



Business Plan 2010/11

February 2010

Executive Summary

The East Midlands Leaders' Board brings together the leaders of the Region's 9 upper tier local authorities, plus one district council leader for each of the 5 county areas (making 14 in total). It has been agreed that the Chair of the Peak District National Park Authority will have special membership of the Board for discussions and decisions relating to the development, delivery and monitoring of the Regional Strategy.

The Leaders' Board will work with the East Midlands Development Agency (*emda*) to discharge the duties of the 'responsible regional authorities' (RRAs) under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction (LDEDC) Act 2009. The Leaders' Board also provides the Executive for East Midlands Councils, which is the wider representative body for all 46 local authorities in the East Midlands. This Business Plan relates solely to the Leaders' Board functions under the LDEDC Act and the discharge of CLG grant for these purposes. The amount of CLG grant represents a 10% reduction from the grant paid in 2009/10 to the Regional Assembly and this has been absorbed through a reduction in headcount and more efficient working through new management arrangements.

This Business Plan has been discussed with *emda* takes forward the Change Management Plan agreed by the Assembly, GOEM and *emda* in February 2009, and joint working arrangements agreed by the (shadow) East Midlands Leaders' Board and *emda* in January 2010. In summary, these comprise:

- Joint Strategy Advisory Board (JSAB) comprising 3 Members of the Leaders Board and 3 from the *emda* Board
- 'virtual joint team' of officers from both the Leaders' Board and *emda* to support the JSAB
- Sustainable Development Advisory Group
- Stakeholder Advisory Group
- Housing & Regeneration Working Group
- Sustainable Transport Working Group
- Economy & Skills Working Group
- Environmental Infrastructure Working Group

During 2010/11 the Leaders' Board will be working with *emda* to complete the RSS Partial Review submitted to the Secretary of State by the Regional Assembly in March 2010, as well as starting a wider review of the whole extant Regional Strategy.

In summary, the RRAs intend to scope the extent of this wider review by July 2010, assessing the requirements set out in primary legislation, regulations and various Government policy documents against the content of the extant Regional Strategy, and then develop a Review Project Plan for public consultation in September 2010. In parallel, work will commence with on developing the regional evidence base and refreshing the scoping reports for the sustainability Appraisal, Strategic Environment Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessments. Although a detailed timetable has yet to be fully developed and agreed by the RRAs, it is anticipated that a fully revised Regional Strategy will be adopted by the end of 2013.

Financial Summary – 2010/11

Income Requested

Funding Stream	Budget (£)
Previously notified CLG Grant	1,894,590
CLG addition to support collaborative working	6,750
Total	1,901,340

Planned Expenditure

Priorities	Budget (£)
Regional Strategy Development	923,650
Regional Strategy Implementation & Monitoring	609,250
Leaders' Board	368,440
Total	1,901,340

Priority 1: Regional Strategy Development**Total Cost: £923,650**

The focus for 2010/11 will be on completing the current Partial Review (covering transport, Lincolnshire Coastal Strategy, aggregates apportionment and renewable energy targets), and on starting the first full review of the extant Regional Strategy. Following an initial gap analysis, it is proposed to consult on a review project plan in September 2010 and on options in March 2011. This will require a considerable amount of resources to develop the technical evidence base and time spent working with stakeholders. Although a detailed timetable has yet to be agreed, it is anticipated that a fully revised Regional Strategy will be adopted by the end of 2012/13.

In addition, the Leaders' Board will contribute to the development of the Regional Skills Strategy which will be led by *emda*.

Milestone	Timing	Outputs	Inputs
Regional Spatial Strategy Stage 6: Test the draft revised Regional Plan (submitted by EMRA in March 2010) through consultation and Examination in Public	April – November 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inclusive consultation on the draft Plan (from April 1st to be treated as a partial review of the Single Regional Strategy) • Independent Examination in Public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Consultation and publicity
Regional Spatial Strategy Stage 7: Responsible Regional Authorities consider outcome of the EIP Panel report and consults on proposed changes	January 2011 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Changes along with a statement of reasons for the changes and, if appropriate, a revised sustainability appraisal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Consultation and publicity
Regional Spatial Strategy Stage 8: Secretary of State considers a final submitted plan for approval	Post March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan approved before end of 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Single Regional Strategy Stage 1: Undertake gap analysis of extant Regional Plan against Government requirements, and develop Review Project Plan for Public Consultation	April 2010– September 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inclusive and effective consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Stakeholder engagement • Consultation and publicity
Single Regional Strategy Stage 2: Develop the evidence base to support the scope and focus of a Single Regional Strategy	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A robust evidence base 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Studies
Single Regional Strategy Stage 3: Prepare issues and options, associated sustainability appraisal and consult	March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inclusive and effective consultation on issues and options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Consultation and publicity • Studies

