

Humber Freeport

Report to the Investment and Regulation Board, 4th Sept 2020
Report from - Kishor Tailor

1. Summary

- 1.1. This paper provides further details of the scope of the work planned to develop a compelling case for a Humber Freeport.
- 1.2. Joint bidding team is being established to be coordinated by Humber LEP and include nominated Humber local authority and Greater Lincolnshire LEP officers, working with businesses advocating a Humber Freeport. Other specialists will be drawn in as required.
- 1.3. A bidding team will be bolstered by external consultancy support, to be commissioned by Humber LEP and funded by all partners. Details of the funding secured will be outlined at the meeting
- 1.4. Consultants will work flexibly as part of an integrated bidding team, with tasks split to best utilise knowledge, skills and resources.

2. Plan and Scope

Phase/Theme	External support	Local partner work
Scoping – August/September		
Scoping work	<p>Review of LEP, local authority and key business positions – existing documents and 1:1/group discussions</p> <p>Development of Humber Freeport project definition, including high-level strategic and economic cases (technical report)</p> <p>Challenge and stress testing of the proposition</p> <p>Incorporation of stakeholder feedback on the draft proposition</p>	<p>Identification of potential Freeport sites (long list)</p> <p>Development of a public-facing “prospectus” document, drawing on the technical report</p> <p>Launch, distribution and advocacy of the prospectus (e.g. PR activity, MP meetings)</p>
Delivery – September-November		
Economic potential and innovation	Customer and supply chain mapping and engagement,	Identification of key customer/supply chain contacts

	<p>incorporating the Humber's "reach" into the north/midlands</p> <p>Innovation impact potential (drawing on supply chain analysis)</p> <p>Economic impact modelling (i.e. a Humber Freeport would deliver x jobs, x GVA etc)</p>	<p>Integration of existing socioeconomic evidence base from LEP/local authority work (e.g. employment, GVA, skills requirements)</p> <p>Incorporate Freeport into wider strategic economic planning</p>
Implementation	<p>Operational planning</p> <p>Delivery model options, including report advising on tools for physical regeneration beyond grant funding (e.g. partnership models, potential use of combined authority powers)</p> <p>Customers/tariff options</p>	<p>GIS mapping of potential sites</p> <p>Consideration of wider spatial planning issues</p> <p>Freeport governance model and integration with wider cross-estuary governance</p>
Engagement		<p>Stakeholder mapping</p> <p>Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders</p> <p>Consideration of further PR activity</p> <p>Spending Review representation (deadline 24 Sep)</p>
Bid – November onwards (tbc)		
Bid development	<p>To include decision on final selection of sites and prioritisation, and development of the required bid material drawing on work in the earlier phases</p> <p>Split of work to be determined once bid criteria and process are available</p>	

3.Recommendation

The report be noted

**K. Tailor
26th Aug 2020**