



**Executive (Transmodal Implementation)
Sub Board**

**Thursday, 1 March 2007 4.00 p.m.
Marketing Suite, Municipal Building**

Chief Executive

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Rob Polhill (Chairman)	Labour
Councillor Tony McDermott MBE	Labour
Councillor Marie Wright	Labour

*Please contact Lynn Derbyshire on 0151 471 7389 or e-mail
lynn.derbyshire@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Committee is on Thursday, 19 April 2007*

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Part I

Item No.	Page No.
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
<p>Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda, no later than when that item is reached and (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members) to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.</p>	
3. 3MG WESTERN APPROACH LOBBYING PLAN	1 - 7
4. NWDA FUNDING 3MG	8 - 9

PART II

**ITEMS CONTAINING "EXEMPT" INFORMATION FALLING
WITHIN SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO
INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

In this case the Sub-Board has a discretion to exclude the press and public but, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is RECOMMENDED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 (for agenda items 4 and 5) and paragraph 3 (for agenda item 6) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

5. LINNERS FARM, HALEBANK ROAD WIDNES	10 - 14
6. LINNERS FARM COTTAGE, HALEBANK ROAD, WIDNES	15 - 18
7. TESSENDERLO, WEST BANK DOCK ESTATE, WIDNES	19 - 29

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Executive (Transmodal Implementation)
Sub-Board

DATE: 1st March 2007

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Corporate & Policy

SUBJECT: **3MG Western Approach Lobbying Plan**

WARDS: Ditton

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of report is to set out, for discussion a lobbying plan to secure European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) to support the development of the 3MG Western Access Option (Knowsley).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

2.1 Members endorse the lobbying plan outlined in appendix 1 of this report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The current European Funding Programme finished on 31st December 2006. Regional Partners are currently developing a document known as the North West Operational Programme (NWOP). The NWOP sets out the key priorities and actions in regard to how European Funding will be allocated in the new programme, which runs from 2007-2013.

3.2 It is unlikely that the new European programme will be launched before November 2007.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This long lead in time presents both advantages and disadvantages. The main advantage is that there will be adequate time to implement a coordinated campaign of action. The main disadvantage is that there will be a need to lobby over a significant period of time and, therefore, there is a danger of either losing momentum, or that the key messages we would want to present, become 'stale'.

There are also differences in the way in which the new European programme will be governed, managed and delivered. These differences have influenced the suggested lobbying approach to be taken. Equally, the fact that the

NWOP has not yet been agreed will result in a different emphasis in regard to the type of lobbying activity required. For example, much work will need to focus on strengthening Halton's position in the sub-region, rather than direct references to specific, individual projects.

4.2 There are three key issues that will need consideration in regard to 'who we need to lobby and why?' 'When we need to lobby?' and 'how we need to lobby'.

(a) **Resources** - compared with previous European programmes, the resources available to the region will be significantly less and, therefore less funding will be available for capital schemes. (Despite this, there is provision in the Operational Plan to fund 'transport gateways').

(b) **Halton's position in the Merseyside Sub-Region** – although Halton is establishing itself as a key player in the sub-region, the other 5 Merseyside authorities will be entitled to 'special' ring-fenced funding. Halton will not be eligible to apply for this funding and this could leave Halton isolated, as it is probable that other sub-regions will receive their own notional allocations.

(c) **The Managing Authority Role** – whilst the Government Office is coordinating the preparation of the Operational Plan the North West Development Agency will assume responsibility for the management and delivery of the new European Programme. Clearly, there will be a need to promote links with the RDA.

4.3 Taking the above key issues into account the following approach is proposed.

Who we need to lobby?

The people and organisations that we need to lobby fall into the following categories:

Champions - e.g. Halton Borough Council's Leader, Chief Executive

Allies - e.g. Knowsley Borough Council

Fence Sitters - e.g. NWDA, Government Office, The Mersey Partnership, North West Regional Assembly, Merseyside Policy Unit

Opponents – e.g. other Merseyside authorities

4.4 It is also important to continue to lobby our own internal champions both to maintain the profile of the scheme but equally to keep champions abreast of changes or issues relating to the development of the programme

4.5 When do we need to lobby?

Successful lobbying is achieved if a lobbying programme operates on a 'drip-drip' basis rather than one 'big bang'. It also works if the same messages are

repeated to different audiences and by different people. Given the timing of the production of the NWOP, lobbying has already commenced; for example, the Chief Executive and Leader have met with NWDA and Government Office counterparts to lobby in general terms for an allocation of European Funding. Whilst it would be sensible to commence tentative discussions in regard to raising awareness of this specific project now, realistically, more lobbying activity will be needed once the NWOP has been submitted to the European Commission in February.

