## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

REPORT TO:	Cabinet	DATE: 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	
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WARD(S):	All		
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## PART NON-KEY DECISION

## **CREATING A SLOUGH REGENERATION CAMPUS**

### 1. Purpose of Report

Further to the Cabinet decision of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to support the principle for the concept of a Slough Regeneration Campus (SRC), this report sets out a practical way forward to progress the initiative.

The Cabinet is requested to agree to commission a study to explore the feasibility of creating an SRC. The role of the campus is to consider how the Council develops a skills offer designed to meet and build on the delivery needs of a forward thinking dynamic authority. Delivery of an SRC would directly contribute to the following manifesto commitments:

- 1. Work to bring a higher education facility back to Slough
- 2. Spread the benefit of regeneration from central Slough to local neighbourhoods
- 3. Make significant improvements to digital services
- 4. Work with employers to expand apprenticeships for local young people
- 5. Support business to start grow and locate in Slough
- 6. Support the expansion of Heathrow and local businesses to maximize the training employment and travel opportunities
- 7. Ensure Slough benefits from cross rail and Heathrow's expansion and its investment in our transport infrastructure
- 8. Create a fit for purpose town centre delivering the quality jobs to match the ambitions of our young people

#### 2. <u>Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action</u>

The Cabinet is requested to resolve:

- (a) That a programme of work be established and a feasibility study of a Slough Regeneration Campus (SRC) be commissioned.
- (b) That, subject to the outcome of the feasibility study, the Cabinet agrees the development of the Slough Regeneration Campus.

(c) That the authority to progress the above recommendations is delegated to the Director of Regeneration and the Director of Children, Learning and Skills following consultation cabinet members for Regeneration and Education and Skills.

# 3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

## 3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities -

The Slough Regeneration Campus will meet the priorities of the wellbeing strategy priorities in the following ways;

#### Priorities:

1. Protecting vulnerable children - Vulnerable children and their carers will benefit by being able to access pathways and opportunities to progress into work through the creation of the offer from the SRC

2. Increasing life expectancy by focusing on inequalities- addressing inequalities and providing pathways, work opportunities and skills development will increase the quality of life and the expectancy of that life

3. Improving mental health and wellbeing- evidence shows that mental health issues are made worse through worklessness. This programme is designed to deliver better pathways and opportunities for residents in and out of work

4. Housing - this programme is designed to support the development and delivery of housing

#### 3b Five Year Plan Outcomes

Explain which of the Five Year Plan's outcomes the proposal or action will help to deliver. The outcomes are:

- 1. Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful
- 2. Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs
- 3. Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay
- 4. Our residents will live in good quality homes
- 5. Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents

The SRC will assist in the delivery of outcomes 3,4&5 through delivering high quality places ,good quality homes and attracting and retaining business. All these will be achieved through a shared vision with funders and partners addressing current challenges such as a lack of staff and skills in key areas.

# 4 **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

Current feasibility proposals are deliverable through existing budgets. Subsequent proposals will require additional resources. These additional resources could be offset from blended funding streams

(b) Risk Management

Recommendatio n from section 2 above	Risks/Threats/ Opportunities	Current Controls	Using the Risk Management Matrix Score the risk	Future Controls
1. That the Cabinet is requested to recommend the establishment of programme of work designed to deliver a feasibility study of a Slough Regeneration Campus.(SRC)	The Feasibility study will set out a clear level and scope to identify the cost benefits as well as social impact for the SRC	Standard local authority risk Management	Low	Subject to feasibility
2. That the Cabinet subject to the outcome of the feasibility study recommends the development of the Slough Regeneration Campus	The risks and mitigation will be set out by the outcomes of the feasibility study aligned with the creation of a business plan	Effective programme management	Low	Effective programme management

- (c) <u>Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications</u> none identified.
- (d) Equalities Impact Assessment none identified

#### 5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 The decision to explore the delivery and development of the SRC are based on the following factors.
- 5.2 Firstly, the requirement to maximise the opportunities provided by the expansion of Heathrow airport and a third runway has enormous economic benefits for Slough... In order to grasp those opportunities fully and to ensure adequate skilled and qualified staff to deliver the Slough based regeneration projects the requirement for a Slough based campus becomes compelling.(Manifesto commitment 2,4,5,6,78)
- 5.3 Secondly there is a shortage in the construction industry at all levels of expertise whether its at the most basic levels of simple laboring through carpentry, dry lining onto quantity surveyors, architects planners and other technical skills. At present this is and will hamper delivery of schemes going forward. And their absence will impact on completion milestones as well as driving costs of schemes up (45678).
- 5.4 Thirdly there a range of local issues in terms of Apprenticeship take up, quality of training provided, a site focused approach by developers to regeneration missing larger opportunities to share risk and manage costs. The opportunities of bringing

all these challenges together to be addressed by the SRC are possible and enormously beneficial.4,6,7,8

- 5.5 We have a 20 year pipeline of regeneration work in Slough that could be beneficial to our young people linking schools and careers to work in 10 15 years time. Giving parents and business certainty of career options and providing a trained and proven work force ready to face the challenges of a changing work force. We already understand that there are shortages in the digital sectors working with organisations such as Amazon, Telefonica, ZTE we can embed those careers in a regeneration context.2,4,6,7,8
- 5.6 Also crucially and the final tranche is including the cultural opportunity within creative industries linking all of the above together focusing on the opportunities creative and cultural roles and the associate industries that are played out in a regeneration, setting (4,66,7,8)
- 5.7 Finally the opportunity to create a SRC will further enhance Slough as a destination delivering the following added value to local residents, young people and people furthest from work. The opportunities presented by a career in regeneration are immense with a wide skill set, qualifications and careers. In establishing the whole of Slough as a regeneration campus, both physical and virtual, we will be setting a standard across a set of skills including digital, creative, artistic planning, asset management, project management.( all)
- 5.8 The resources necessary to deliver this which is seen as a new venture by the council include appropriate onsite training opportunities linked to real work, training premises to support theoretical learning and places where pilot works and training can be combined e.g. passivehaus or other modular methods of construction (AI).
- 5.9 Funding can be blended through various approaches including Skills Funding Agency funding, Local Enterprise Funding local growth funding ,construction and development partners, section 106 contributions as well as many other partner contributions in kind.

#### 6 Comments of Other Committees

This report has not been considered by any other committees.

#### 7. Conclusion

The feasibility and development of an SRC could provide not only for Slough but for the whole of the regeneration industry an innovative solution. Setting a high quality provision of trained experienced staff to deliver regeneration in the Borough with an innovative vision of career development to meet our young peoples aspirations.

### 8. Background Papers

None.