

LOW CARBON HUB BOARD

Date: 7th October 2016

Subject: POTENTIAL EU FUNDING BIDS

Report of: Mark Atherton, GM Environment Director

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this paper is to outline the GM Environment Team's proposed approach to bidding for EU funding in 2016/17. This paper provides a brief update on the existing EU funded programmes and potential future EU funding bids.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board are recommended to:

- Note the report.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

TRACKING/PROCESS		[All sections to be completed]
Does this report relate to a Key Decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution or in the process agreed by the AGMA Executive Board		No
EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the AGMA Scrutiny Pool on the grounds of urgency?		[Please state any reasons here]
AGMA Commission	TfGMC	Scrutiny Pool
7 th October 2016	[Date considered at TfGMC; if appropriate]	[Date considered/or to be considered at Scrutiny Pool; if appropriate]

1. INTRODUCTION

Greater Manchester (GM) has benefited in the past from a number of Transnational European funding programmes managed by different Directorates within the European Commission (EC). Many innovative projects have been or are being delivered across GM with funding support from such programmes as INTERREG, Horizon 2020, LIFE or the 7th Framework. Annex 1 provides a summary of the projects that are of particular interest to the Low Carbon Hub.

Post Brexit, 2016/7 may see the final opportunity for the UK to bid for calls for projects in the current EU programmes.

The announcement from the HM Treasury, on 13 August, made reference to EU funding which is managed centrally by the Commission such as H2020, and other transnational funds. In the statement the Chancellor encouraged UK organisations to continue bidding for these competitive EU funds while UK remains a member of the EU. In the statement, Treasury also agrees to underwrite any payments of any granted EU contracts even if these projects continue beyond UK's departure from EU. The announcement has provided a level of reassurance to European partners that UK organisations are, and will continue to be, eligible for EU funding, and that an exit of the EU will not undermine any existing EU transnational project or proposal.

It is therefore believed that still more can be achieved from EU funds in the coming few years. This paper sets out the EU Transnational Programmes from which GM may still attract funding and outlines potential project bids in support of the GM's priority environmental objectives.

2. KEY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2016/7

2.1 Interreg North West Europe

2.1.1 Closing the Energy Performance Gap In Public Buildings

Project value - 6 Million Euros total budget

Project period. - 36 months

Partners - Salford University (Lead), MCC (On behalf of GM), The Hague, Region of Hesse, Lille Valley

The project is to review and understand the reasons why well designed buildings don't always deliver the actual energy efficiency performance promised, across public estates inclusive of schools and operational sites. The project will focus on the process solutions including, the selection of appropriate technologies and specification / procurement, through to the deployment, commissioning and soft landings of technologies. Invariably technologies are agreed on past experience and the norm as opposed to what is holistically required for the operational use of the building.

Status - rejected September 16

2.2 Horizon 2020

2.2.1 Energy Efficiency for the Future - Project Development Assistance

Project Value. - 1.1 Million Euros

Project period - 36 months Partners - MCC (on Behalf of GM)

The project proposes the creation of a GM wide 'Centre of Expertise' to enhance the current ELENA funded LC PDU with the ability to support Energy Efficiency projects across multiple public bodies and agencies. Energy Efficiency projects would be supported from feasibility through to financial closure with the primary aim of leveraging £20 million of project investment and developing a robust pipeline beyond the project life. Support available would include programme management, technical and commercial advice to provide GM with the missing links required to stimulate and unlock dormant project pipelines.

2.2.2 SMARTIES - Energy storage

Project Value - E16 million total project

Project period - 36 Months

Partners - EON (Lead), MCC (on behalf of GM), Region of Barcelona, City of Copenhagen (TBC), Stavenger Region (TBC), NE East region of Sweden

The purpose of the project is to increase the uptake in renewables by removing the fluctuations witnessed at a transmission network level through the use of energy storage solutions.

The project focuses on 4 demonstrator regions with existing renewable infrastructure either Wind, Solar, Hydro or high efficiency Gas CHP Heat Networks, trailing energy storage solutions with an intuitive ICT aggregator controller platform. The aggregator will have the capability to control and maximise the individual storage solutions, charging at optimum times and energy displacing to meet peak TRIAD times. Thus enabling the transmission network to request energy aggregated at times of need, as opposed to the time of generation. The ability to remove such fluctuations in generation to times of physical need would enable both the balancing of the grid to be achieved and the barriers to increased renewables to be removed. GM could witness up to E4 million of investment across 1000 homes, and up to 4 larger installations.