Priority 1: Regional Strategy Development

2010/11 Budget	£
Staffing	420,400
Overheads - Accommodation	47,070
- Other running costs	36,980
Project Spend	419,200
TOTAL	923,650

Priority 2: Regional Strategy Implementation & Monitoring**Total Cost: £609,250**

Implementation and monitoring of the extant Regional Strategy and associated funding programmes will continue in parallel with strategy development. Particular priority will be given to the Regional DaSTS programme and working with the HCA to develop revised housing and regeneration investment priorities to inform the next CSR.

Milestone	Timing	Outputs	Inputs
<i>RS Implementation Plan</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective implementation of the RSS element of the extant Regional Strategy • Undertake conformity role for the RSS element of the extant Regional Strategy to ensure that local decisions reflect regional policies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time
<i>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</i>	February 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the AMR to demonstrate progress against existing policy evidence for ongoing reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Consultancy Support • Licensing and GIS mapping
<i>Management of DaSTS Regional Programme</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the development and oversight of the DfT DaSTS studies to determine appropriate long term interventions for the Region's transport needs to feed into SRS and the next CSR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time
<i>Management of Regional Funding Allocations (RFA) Transport Investment Programme</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective implementation of existing transport investment priorities within agreed regional budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time

<i>Management of Regional Single Housing Pot</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective prioritisation of CLG funding streams to deliver the extant Regional Housing Strategy and inform the next CSR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time
<i>Implementation of the Regional Climate Change Programme of Action</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective prioritisation of regional resources and action to deliver the extant CCPoA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time • Events and publicity

Priority 2: Regional Strategy Implementation & Monitoring

2010/11 Budget	£
Staff	420,400
Overheads - Accommodation	47,070
- Other running costs	36,980
Project Spend	104,800
TOTAL	609,250

Priority 3: Leaders' Board
Total Cost: £368,440

The priority for 2010/11 will be on the establishment of the Leaders' Board and its identity, and on supporting the joint working arrangements with *emda*. The redeployment of Regional Assembly and LGEM staff to East Midlands Councils will enable efficiencies in administrative support services to be realised and a tight control on overhead costs to be maintained.

Milestone	Timing	Outputs	Inputs
<i>Running costs associated with the Leaders' Board to contribute to the milestones associated with Regional Strategy and Implementation through high-quality support functions and corporate overhead costs.</i>	April 2010 – March 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation • Corporate Management and collaborative working with other regions • Effective financial management and administration • Effective corporate Communications and Website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent and site maintenance costs • Utility costs • Business rates • Staff time

Priority 3

2010/11 Budget	£
Staffing	210,200
Accommodation	42,020
Other running costs	33,220
Members' Costs	83,000
TOTAL	368,440

Accountability, Audit and Accounting Arrangements

Leicestershire County Council is the accountable body for both the East Midlands Leaders Board and East Midlands Councils, and working with the Internal Governance Board (of East Midlands Councils), will undertake to:

- (a) Secure value for money in all expenditure proposals and exercise appropriate high standards of financial stewardship in respect of all grant monies received.
- (b) Observe the required audit and accounting arrangements detailed in current CLG guidance and as agreed locally with GOEM.
- (c) Adhere to the grant claim schedule detailed below and agreed locally with GOEM.
- (d) Provide GOEM with a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts setting out a summary report of progress against the objectives detailed in this plan and an account of how Government grant has been used, supported by appropriate accounting and audit information.
- (e) Ensure it makes appropriate provisions to discharge its contractual commitments, including as an employer.

This Business Plan, developed in consultation with GOEM and *emda*, is submitted with the approval of Cllr David Parsons CBE and Cllr Jon Collins, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the East Midlands Leaders' Board.

Stuart Young
Executive Director
East Midlands Regional Assembly (on behalf of the East Midlands Leaders' Board)