4.6 How we need to lobby

There are a number of lobbying methods that will be required ranging from 'outside lobbying' through media campaigns, events, press releases to letter writing and one to one meetings.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

6.0 RISK ANALYSIS

6.1 If ERDF grant for the scheme were not maximised then the financial contribution from the Council would need to be greater or else the schemes would be of lower quality, less beneficial or in some cases undeliverable.

7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

7.1 All proposed developments will comply with the Disabilities and Discrimination Act (DDA).

8.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

9.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

10.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

(NB 8.0, 9.0 AND 10.0 ONLY IF KEY DECISION)

11.0 LIST O

12.0 F BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Operational Programme 2007-2013 3rd Draft	External Funding Division, 1st Floor, Municipal Building	Wesley Rourke

Appendix 1 – Lobbying Framework

Who?	Organisation	Why?	When	By Whom and How?
Jo Lappin	Government office	Chair of NWOP steering group, manages existing European programme	Now and quarterly	David Parr, Dick Tregaea, Wesley Rourke Meetings, letter
Derek Twigg MP	Member of Parliament	To keep informed potential champion	Now and 6 monthly	Letter, liaison meetings with Leader and Chief Executive
Mike Hall MP	Member of Parliament	To keep informed potential champion	Now and 6 monthly	Letter, liaison meetings with Leader and Chief Executive
Dave Moorcroft	The Mersey Partnership	Acting Chief Executive, oversees the CRDP, and MAP liaises on behalf of the sub-region on NWDA Strategic Investment Plan NWOP Steering Group Member	Now and quarterly	David Parr Meetings, letter
Roy Morris	The Mersey Partnership	Chairman TMP	Now and 6 monthly	Leader, Chief Executive letter
Patrick White	North West Development Agency	Director of Policy and Partnerships, will play a key role in management of European Programme	Now and quarterly	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton Meeting and letter
Pernille Kousgaard	North West Development Agency	Head of European Policy (As above)	Now and Quarterly	Sally McDonald, Wesley Rourke e-mail via other forums e.g. NWREP officers group
Peter White	North West Development Agency	Executive Director Infrastructure and Development will advise partners on the development of proposals	Spring 2007 and quarterly	Sally McDonald, Derek Sutton, Stephen Leng letter, as part of study tour
Paul Lakin	North West Development Agency	Head of Development will lead on the development of projects pre-approval	Spring 2007 and quarterly	Derek Sutton, Sally McDonald, Stephen Leng
North West Development Agency board members	North West Development Agency	NWDA Board members approve NWDA funding likely to be a match funding provider	Summer 2007 and 6 monthly	Leader, Chief Executive letter

		and will take a proactive role as the managing authority		
Councillor Ronnie Round	Knowsley Borough Council	Leader of the Council	Now and quarterly	Cllrs McDermott and D Cargill meeting or before or after Merseyside Leaders
Councillor Morgan	Knowsley Borough Council	Relevant portfolio holder at Knowsley and Deputy Chairman of The Mersey Partnership	Now and quarterly	Cllr Polhill
Sue Jarvis	Knowsley Borough Council	Head of relevant service	Now and quarterly	Stephen Leng, Sally McDonald meetings
Jill Wilson	Knowsley Borough Council	Head of Planning	Now and monthly	Phil Watts meeting/E-mail
Mick Noone	Knowsley Borough Council	Head of Transportation, Highways and Engineering	Now and monthly	Stephen Leng, Dave Cunliffe, Sally McDonald
David Moore	Knowsley Borough Council	Assistant Director Economy and Employment	Now and 6 monthly	Gary Collins, Wesley Rourke
Abigail Howarth	Merseyside Policy Unit (MPU)	Director MPU also supports the Merseyside reps on NWOP	Now and 6 monthly	Wesley Rourke, Sally McDonald as part of regular forums e.g. Merseyside Officer groups
Graham Haywood	Sefton Borough Council	Advocate of strong sub-regional partnership working, is the Merseyside Lead Chief Officer on European issues	Now and 6 monthly	David Parr before/after SRP Exec of Chief Exec's meetings
Councillor Flo Clucas	Liverpool City Council	Chair of North West European Partnership	Spring 2007	Cllr Dave Cargill, before or after NWREP
Councillor Phil Davies	Wirral MBC	Merseyside representative on NWOP steering committee (has spoken in support of Halton at public meetings vis a vis European programme	Now and quarterly	Cllr Dave Cargill via post 2006 steering group
Ian Gould	Cheshire County Council	County Property Manager	Spring 2007	Angela Gore, Sally McDonald
Local and sub-regional Media	Local papers Sub-regional papers Trade Magazines	Media campaign	tbc	Communications and Marketing Michelle Baker Gill Cook
Bill Badrock	Chamber of Commerce	Private Sector Champion	Now and 6 monthly	Derek Sutton, Sally McDonald

