

KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA PARTNERSHIP

DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL ENTERPRISE GROWTH INITIATIVE (LEGI)

16th November 2005

This paper invites the Steering Group to:

- note progress on the development of a joint Westminster City Council and Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea Local Enterprise and Growth Initiative (LEGI) bid to be submitted to the Government Office for London (GOL) by 9 December 2005; and
- agree to delegated authority in supporting the bid on behalf of the Kensington and Chelsea Partnership, to Cllr Cockell as Chairman for the KCP, or Cllr Paget-Brown as cabinet member for Community Safety, Environmental Management and Regeneration.

FOR DECISION

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper reports on the development of the joint LEGI that Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea is pursuing jointly with Westminster City Council (WCC).

2. Background

- 2.1 LEGI is a joint initiative that was proposed by HM Treasury, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) and the Small Business Service in March 2005. Its aim is to bring enterprise into the deprived wards of England. The three overarching aims are to:
- 2.1.1 Increase total entrepreneurial activity in deprived areas (i.e. business start ups);
 - 2.1.2 Support sustainable growth and reduce failure rates of local businesses (i.e. economic growth); and
 - 2.1.3 Attract appropriate inward investment and franchise, making use of local labour (i.e. develop economy and jobs).
- 2.2 In July 2005, the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit at the ODPM, confirmed that RBKC was eligible for £100,000 of pump priming in order to develop the LEGI bid. This money has been allocated to all boroughs currently in receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund money.
- 2.3 The pump priming money was received by the eligible boroughs at the beginning of August 2005. Joint local authority bids were welcomed by GOL.
- 2.4 In September 2005, Cabinet Members of WCC and RBKC agreed to pursue a joint bid. An invitation to three organisations to tender for the development of a LEGI bid was issued. Paddington Development Trust (PDT) was chosen to develop the bid on behalf of RBKC and WCC.

3. Progress

- 3.1 Since September 2005, PDT has worked with the economic development teams at WCC and RBKC. It is intended that LEGI in WCC/RBKC will cover the RBKC wards of St Charles and Golborne as well as 6 of Westminster's most deprived wards.
- 3.2 The current working title is 'Enterprise Futures'.
- 3.3 The vision of the bid, as it currently stands, is ultimately to make the community aware of entrepreneurial activities, promote enterprise as a route out of poverty and to link projects in order to enhance opportunities for enterprise for people in the deprived wards of RBKC/WCC. Projects will be developed in the joint bid through three LEGI themes: Investment in New Entrepreneurs, Social & Commercial Enterprises, Investment in Lifelong Enterprise Skills and Investment in Infrastructure.
- 3.4 The theme values and budgets have yet to be agreed but the idea is to create an 'Enterprise Campus' to link support, training, advice and guidance for residents and businesses.
- 3.5 Some possible key projects are being proposed that will fit into the Government's outcomes for LEGI. There is a strong emphasis around youth enterprise and building on the creative sector. The links to the Olympics, through procurement, supply chains and opportunities for business growth, will also feature in the application.
- 3.6 It is intended to bid for £10 million over a seven-year period. The budget breakdown is currently in development.

4. What do we have to do and by when?

- 4.1 The deadline for submission of our application form to the ODPM is Friday 9 December 2005.
- 4.2 The national template for the application was issued in the first week of November. The bid has to be submitted to the ODPM in the form of the template. Due to the extremely tight timescale, much of the project development and outcomes would be developed in the first year of the LEGI programme.
- 4.3 In order to meet the deadline, the following steps are proposed:
 - Establish a provisional Enterprise Futures Board (working title) and invite it to endorse the application. The Board will be made up of representatives from both local authorities. It is proposed that Cllr Paget-Brown, as Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Environmental Management and Regeneration will be the representative for RBKC.
 - The two local authorities' will sign-off the LEGI bid.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The Steering Group is invited to:

- note the direction of the LEGI bid; and
- agree to delegate authority in supporting the bid on behalf of the KCP to either Cllr Cockell, as Chairman of the partnership or Cllr Paget-Brown, as Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Environmental Management and Regeneration.

FOR DECISION

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APPENDIX A

LEGI Lead Officers

Kensington and Chelsea:

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Westminster City Council:

Tom Harding – Economic Development Officer

Government Office for London/London Development Agency:

Shanaaz Carroll – Senior Enterprise Development Manager LEGI (on secondment to the LDA from GOL)