

Royal Docks Enterprise Zone Programme Board

Date of meeting: **26 July 2017**

Title of report: **Royal Docks Early Projects Delivery Update**

To be presented by: **Shelim Shakir, Regeneration Manager LBN/Royal Docks Delivery Team**

Cleared by: **David Lunts, Executive Director – Housing and Land, GLA; and
Deirdra Armsby, Director of Regeneration and Planning, LBN**

Classification: **Public**

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 This paper provides an update on the Royal Docks early projects delivery programme. A set of early ‘quick win’ projects were discussed at the last Board meeting. These projects were identified jointly by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and London Borough Newham (LBN) in consultation with stakeholders and partners from the Royal Docks Advisory Board. It was intended that these projects would be delivered utilising the capacity of the new Royal Docks Delivery Team. However, in advance of the team being in place in September 2017 significant progress has been made on a number of early projects.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Enterprise Zone (EZ) Programme Board notes the update and progress made to date on the early projects delivery.

3 Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The next two years are critical in the 25 year lifetime of the EZ, and it is important that change is visible to developers, investors, businesses and visitors to the area.
- 3.2 The key development partners in the Royal Docks have emphasised that activation of their sites and the surrounding area is of the highest priority to catalyse investment and occupation.

- 3.3 It was agreed by LEAP that a portion of the EZ funding collected to date would be used to fund the early programme of work and the resource required to undertake project delivery.
- 3.4 The GLA and LBN identified a number of projects for early investment based on the objectives set out in the Royal Docks Vision.

4 Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 Some of the projects required early EZ Programme Board approval, including the Royal Victoria Beach, London Festival of Architecture 2017 sponsorship and Royal Docks Delivery Team office location.
- 4.2 Significant progress has been made in preparation for the summer opening the Royal Victoria Beach. The beach was due to open to the public on Monday 17 July for seven weeks, Monday to Sunday from 10am – 8pm, closing down on 3 September. The initial construction and decking work has now been completed and an enhanced event management structure and extra security staffing is being implemented for this year. An activity beach programme is being finalised to engage families, children and visitors with various health, sports and community activities.
- 4.3 London Festival of Architecture 2017 Sponsorship – update to be provided at Agenda Item 5.
- 4.4 The EZ Delivery Team Office Location – update to be provided at Agenda Item 8.
- 4.5 Siemens Community Garden – LBN are working with Groundwork London and the Siemens Crystal to design, prepare and plant the remaining nine empty beds. On 20 July, 20 children from a local school will assist the gardeners from Groundworks with planting various herbs, vegetables and colourful plants to complement the existing garden. A school education programme will be implemented by Siemens to engage local schools with the on-going gardening and maintenance.
- 4.6 Brompton Cycle Hire Scheme – further scoping of this project is needed in order to identify optimal delivery and procurement options. The Royal Docks team are now in the process of seeking advice from both LBN and GLA procurement teams to assess these options.
- 4.7 The team are also in the process of scoping the remaining projects on the early project delivery list presented at the last meeting.

5 Equality Comments

- 5.1 The continuation of this project is not considered to give rise to any negative equality impacts. Equality impact considerations and mitigations will be built into the projects as they move forward.

6 Risks Arising / Mitigation

- 6.1 There is a risk that some of the projects on the recommended list may not materialise due to time constraints, procurement issues, resource and configuration arrangements etc. To mitigate this, flexibility will be needed once the new EZ Delivery Team is in place to scope further projects and re-prioritise investment.

7 Financial Comments of the Executive Director Resources, GLA

- 7.1 The Mayor approved £3.5 million of funding in Mayoral Decision MD2049 for the delivery of these projects. The approval included an estimated £500,000 of revenue and £350,000 of capital expenditure in both 2017-18 and 2018-19. Expenditure would need to be delayed or scaled back as necessary if there are any shortfalls in projected business rates growth within the EZ in 2017-18 and 2018-19 compared to the assumptions underpinning the approval in the Mayoral decision. This is not expected to be the case on the basis of the latest forecasts of business rates income growth.

8 Next Steps

- 8.1 The next steps following consideration by the EZ Programme Board are summarised below:

Activity	Timeline
Board discussion and approval of early delivery projects	May 2017
Delivery Start Date of projects	July 2017
Progress update of early delivery projects	July 2017
Delivery End Date	2019
Project Closure	2019

Appendices:

None.