Robin Tudor	Liverpool John Lennon Airport	Beneficiary	Spring 2007	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton
Keith Grey	Freightliner Ltd	Beneficiary	Spring 2007	Stephen Leng, Dave Cunliffe, Sally McDonald, meeting
Flemming Dalgaard	Maersk Line	Beneficiary	Spring 2007	Stephen Leng, Dave Cunliffe, Sally McDonald, meeting
Ian Carmichael	Maersk Line	Beneficiary	Spring 2007	Stephen Leng, Dave Cunliffe, Sally McDonald, meeting
Steve Rhymes	Network Rail	Interest Group	Now and 6 monthly	Mike Hatfield, Mike Bennett, Sally McDonald, meeting
Jim Teasdale	Mersey Maritime Ltd	Interest Group	Now and 6 monthly	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton, Sally McDonald through 3MG steering group
Steve O'Connor	O'Connor Group of Companies	Private Sector Champion	Now and 6 monthly	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton Sally McDonald through 3MG steering group
Keith Williams	Drawbridge Securities Ltd	Private Sector Champion	Now and 6 monthly	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton Sally McDonald through 3MG steering group
Jim Quinn	AHC Warehousing Ltd	Private Sector Champion	Now and 6 monthly	Dick Tregaea, Derek Sutton Sally McDonald through 3MG steering group

REPORT TO: Executive (Transmodal Implementation)
Sub Board

DATE: 1st March 2007

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director – Major Projects

SUBJECT: NWDA Funding 3MG

WARDS: Ditton and Riverside

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek authority to enter into a Legal Agreement with the NWDA.

1.2 RECOMMENDATION: That

(1) Delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director for Environment in consultation with the *Council Solicitor* and the Executive Member for Planning Transportation Regeneration and Renewal be authorised to negotiate and conclude funding arrangements with the NWDA.

2.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1 The Executive Board on 9th December 2004 (EXB162) adopted the Ditton Strategic Rail Freight Park Masterplan, now known as 3MG (the Mersey Multimodal Gateway). The NWDA supported the Masterplan and an in principle allocation of £3.5m towards its delivery. In the course of the past 12 months the Council has reached an agreement with the NWDA to increase that allocation to £4.5m. The NWDA have an allocation to 3MG in this financial year of £200k and an in principle allocation in future years for 07/08 £1.5m, 08/09 £1.5m and 09/10 £1.3m. Before the Council can draw down the £200k allocation this year, it has to enter into a contract with the NWDA by the 31st March 2007.

3.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Council adopted the Ditton Strategic Rail Freight Park (DSRFP) Masterplan in December 2004. The DSRFP programme is included in the Council's Corporate Plan, the Halton Partnership and Halton Borough Council Urban Renewal Strategy and Action Plan, and supports the Council's Urban Renewal corporate priority.

4.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Council has given a commitment to secure as much public funding to support the delivery of 3MG by working with its partners. This approach supports this commitment.

5.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 5.1 There are risks to the Council in entering into the Contract with the NWDA and these same risks have under protest been acknowledged and have had to be accepted on the Widnes Waterfront Programme. In broad outline the risks are that minor breaches of the agreement (e.g. failures to provide or delays in providing information, performance reports and the like) can result in NWDA having the right not only to discontinue funding for the future but also to demand the return of 3MG funding received by the Council from NWDA prior to any breach of the agreement. This could have extremely serious consequences for the Council's services given that the maximum funding to be received under the agreement is £4.5m. The Council Solicitor will be advising on this agreement as with the Widnes Waterfront Agreement but all the indications are that NWDA will resist any changes that provide better protection for the Council. The Chief Executive feels that the benefits of the scheme outweigh the risks. This is a case where the funding to come from the NWDA is very substantial and where although it is regrettable it is not perhaps surprising that the funder would wish to place the risk with the organisation receiving the funding.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

Any Equality and Diversity implications arising as a result of the proposed action should be included.

7.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

8.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

9.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

(NB 8.0, 9.0 AND 10.0 ONLY IF KEY DECISION)

10.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
DSRFP Masterplan	Major Projects	Sally McDonald

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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