

Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission

28th January 2021



Report of: Stephen Peacock, Executive Director, Growth and Regeneration

Title: Capital Strategic Partnership

- Update on the purpose of the new Capital Strategic Partnership
- Our new Strategic Partner – strengths and opportunities
- Timescales for the mobilisation of the partnership

Ward: All

Officer Presenting Report: James Anderson, Head of Capital Projects

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Recommendation:

To note and comment

The significant issues in the report are:

The Capital Strategic Partnership will enable Bristol City Council to better achieve its ambitious aims for the City and its people. It will do this by fully leveraging the capacity and expertise that exists, both within the Council and with our Strategic Partner, significantly accelerating the pace of delivery of our Corporate Plan priorities and the One City Plan:

- The Capital Strategic Partnership is due to be mobilised 1st February 2021;
- This follows the award of the 7 year contract (worth up to £20m, but with no minimum commitment) on 11th January 2021;



1. Summary

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- Bristol City Council (“the Council”) has procured a Strategic Partner to accelerate the delivery of the Capital Programme. This followed Cabinet approval on 21st January 2020 which authorised the Executive Director of Growth and Regeneration (in consultation with the Deputy Mayor with responsibility for Finance, Governance and Performance and the Director Finance) to take all necessary steps to procure the Strategic Partner and conclude the appropriate agreements. The Strategic Partnership will be mobilised from contract commencement in February 2021.

2. Purpose

- The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission regarding the new Capital Strategic Partnership.

3. Policy

- Capital project delivery is guided by the Council’s Capital Programme 2020-2025, and the draft Capital Programme 2021-2026.

4. Update on the purpose of the new Capital Strategic Partnership

- The Vision for the Capital Strategic Partnership is to enable the Council to better achieve its ambitious aims for the City and its people. It will do this by fully leveraging the capacity and expertise that exists, both within the Council and with our Strategic Partner, significantly accelerating the pace of delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities and the One City Plan.
- The key objectives of the Council for this initiative are to:
 - Maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits arising from our Capital Investments through a partnership with an organisation which shares our core values and ambition for Bristol;
 - Provide us with flexible additional capacity to enable the provision of all resources necessary to deliver quality outcomes;
 - Ensure that the strategic partnership supports and enables innovation whilst offering an appropriate balance and management of project risk;
 - Work in partnership with an organisation which is able to rapidly scale up and down their capacity when required, and reduce reliance on ad hoc contractor support;
 - Develop and improve Council internal processes / procedures, and;
 - Increase internal competency and support culture change through two-way knowledge transfer and upskilling of the Council in-house team.

5. Our new Strategic Partner – strengths and opportunities

- Following a tender process using a Crown Commercial Services framework, the Council awarded the contract on 11th January 2021.
- *We will inform scrutiny of the details of the Strategic Partner and their supply chain prior the meeting, as soon as the contract has been signed (target date 26th January).*
- Opportunities through this Strategic Partnership include:
 - Deliver more development and regeneration in Bristol, and at pace;
 - Partner to act as a Trusted Advisor, bringing insights, innovation and wider expertise;
 - Reduction in ad hoc consultancy & multiple separate procurement routes;
 - Opportunity to learn: e.g. from private sector practice, tools, partnership working (and shares practice into the private sector);
 - Access to national (and global) specialists we do not have in the Council;

- Improve how the Council acts as a client and governs capital projects; improve how the Council operates.

6. Timescales for the mobilisation of the partnership

- The target contract start date is 1st February 2021. The following contractual milestones are in place:

Dates and Times	Activity
Target 26/01/21	Expected execution (signature) date for Contract
Target 01/02/21	Expected commencement date for Contract
Target 01/02/21	Mobilisation / Baselineing
w/c 22/02/21	Supplier hosted 'Partnering' & 'Train the Trainer' workshop forums
w/c 01/03/21	Supplier delivery and presentation of their 'Action Plan'
w/c 15/03/21	Establishment of an outstanding Strategic Partnership-Portfolio Management Office (SP-PMO)
w/c 05/04/21	Introduction of robust Change and Risk Management regimes.
Target 03/05/21	Commence execution of 'Day 1' projects
Target 03/05/21	Supplier develops 'Day 2' project requirements & Commences Capital Plan process review

- The 'hub' of the partnership will be the Strategic Partnership Portfolio Management Office (SP-PMO) which will drive delivery of all Strategic Partner work, as well as manage all performance information relating to all Capital projects the partnership is involved in, including risk, change management, social value and cost.

7. Next steps

Once the Strategic Partnership has been established an update on progress will return to G&R Scrutiny Commission.

Appendices:

[Slide deck: Capital Strategic Partnership](#)