Submission - February 17

2.2.3 Engaging and activating public authorities

Project Value – up to €2m

Project period - 36 Months

Partners – tbc (potentially Carbon Literacy link)

Potential opportunity to participate in a proposal under action 2 of the Call - Peer to peer learning for public authorities - step up public authorities' capacity to help deliver the energy transition.

Submission date: February 15th 2017

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Board are recommended to:

- Note the report.

ANNEX 1 - Case Studies

Previous/Existing EU Transnational Projects in Greater Manchester – Relevant to GM Low Carbon Hub

SUFALNET
Sustainable Use of Former
and Abandoned Landfills



Policy Area: Environment
Oldham Budget: €189,000

Duration: 2010 – 2012
Intervention: 75%

Funder: Interreg IVC

The objective of the project was to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of regional policies in regulating and stimulating sustainable use of former and abandoned landfills, and identify a suitable pilot site to development a future use. SUFALNET funded the development of a comprehensive action plan that allowed us to progress the potential sustainable after-use of our demonstration site, the Moston Brook corridor. By commissioning vital intrusive site investigation work on this contaminated former landfill site, the results and recommendations have helped facilitate a potential mixed use leisure and residential development that brought increased use to a previously neglected site. After SUFALNET, a site that was once shunned due to its industrial legacy of tipping and contamination, is now the focus for attracting new residents and visitors to the area. The project involved 15 partners from 10 Member States.

Regions 4 GreenGrowth

Policy Area: Low Carbon
Oldham Budget: €147,583

Duration: 2012 – 2014
Intervention: 75%

Funder: Interreg IVC

The project sought to address the lack of investment in green infrastructure from the private sector. It addressed this problem by looking at the development of innovative financing instruments from both the public and private sectors. The project involved EU regions who have defined high sustainable energy ambitions. The overall objective of the project was to equip these regions with regional policy instruments and tools to improve access to finance and to speed up investments in sustainable energy projects (e.g. renewable energy generation capacity, energy efficiency measures). The Project involved thirteen partners from eleven Member States.



Policy Area: Transport
Oldham Budget: €385,000

Duration: 2012 – 2015
Intervention: 50%

Funder: DG MOVE

The project was designed to promote the use of bicycle as an alternative method of transport in order to reduce congestion, air and noise pollution as well as the use of land. Cycling is still one of the more vulnerable means of transport. One of the key factors to boost the use of bicycle is that users can feel safer on the road. Safety aimed at cyclists and pedestrians was also a key feature of the project. Improvements in cycling infrastructure as well as educational programmes were introduced across the three towns involved – Murcia, Varna and Oldham.



Policy Area: Energy/Env
Oldham Budget: €100,000

Duration: 2014 – 2016
Intervention: 67%

Funder: FP7

Led by Turin (Italy) the project was developed to design and deliver a managing system for district energy usage through the utilisation of new ICT processes. The partnership from Manchester includes Manchester University, Arup and Clicks and Links (a private ICT company) and Oldham Council. The local authorities are providing a demonstration sites in managing energy usage in public buildings. The project involves twelve partners from three Member States.



Policy Area: Environment
Oldham Budget: €233,000

Duration: 2015 – 2018
Intervention: 100%

Funder: Horizon 2020

RESIN aims to address the challenges faced by most urban areas as a result of climate change and more frequent extreme weather. The project will provide a platform to test a wide range of approaches to climate change adaptation vulnerability assessments, performance evaluations of adaptation measures and decision support techniques to help standardise and increase the extent climate change research drives and is embed into public policy and action plans. The project will also help analyse future development plans for cities and regions in order to be able to build in resilience measures to mitigate the impact of future development. The Pilots will take place in Paris, Bratislava, Bilbao and Greater Manchester.

Greater Manchester partners will receive €1.2m in total over three years with the University of Manchester getting the largest share allocation. The project involves 8 partners from four Member States.



Policy Area: Urban Policy
Manchester Budget: €250,000

Duration: 2013 – 2015

Funder: UBACT II

Intervention: 70%

Led by Manchester, CSI Europe was an Urbact funded Network looking at the involvement of cities in Urban Development Fund (UDF) structures and the way these instruments can be more effectively embedded in future city planning and governance. The project developed a Financial Instruments Toolkit providing an introduction to financial instruments to support urban development and successful implementation of UDF. Ten European cities were involved in the project.



