

Coast to Capital Projects Pillar Committee Meeting No 3
27th April 2017 10.30-12.30pm
Coast to Capital Offices, room: Carpenter

Attendees:

Jonathan Sharrock – Chair (Coast to Capital)	JS
Anthony Middleton – Deputy Chair (Coast to Capital)	AM
Hannah Gosling – Growth Deal Project Manager (Coast to Capital)	HG
Cali Stanton – Projects Administrator (Coast to Capital)	CS
Cath Goodall – Relationship Manager (BEIS)	CG
Arinola Adebekun – WSCC Accountable Body	AA
Christopher Neville – WSCC Accountable Body	CN
Martin Yates – WSCC Accountable Body	MY
Andy Thorn – WSCC Accountable Body	AT
Lee Sambrook – DFT	LS

Apologies:

Paul Castle – Commercial Manager (Coast to Capital)
Nigel Stewardson – Deputy Relationship Manager (BEIS)

JS opened the meeting with a welcome and general introductions were made by all in attendance.

1. Growth Deal Financial Update 16/17

HG went through the financial figures for 16/17.

HG & AM explained that in the 16/17 financial year, a more tactical approach was taken in regards to clawing back unspent LGF allocation. Those projects who asked to flex to close to the claim deadlines were rejected, setting an example for future years. CG said it is encouraging to see the process is going in the right direction.

2. 17/18 Growth Deal Update

AM took everyone through the Growth Deal Update paper and made particular points of the below areas;

Item 2.3 –shows unallocated funding in 17/18 that would combine with the unallocated amount over the next 3 years, to provide a single pot of funding. C2C are proposing to build a pipeline of projects to avoid catching up and number of calls for bids.

AM discussed that the GD3 allocation for 17/18 was higher than anticipated, therefore C2C suggests, that with the approval of the accountable body, the remaining £7million is released flexibly for 17/18 years for the approved projects. AM also mentioned the possibility of holding the remaining funds with the accountable body,

It is planned that the new call for bids, will fall in line with the new Business plan, which links with Coast to Capital's industrial strategy response. LS brought to light that a pipeline of bids would help reduce the amount of work required.

3. Growth Deal Future Bidding Rounds (lessons learned)

AM took the committee through the paper on future bidding rounds lessons learned, and emphasized that the last round of bids highlighted that the Investment Committee would like more control in determining the projects which are awarded funding. It was discussed that we may be able to provide more control in terms of the criteria and weightings.

AM asked the accountable body if it was possible for C2C to put clauses set by the investment committee within the funding agreement, to help get a little more control of the projects e.g. having an equity stake. CG to find out in further detail about writing clauses in the funding agreements – and discuss further with the accountable body.

AM highlighted that there were a few issues in the last round of funding allocation regarding state aid. It was asked if LGF funding should be given out to private organisations. JS also discussed the fact that many of the transport schemes bring around significant public outcomes, however a lot suffer with state aid. CG asked if we have compared C2C to other LEPs.

4. Update on Projects Dashboard + Risk Registers

CS went through the dashboard, and the process behind how the information feeds into each segment. Explained current figures that are shown are true and accurate based on the Q4 Claims.

JS emphasized how C2C have an enormous portfolio of 74 projects, which provides a huge challenge to track and monitor each project. In light of this, C2C have a commitment to resource up, to help reduce the risks.

JS wanted everyone to understand that the dashboards are still a work in progress, and encourages feedback on how we can improve the system. Comments were given regarding the dashboard, and key areas included having a fourth risk category for completed projects, and core outputs to reflect yearly targets of where we are now. CS to look into these area's for the next update.

AM went through the 4 high risk projects shown on the dashboard in more detail.