

Agenda Item 6

Open Report on behalf of the Executive Director of Finance and Public Protection

Report to:	Value for Money Scrutiny Committee
Date:	22 February 2016
Subject:	One Public Estate – Greater Lincolnshire Partnership

Summary:

This report provides an overview and update on the One Public Estate Programme (OPE)

Actions Required:

The Committee is asked to note this report.

1. Introduction

On 7th December 2015, The LGA advised LCC on behalf of the Greater Lincolnshire Partnership (GLP) that it had been successful in its submission for entry into the Government's One Public Estate (OPE) Programme. The OPE concept is referred to in GLP's approach to devolved powers.

The Government's OPE programme (led by the Cabinet Office) provides funding to kick start the OPE concept in a locality. The aims of OPE are to coordinate the use of public assets to enable the better delivery of public services, Economic Regeneration, Housing and to help deliver revenue savings.

2. Services and Assets Delivery Plan

The GLP bid for OPE funding took the form of a Services and Assets Delivery Plan (SADP) and this contained the aspirations of the programme, list of projects and Governance proposals

The Cabinet Office were quite clear in the bid criteria that projects included in the bid for funding needed to identify indicative outputs and to identify how the OPE funding would facilitate these

The SADP identified £175,000 for project feasibility activity, £90,000 of targeted project support and £70,000 to establish a programme office (staff resources). This total of £340,000 was approved and GLP were one of only a few consortia to receive the full funding allocation and to be given the green light to proceed without any further bid clarification.

A key condition of the entry into the programme is that asset data is uploaded onto the Government property database ePIMS; this provides very similar data to the transparency data which Local Authorities are already mandated to provide. Formal entry into the programme will not be confirmed until this data is uploaded.

3. Current Position

All 9 local Authorities have been contacted by LCC to coordinate the uploading of data and the Government ePIMS team have allocated technical support to assist. It is anticipated that data will be on the system by early March with refinement of data over the following 2 months. The data will include land and buildings; it doesn't need to include housing stock. Uploading of this data will allow the GLP programme to have access to the wider Government estate information and then start exploring further opportunities

The Governance proposals included in the SADP identified an OPE Board which is a core requirement from the Cabinet Office and they require the key national bodies to sit on this including NHS, MoD, Cabinet Office and locally the LEP's. The project Sponsor is Manjeet Gill and OPE development is being coordinated by LCC who will be the accountable body for the funding

The existing OPE Boards including those North Lincolnshire and NHS will be linked to the overall programme governance.

The first OPE Board date will be scheduled shortly and the Board will be accountable for the delivery of the programme and any changes to the content. The Cabinet Office are keen to see quick wins from the programme and have advised that there is further OPE funding available for successful consortia.

4. Next Steps

On OPE Board will be established and this will be tasked with confirming and prioritising projects in the programme and a further report will be presented to VFM committee when this detail is established.

Please direct any questions raised by this report initially to Kevin Kendall, County Property Officer who can be contacted on 01522 553726 or kevin.kendall@lincolnshire.gov.uk