

Revised Officer Group Proposals

Report of Richard Doleman, Chair, Planning and Projects sub group

Summary

This paper sets out the proposals for a revised officer group to support the Greater Thetford Development Partnership Board (GTDPB). It looks at the purpose of the group and recommends a fresh approach

Recommendations

- (i) It is recommended that the proposed principles of the GTOG as set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 are agreed and that these are developed in to a formal Terms of Reference for consideration at the next board meeting

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Greater Thetford Development Partnership (GTDP) was set up in 2015 to bring together key partners to steer growth and change across the greater Thetford Area. The GTDP has an established governance of a Board supported by 3 sub-groups, Communities, Inward Investment and Planning and Projects. The Board has set itself 6 strategic objectives and is seeking to identify means of meeting these objectives
- 1.2 To improve its effectiveness, the GTDPB agreed on 13 October 2017 to revise its membership to political representatives and the chairs of the 3 sub-groups. The board requested that the supporting officer groups be reviewed to reflect the new composition.

2. Officer group proposals

- 2.1 An initial officer meeting was held on 19 January 2018 to look at the composition and purpose of an officer group. This was attended by representatives from Thetford Town Council, Norfolk County Council Community and Environmental Services, Norfolk County Council Children's Services and Breckland Council. Officers discussed the changes to the board and the form of officer support and assistance for the GTDPB.
- 2.2 A key topic of discussion was how an officer group could assist the GTDPB to support and promote the existing activities of the partners and delivery agencies. Also the extent to which an officer group could help the GTDPB to identify longer term priorities to influence delivery agencies' future programmes and projects the Greater Thetford area

3. Key themes

- 3.1 Composition
 - The group should be made up of officers from the authorities represented on the Board.

- The Greater Thetford Officer Group (GTOG) to replace the Planning and Projects sub-group and the Inward Investment sub-group.
- The group to invite in and work with other specialist providers such as health or housing as priorities on the board determine.
- The meetings to be held in private, with the meeting generating reports for the board and helping set the agenda and forward plan for the Board.
- The group will not make any formal decisions on behalf of the board or any partner organisation.
- The function of the chair of the GTOG should but arrange for reports to be brought before the Board for decisions
- The chair of the GTOG will not be a board member

3.2 Purpose

- The focus to be on delivery.
- Identify where the board could lobby for strategic improvements or funding.
- Assist the board in identification of priority projects
- Allow a coordinated approach across the delivery agencies
- Secure wider support for existing schemes and priorities of the partners.

4. Contribution to Board Objectives

The establishment of a revised officer group will support the work of the board and support work on all 6 Board Objectives.

5. Recommendations

- (i) It is recommended that the proposed principles of the GTOG as set out in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 are agreed and that these are developed in to a formal Terms of Reference for consideration at the next board meeting.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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