

Strategic Investment Board

Interim Chief Executive's Report – October 2010

ISNI 3

The draft Investment Strategy will be the focus of October's Board meeting.

The first set of Delivery Tracking System (DTS) reports have been issued and distributed to Assembly Committees. They appear to have been well-received.

Projects & Programmes

Maze/Long Kesh Development Corporation

Work on the establishment of the new Development Corporation continues following the Assembly's approval of the establishing legislation. The project was one of the few to bid successfully for additional money in the last monitoring round and the funds will enable remedial work to continue to plan.

Work is progressing on the OBC for the RUAS proposal to relocate to the Maze and on the bid for European funding for the Conflict Transformation Centre. Work to deliver a refreshed spatial vision for the site is also progressing well.

Derry City of Culture Bid

I have been asked to join the interim Board of the Corporation being established to manage the Derry City of Culture activities under the auspices of ILEX and the Council.

Desertcreat

The position in regard of the Desertcreat project remains unchanged. It is unlikely that the DHSSPS Minister will feel in a position to take a decision on the project until after the results of the Spending Review are known. I understand that the numbers of PSNI recruits are expected to remain low for the foreseeable future and this may be a factor that lowers the relative priority of the project.

Lisanelly

Work on the business case continues and the Departmental economists are content with the approach being followed. Hazel is also pursuing other funding avenues from a number of charities.

DVA Review

The Attorney General's office is still considering whether it can provide the specialist legal advice required to pursue the contract review. In the meantime some preparatory work is underway.

Stadia

DCAL is considering the Business Cases for the three new stadia. It has been very keen to stress that, in its opinion; the concept of a dual-sport stadium is uneconomic.

TQSP

Interviews for the position of Chief Executive have now concluded and an appointment is considered imminent.

TQSP has been judged to be in the top 10% of projects assessed under the 'Considerate Constructors' scheme. This is an outstanding result and means it will be considered for a national award.

Waste Programme

NWRWMG – A recommendation is going to the NWG Joint Committee to take two bidders forward to the Final Tender stage, probably either just before or just after Christmas. There will be further rounds of dialogue with those two bidders before a closing dialogue and the call for final bids.

SWaMP2008 – SWaMP is expecting formal ISDS bids back from two bidders by mid October. Biffa recently withdrew from the process, leaving Greenstar and Quinns.

Arc21: Due diligence is now complete for one of the proposed sites. A series of presentations have been given to the participating councils emphasising the size of the projects (one of the biggest in the UK) and the scale of the commitment (over £2Bn).

Belfast Rapid Transit

The public consultation phase for The City Centre Traffic Management Plan was launched by the Minister on the 30th of September.

Governance, Finance & Administration

Staffing

██████████ has taken over as interim Head of the Asset Management Team. ██████ will be working two days a week in this role and will continue three days a week as Director of development at MLK.

██████████ and ██████████ have begun their internships. In the first instance ██████ is working with ██████████ and ██████ is supporting ██████████.

We have been asked to consider whether there are any positions within SIB that could be filled by surplus planners from DOE. There may be some opportunities to carry out certain work in this way within the AMT and Waste PDSU and we are discussing these with the Department.

SIB's Equality Advisor ran a training session for all staff covering new developments in the ways Impact Assessments are to be carried out. SIB will shortly begin a five year review of the implementation of its Equality Plan.

Finance

Expenditure in September and the year to date is set out in the attached Finance Report.

The underspend is mainly a timing issue and should be reduced, if not eliminated, over the coming two months.

Pay

There have been no developments regarding the 2008/9 pay settlement.