



District Regeneration Working Party

**Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 28 August 2012 at 2:00pm, CHG2,
East Northamptonshire House, Thrapston**

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Steven North
Cllr Glenn Harwood MBE
Cllr Richard Lewis

Officers: David Oliver, Chief Executive
Sharn Matthews, Executive Director
Lisa Hyde, Head of Customer & Community Services
Mike Deacon, Head of Environmental Services
Rob Back, Head of Planning Services
David Pope, Member Services Officer

Apologies: Cllr David Brackenbury
Mike Greenway, Community Partnerships Manager
Katy Everitt, Head of Resources & Organisational Development
Glenn Hammons, Chief Finance Officer

1.0 Appointment of Temporary Chair

1.1 The Working Group agreed to appoint Councillor Steven North as the temporary chairman.

2.0 Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.

3.0 New Homes Bonus/Community Projects - Criteria for Stream 2

3.1 LJH presented a report to the Working Party which contained draft criteria for determining funding for projects under Stream 2 of the New Homes Bonus. The criteria to determine funding had been produced following the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee on 9 May 2012. Stream 2 would provide support for medium-sized community infrastructure projects up to £50,000.

3.2 Members were advised that the expectation was for demand to exceed supply for this particular stream, hence the criterion regarding applicants taking a loan from ENC rather than a grant. An uptake in loans would increase the capacity of the New Homes Bonus to fund more projects.

3.3 Members made minor amendments to the criteria relating to tenure of sites and the requirement for match funding, and reduced the number of years detailed in "level of growth experienced in the local area" to 10.

3.4 Members noted that a final draft of the criteria would be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 10 September 2012 for approval.

4.0 Funding Maps

4.1 Members were provided with maps to indicate the type and location of previous funding bids for both Rushden and Oundle. Also presented, were tables detailing funding queries received by year.

4.2 Members appreciated the data that had been provided and agreed that further mapping would be of use in future.

5.0 Any Other Business

5.1 The meeting was provided with an update regarding an infrastructure improvement funding bid to Sport England. Members were advised that a potential bid to renovate the changing facilities of Splash Pool in Rushden would require match funding and that the maximum funding available would be £150k. A report relating to the matter would be presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 27 September 2012.

5.2 The meeting was advised that the townscape Heritage Bid has been unsuccessful but that we had since heard that new funding pots for town centre improvements had been made available by the Heritage Lottery Fund and that work was underway by officers to see if this funding could be accessed.
