

Item 6 b Appendix A Gloucestershire Business Rates Pool – SEDF Funding Assessment

Gloucestershire Multi Modal Model Funding Request

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Senior Officer Group's consideration of SEDF application against eligibility criteria

The bid is from a 'sponsoring' partner authority of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee ('Joint Committee') or the Gloucestershire Local Economic Partnership
Senior Officer Group assessment: Gloucestershire County Council is the sponsoring partner authority for this County wide activity, as part of the £2m City Region funding allocation/bid.
The bid relates to one off or fixed term funding
Senior Officer Group assessment: The bid relates to a one off funding - £410,000 for the multi modal model work
The bid relates to revenue support for enabling activity which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support economic growth projects, partnership support or• Enable the commissioning of economic research, intelligence, pre development work or feasibility studies or• Provide pump priming funding contributions or• Provide essential leverage match funding to support the delivery of broader local economic projects or programmes.
Senior Officer Group assessment: This bid does support future economic growth projects and partnership support and enables the commissioning of economic research, intelligence etc, to support the delivery of broader local economic growth projects/programmes. It also provides support for the transport modelling, which is an essential part of any medium/long term growth plans for the county. The work will aid in planning and delivery of sustainable economic growth in the County. It will support the JCS Core Strategy and District Local plans in ensuring that development will only take place at the most sustainable locations. It will assist with long term land and transport planning to achieve sustainable development. By undertaking the multi modal model study across the whole of the county, in addition to being the best way to undertake the transport study of this nature, it will deliver economies of scale for the local planning authorities.
The bid provides evidence of clearly demonstrating the economic benefits and contribution it is likely to make in supporting the delivery of growth of the local economy and communities, as well as planned outcomes.
Senior Officer Group assessment

Yes – we need support for this information to support economic / housing growth across the County.

A multi-modal transport model generally consists of a highway assignment model (SATURN modelling software) and a public transport model (e.g. EMME software) together with variable demand modelling capacity. The purpose of the model will be to provide a robust means of addressing current and future transport-related problems affecting all modes of travel. This involves developing a base model to represent the existing transport networks and their performance within Gloucestershire then develop a Reference Case to assessing alternative land-use options and development phasing, and for this to withstand public scrutiny.

The main purpose of the model is therefore to enable regeneration and growth ambitions set out in Gloucestershire’s strategic planning documents, such as the SEP, draft LIS, the emerging Local Transport Plan and emerging Local Plans. The model will also assist planning applications and enable the progression of the JCS and Local Plans.

Therefore measurable outputs include: a more sustainable Land Use growth strategy and successful adoption of future Local Plans This will enable Gloucestershire to continue to grow despite the highway network constrictions by identifying suitable and sustainable locations, as well as enable the identification and development of the necessary public/active transport infrastructure.

The work will also assist the Local Planning Authorities with handling planning and Local Authorities and developers can use the reference case highway assignment model for developing their development proposals models to assess the impact of their development/scheme.

The work will also greatly assist with addressing the climate change targets and meeting Gloucestershire’s ambition to be carbon neutral by 2050.

Further conditions if the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Committee approve the bid:

Section 151 Officer’s confirmation that sufficient funds are available in the Strategic Economic Development Fund during the relevant financial year.

Approved funding is for one off activity and the £410k is required from 20/21 and 21/22. This is a drawdown from the overall £2m requested from the City Region board.

Assessment of the priority of the bid against other proposals to utilise the Strategic Economic Development Fund

This request for funding was assessed and given a score of 4 and seen as a ‘strong fit’

Terms and conditions of the approved bid (to include any binding conditions to any approved funding to which the applicant body will be required to agreed before any release of funding, plus reporting requirements)

Release of Funding -

GCC Officers have advised that they would like to draw down the £410,000 SEDF funding in two tranches - £210,000 in 2020/21 and £200,000 in 2021/22, as soon as possible, following consideration of the bid by the GEGJC meeting on 3rd June 2020.

The planned phases of development of the modelling work is very much subject to change and will also very much depend on how Covid-19 will influence traffic levels. The proposed phases and the funding levels will be reviewed following the funding decision and a detailed draw down schedule and key milestones are developed.

GEGJC Reporting -

It is proposed that key milestones are identified in a project inception meeting, following funding award. These milestones will form the basis of future reports to the Joint Committee.

Recommendations to the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee

The Gloucestershire Economic Growth Senior Officer Group recommend the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee **approve** the bid set out above for the reasons confirmed below:

Strong strategic fit and has widespread support from all Senior Officers, within the local authorities, as to the value of this essential modelling work, that will underpin all future growth planning work and help meet the delivery of the economic growth expectations of the County.