

## Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board

<b>Date of meeting: 30 May 2013</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM NO:  6</b>
<b>Report title: Funding attracted to Bicester</b>	
<b>Author: Andrew Bowe (Eco Bicester Project Team)</b>	
<b>Tel: 01295 221842</b> <b>Email: andrew.bowe@Cherwell-dc.gov.uk</b>	

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report follows a request at the previous Board meeting for officers to provide a summary of the funding attracted to Bicester since the Eco Bicester project commenced. It provides an outline of the main sources of funding to the town and forms the basis of future work to monitor the funding and support available to delivery the various projects in the town.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 The ministerial statement In July 2009 accompanying the Government announcement on Eco towns referred to eco town start up funding and an extract is set out below:

*“To start this process we will support early demonstrator buildings to test and develop the new technologies needed, and so that local communities can help shape their further development. For the next two years I am providing £60M start up funding from the Growth Fund for this work for the four locations identified today. This is additional to mainstream funding for services. We expect that the bulk of investment in these schemes will be from the private sector, but eco-towns will also benefit from similar levels of public investment to any comparable large housing scheme and this will include continued growth funding over the period of major development.....*

- 2.2 The HCA set out the support for Local Authorities in October 2009 and this was a source of potential funds in the early stages of the project. The Eco Bicester Project has always looked to use funding to add value to specific developments and initiatives and this has proved to be a successful approach.
- 2.3 Since the identification of Bicester as a location as one of four Eco Towns efforts have been made to secure funding for the town. However since the economic climate has worsened, sources of public sector funding have become more scarce. The funding received is considered further below.

### 3. Funding Received

3.1 The table below outlines the main sources of funding received as part of the Eco Bicester project.

Project	Funding
Initial eco town funding	£9,720,687
Second bid funding	£3,550,000
Design for future climate – adaptation and overheating work on Exemplar	£100,000
Smart Demand – Carnego, Zeta and BioRegional	£100,000
BioRegional, Grassroots Bicester, CDC and OBU - LEAF funding	£68,000
Build Process	£668,000
Post occupancy evaluation of Bryan House –	£60,000
Green Deal Pioneers –	£280,000
phase 1 and £771K phase 2 - Innovative retrofit of the Garth –	£20,000
Reuse Centre	£40,000
Junction 9 M40 Phase 1	£3,600,000
Junction 9 M40 Phase 2	£6,250,000
Affordable Housing Grant for NW Bicester	6,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£30,454,687</b>

3.2 In summary, over £30 million pounds of funding have been secured for Bicester in the almost four years since the eco town was announced in the town. The initial eco towns start up funding amounted to over £13 million and remains the most significant source and as the Board will be well aware was allocated to a range of projects initially over a five year period. In addition £6 million of funding from the HCA will support the provision of affordable housing at NW Bicester.

3.3 The Department for Transport has funded the first phase of improvement to junction 9 of the M40 motorway and have identified further funding, together with Oxfordshire County Council for the second phase of improvements

3.4 The main sources of funding have been from Government Departments and agencies particularly CLG and HCA and the TSB. A report on the innovation project funded by TSB was presented to the January 2013 Board meeting. This has been a significant source of the project with several projects benefiting from the £250million fund, particularly in recent phases of the Eco Bicester Project, with BioRegional taking the lead on the successful bids. BioRegional has also worked closely with officers on submitting the successful bid for Green Deal pioneer places funding as set out in a separate report to the Board.

3.5 The Bicester Reuse and Sustainability Centre (Bicester Green) has been successful in securing funding from a number of sources including Oxfordshire Waste Partnership, Sanctuary Housing and Oxfordshire County Council.

3.6 Elsewhere in the town there has been significant investment in projects such as Sainsbury's £70 m redevelopment of the town centre with CDC and Stockdale Land; East West Rail and Chiltern Railways investment in Project Evergreen 3; Bicester Village investment; Junction 9 of M40; Countryside's investment in Kingsmere; South West Sports Village; NW Bicester Exemplar investment by P3Eco and A2 Dominion and Bicester Community Hospital to be funded by Kajima Partnerships.

- 3.7 To date applications for Regional Growth Funding and Growing Places Funding have been considered and CDC continues to put forward projects for funding through the LEPs. Other sources of funding are still available and various project funding opportunities continue to come forward.
- 3.8 From the outset of the Eco Bicester Project sources of funding have been put forward and support available from Government. However, Government sources of funding have been reduced and are unlikely to recover to the levels of funding provided to support the start up phase of the eco town.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- (1) The Eco Bicester Project team continue to identify sources of funding available to support the project.
- (2) Agree to work with partners to submit applications for funding.
- (3) Agree to monitor the funding and investment in the Eco Bicester project.