sustainable City work – Major Funding bids</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>11 July, 2012</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Strategic Director, Place</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Thurstan Crockett</b>	<b>Tel: 292503</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**FOR GENERAL RELEASE****1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report seeks agreement to submit funding bids which will support the city in becoming a more sustainable place in accordance with the Corporate Plan and consistent with a One Planet Living approach.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Committee:

- 2.1 Notes the Big Lottery bid submitted by city partners under the Communities Living Sustainably programme;
- 2.2 Agrees that the Strategic Director Place register an expression of interest for the government's Technology Strategy Board 'Future Cities Demonstrator' bidding initiative.

**3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:****National Lottery Bid**

- 3.1 In late 2010 a citywide partnership was formed comprising 10 community groups and organisations across the city to submit a joint bid to the National Lottery's 'Communities Living Sustainably' (CLS) fund (see Background documents for website link).
- 3.2 CLS funds partnerships that bring together the public, private, voluntary and community sectors to build up to 10 sustainable and resilient communities to help deal with the potential impact of climate change. It offers grants up to £1million for up to a 5 year period.
- 3.3 The Brighton & Hove CLS bid, led by the Friends Centre, titled '**One Planet Brighton & Hove**' is a large-scale education and behaviour change programme which, over 5 years, aims to (i) help meet the City's ambitious carbon reduction targets, (ii) develop residents' sustainable living skills and their resilience to the

effects of climate change and (iii) develop the local 'green' economy, creating and supporting 'green' jobs and businesses.

- 3.4 The Brighton & Hove application is based on the One Planet Framework. The overall aim of the citywide bid is to learn how to best empower and support communities to live in a sustainable way and cope with the impact of climate change. It is a city-wide project, but focused on 6 socially-deprived and climate-vulnerable neighbourhoods (Whitehawk, Moulsecoomb and Bevendean, Portslade, Brunswick and Adelaide, Tarn and New England) and seeks to foster active participation from people across the social spectrum. This will include disadvantaged residents (low income families, older people, NEETS (16-24 year olds not in education or employment), non-English speakers, homeless people), university students, more affluent residents, and business owners – helping local people to live more sustainably, improve community cohesion, their economic wellbeing and quality of life.
- 3.5 The bid development has required organisations from across the city to come together to work in partnership. **Appendix 1** provides a full list of all the project partners and activities that are included in the bid.
- 3.6 The two activities in the bid that Brighton & Hove City Council will be leading on include:

The Building Community Resilience Project will work with selected communities and residents from within the target neighbourhoods, who have been identified as being vulnerable to the impacts of severe weather events. This reflects one of the recommendations of the council's Scrutiny Panel on Adaptation to Climate Change, and the city's subsequent climate change strategy. The project coordinators will involve key service providers including officers from the Council's Adult Social Care and Civil Contingences teams (as well as other relevant council departments), Neighbourhood Care scheme, community groups, neighbourhood representatives and volunteers to develop a 'whole community' approach for enabling community-based initiatives in adapting and building resilience to the severe weather impacts of local climate change, such as flooding, droughts and heatwaves.

Creation and promotion of a sustainability e-learning tool to residents and communities across the city to support learning and practical support for more sustainable living to residents.

- 3.7 After successfully getting through the initial application round, the One Planet Brighton & Hove bid was selected as one of 30 projects nationwide, (shortlisted from an initial total of 250 applications), and invited to develop and submit a full application. From the total of 30 shortlisted projects only 10 will be selected to receive the grant funding of up to £1 million. The deadline for submission was 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and successful applicants will be notified in September 2012.

## Technology Strategy Board Bid

- 3.8 Representatives from the government's Technology Strategy Board, who attended the Eco Technology Show conference in Brighton (15 June), have invited the Council to submit a bid proposal for Brighton & Hove to become a 'Future City Demonstrator'. Subject to acceptance of an expression of interest, £50k of feasibility funding may be made available to work up a full bid to be submitted by 14 November this year. At least 20 cities are expected to bid for a single award of £25m which would need to be allocated and spent on projects by March 2014.
- 3.9 Details of the initiative are set out in Appendix 2 to this report. Whilst the initiative presents a very demanding timetable, the city in theory has an appropriate platform for meeting the objective of the proposal to:  
"explore new approaches to delivering a good local economy and excellent quality of life, whilst reducing the environmental footprint and increasing resilience to environmental change."
- 3.10 A small officer project team will oversee completion of the bid ensuring that it is complementary to an Ultrafast Broadband bid, the development of the Investment Prospectus and work around a potential 'second wave' city deal. Subject to feasibility being secured, a briefing forum will be held for potential sponsors, advisors and interested parties.

## 4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Community consultation was undertaken as part of the development of the full application of the National Lottery CLS bid.
- 4.2 The City Sustainability Partnership, Economic Partnership as well as Universities of Sussex & Brighton have been invited to participate in making the Demonstrator City bid.

## 5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Preparation of the two bids involved staff time and coordination with partners. If successful the resource requirements of all partners will be identified and plans developed for application of the funds against agreed projects. The bids support and complement Council and partner objectives but are not expected to require any additional budget allocations.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley*

*Date: 26/06/12*

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising at this stage.  
*Lawyer Consulted: Elizabeth Culbert*

*Date: 28/06/12*

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The CLS bid is focused largely on more income deprived wards within the city and seeks to reduce inequalities, particularly by reducing the utility bills of many residents and by targeting those residents most vulnerable to the impacts of severe weather.
- 5.4 The Demonstrator City Bid offers an opportunity to identify new and innovative technology and systems to reduce inequality across a wide range of issues experienced in the city.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 If successful, these bids will significantly contribute to Brighton & Hove's reputation for innovation and will push forward the goal of reducing the environmental impact.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None specific identified at this stage.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The bids require officer input to bid at risk. Not to bid, however, would probably raise wider reputational questions over the Council and city's capacity to innovate and its commitment to reduce adverse environmental impacts.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 There significant are health inequalities in the city, with big differences in life expectancy and illness between the targeted low income wards in the lottery bid and more affluent city wards; both bids afford opportunities to address these issues.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 The lottery bid is led by a city partnership and is to deliver c£1 million of programmes and projects designed to make the city more sustainable, targeting specific wards.
- 5.9 The Demonstrator City Bid provides a further opportunity to raise the profile of the Council and the City and, if successful, may involve the widespread engagement of local residents and businesses.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

- 6.1 The City Council could have chosen not to support these bids or to seek funds to deliver programmes within them, but would have missed a significant opportunity – and the CLS bid would be much weaker without the council.

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 To make members aware of two major funding bids being submitted to help Brighton & Hove become a more sustainable city.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Project Partners – Big Lottery Bid
2. Future cities demonstrator - COMPETITION FOR LARGE-SCALE DEMONSTRATOR PROJECT FUNDING. Technology Strategy Board, June 2012  
[www.innovateuk.org/assets/comp\\_futurecitiesdemonstrator\\_final.pdf](http://www.innovateuk.org/assets/comp_futurecitiesdemonstrator_final.pdf)

### **Documents in Members' Rooms:**

1. Big Lottery bid: One Planet Brighton & Hove

### **Background Documents**

1. Communities Living Sustainably lottery programme  
[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_communities\\_living\\_sustainably](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_communities_living_sustainably)
2. The Future Cities demonstrator programme – Technology Strategy Board:  
<http://www.innovateuk.org/content/news/bids-invited-to-become-the-city-of-tomorrow.ashx>