DEMONSTRATE · DISSEMINATE · REPLICATE

Policy Area: Digital / Low C.

Duration: 2015 – 2020

Funder: Horizon 2020

Manchester Budget: €1,013,733 Intervention: 100%

Manchester is one of the three Smart Cities and Communities Lighthouse Projects funded by Triangulum, set to demonstrate, disseminate and replicate solutions and frameworks for Europe's future smart cities. The two other cities are Eindhoven (NL) and Stavanger (NO). The lighthouse projects will serve as a testbed for innovative solutions on sustainable mobility, energy, ICT and business opportunities. The project consortium combines interdisciplinary experience and expertise of 22 partners from industry, research and municipalities who share the same objective and commitment to develop and implement smart solutions. The overall budget of Triangulum is €30 million. In Manchester Triangulum will transform the Oxford Corridor into a smart city district. This will entail renovating historical buildings and building up an autonomous energy grid to supply the entire area with heat and electricity. The grid will combine geothermal and district heating with two independently operating electricity grids and a fuel cell that can store excess energy.

**Policy Area: Digital****Duration: 2015 – 2018****Funder: URBACT III****Manchester Budget: €250,000****Intervention: 70%**

Led by Manchester SmartImpact will deal with support municipalities in their quest for suitable governance models and business models that would allow for an uptake of connected and technology based solutions for a sustainable development of the cities. It will thereby focus on three core areas that help deal with the challenges outlined above: The municipal role in smart city business models and replication; The integrator within the municipality; The Smart City integrator and its role.

**ELENA – European Local
ENergy Assistance****Policy Area: Energy****Duration: 2015 – 2018****Funder: ELENA****Manchester Budget: €2,985,675 Intervention: 90%**

The ELENA funding (European Local Energy Assistant) has support GM with the creation and development of the Low Carbon Development Unit (LCDU). Its main tasks included supporting the development of two street lighting investment projects and six district heating network investment projects. In addition a Heat Network Procurement Framework will be set up to facilitate the development of abovementioned and other future investment projects.

**Policy Area: Transport /Low C****Duration: 2010 – 2014****Funder: Interreg NWE****TfGM Budget: €2,000,000****Intervention: 50%**

ICMA (Improving Connectivity and Mobility Access) was a TfGM led project involving 11 organisations from 7 European countries that created a transnational platform for sharing and transferring innovative and sustainable approaches towards providing attractive and effective alternatives to using the private car for the 'first and last miles' of journeys.

The project won a number of awards across Europe, in UK ICMA won the Railway Industry Innovation Award for a Community Ambassadors Scheme delivered by Northern Rail in 2012.



Policy Area: Transport /Low C **Duration: 2010 – 2014** **Funder: Interreg NWE**
TfGM Budget: €2,000,000 **Intervention: 50%**

The project was developed to help cities to reduce CO2 emissions in the public transport sector through more environmentally friendly behaviour and improvements to transport-related infrastructure. In Manchester Ticket to Kyoto funded a 23 metres high wind turbine at Horwich Parkway railway station and a hydropower plant at the Rochdale interchange.



Policy Area: Transport /Low C **Duration: 2016 – 2019** **Funder: Interreg Europe**
TfGM Budget: €273,000 **Intervention: 85%**

The project will aim at developing policies that support cleaner transport modes and systems, and that promote alternative mobility behaviour. The focus will be on reducing carbon emissions generated by retailing. During the life of the project partners will develop their own action plans and regional policies to reduce carbon emissions created by retail related traffic in town and city centres while also supporting jobs and growth in the local retail economy



Policy Area: Envi/WFD **Duration: 2015 – 2025** **Funder: LIFE**
GM Budget: £600,000 **Intervention: 60%**

The Environment Agency together with Greater Manchester (GM) was awarded €20m from the LIFE Programme (around £14.5m) to help GM to increase its capacity in the delivery of the Water Framework Directive. The project, which has Salford Council as the lead authority acting on behalf of GM, aims to build stakeholder capacity, reduce policy conflicts, identify water and flood management measures that produce multiple benefits - thus allowing greater use of relevant funds – and improve knowledge of innovative measures such as sustainable drainage systems. Greater Manchester will serve as the first pilot site during the first two and half years of the project.
