

DIRECTOR DECISION – DD 162

Title: Funding for Ealing Council

Executive summary

This decision authorises grant expenditure of £50,000 to fund the work undertaken by the London Borough of Ealing in 2021/22 on the 1 Portal Way Planning Application and the Old Oak West Strategic Outline Business Case.

Decision


The Director of Planning approves:

- Grant expenditure of up to £50,000 to fund the work undertaken by the London Borough of Ealing in 2021/22 on the 1 Portal Way Planning Application and the Old Oak West Strategic Outline Business Case.

Authorising Director

I do not have any disclosable interest in the proposed Decision. It is consistent with OPDC's priorities and has my approval.

Signature:



Date: 26.10.22

PART 1: NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Background and context

- 1.1 OPDC retained the 1 Portal Way application for its own determination. The planning application is for in excess of 1,000 units and 50,000 sq.m. of commercial and as such it was felt that, given its strategic nature, OPDC should retain the application for its own determination. This meant that the application fee of £140,000 was retained by OPDC. Ealing Council Planning Officers have continued to be involved in the assessment of the application and in providing comments to OPDC to inform its determination of the application.
- 1.2 OPDC agreed to fund Ealing Council up to £50,000 for officer time to work on the 1 Portal Way planning application and the Old Oak West Strategic Outline Business Case during 2021/22, which this Decision is ratifying to facilitate the payment.

The proposal and how it will be delivered

- 2.1 The funding from OPDC will be paid in recognition of the time that Ealing Council officers have and will spend on assessing the application and providing OPDC with comments.

Objectives and expected outcomes

- 3.1 The outcome is Ealing Council's input on the 1 Portal Way Planning application and the Strategic Outline Business Case, which have been important in informing OPDC's determination of the application.

Strategic fit

- 4.1 OPDC has a statutory duty to determine planning applications in a timely fashion. The Strategic Outline Business Case will enable OPDC to deliver its regeneration objectives.

Project governance and assurance

- 5.1 The work will be overseen by the Director of Planning and the Director of Delivery.

Risks and issues

- 5.2 Ealing's input ensures the future success of the delivery of regeneration in the OPDC area.

Equality comments

- 6.1 Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, OPDC must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as the need to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do

not. This decision has been reviewed against this duty and there are no implications arising from the decision.

Other considerations

7.1 There are no other considerations in respect of this decision.

Conflicts of interest

8.1 No one involved in the preparation or clearance of this Form, or its substantive proposal, has any conflict of interest.

Financial comments

9.1 There are no financial implications in this financial year as the expenditure of £50,000 associated with this decision was recognised as an accrued liability in OPDC's 2021/22 financial statements.

9.2 As Ealing Council Planning Officers were undertaking their statutory function in respect of the application rather than as advisors to OPDC, this work is considered by OPDC not to constitute a taxable supply by Ealing Council to OPDC, but rather as a voluntary contribution by OPDC to Ealing Council in recognition of the volume of work required of Ealing in respect of OPDC retaining the application. Accordingly, it is proposed this be treated as grant expenditure, for which the obligation was agreed by end 2021/22 in respect of work undertaken in that year.

Appendices

- None

Other supporting papers

- None

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Information in this Form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). OPDC aims to publish the Form within three working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the Decision (for example, impacting a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date (when it will be published). Deferral periods are kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Part 1 – Deferral

Publication of this Part 1 is to be deferred: **No**

The deferral is until: **N/A**

This is because: **N/A**

Part 2 – Confidential information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA should be included in or attached to any separate Part 2 Form, together with the rationale for withholding the information at this time.

There is a separate and confidential Part 2 Form: **No**

DECLARATIONS

Drafting officer: [Emma Williamson](#) has drafted this Form in accordance with OPDC procedures, including for handling conflicts of interests, and confirms that:



Advice: The Finance team have commented on the proposal.




CONFIRMATIONS

Section 106 funding: N/A

SMT review: This Decision was circulated to the **Senior Management Team** for review on [Friday 21st October](#).

Chief Finance Officer

Financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this Form.

Signature: 

Date: 26 October 2022