

**Extract from the Joint Strategic Committee - 7 October 2019**

**JSC/047/19-20 Grant Funding to assist the delivery of Key Strategic Housing sites in Adur**

**Purpose**

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for the Economy, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 11.

The report sought agreement to enter into a Funding Agreement with Homes England and the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to secure significant grant funding to help deliver two key strategic housing sites at New Monks Farm and Free Wharf, Shoreham Harbour.

The funding would help to secure public infrastructure in the form of a new junction on to the A27 for New Monks Farm and a new flood defence, and associated public realm at Free Wharf.

In addition, the report sought agreement to enter into side agreements with the relevant developers to indemnify the Council from any risks and to add the grant funding to next year's Capital programme.

**Summary of discussion:**

Officers drew the Committees attention to paragraph 4.5 of the report advising that a side agreement with Developers was necessary to ensure that there was no ongoing risk to the Council. The funding bodies could not pass funding directly to the developers and the Council was effectively the accountable body. It would be necessary, therefore, to provide ongoing monitoring of the projects and some level of project management and oversight of funding payments. This work would be carried out using existing staff resources.

In response to the question raised under public question time, officers referred to paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 in the report. Paragraph 4.1 of the report detailed the £5.7m LEP funding which would be used to help deliver a new roundabout junction on the A27, would unlocking the New Monks Farm development. Paragraph 4.2 provided

details of the £10m Homes England HiF funding for the Free Wharf development. Officers were seeking authorisation to use the money, at the appropriate moment, for the intended purpose and therefore the status of the s106 agreement was not material.

**Decision:**

**The Joint Strategic Committee**

- a) delegated authority to the Director for the Economy to enter into funding agreements with Homes England and the Coast to Capital LEP to assist the delivery of public infrastructure in connection with the New Monks Farm and Free Wharf strategic development sites;
- b) delegated authority to the Director for the Economy, at the sametime, to enter into side agreements with New Monks Farm Ltd and Southern Housing to indemnify the Council against any future claims for non compliance with any aspect of the funding agreements; and
- c) **recommended that Adur District Council include these projects, totalling £15.7 million, in the capital programme fully funded by external funding.**