



| <u>Officer and Date</u>   |
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| Cabinet                   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 |

| <u>Item</u> |
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## ONE PUBLIC ESTATE – SHROPSHIRE ESTATE PARTNERSHIP

**Responsible Officer** Steph Jackson  
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### 1. Summary

- 1.1 One Public Estate (OPE) is an initiative delivered in partnership by the Cabinet Office Government Property Unit (GPU) and the Local Government Association (LGA). It provides practical and technical support and funding to councils to deliver ambitious property focussed programmes in collaboration with central government and other public sector partners.
- 1.2 OPE partnerships across the country have shown the value of working together across the public sector and taking a strategic approach to asset management. At its heart, the programme is about getting more from our collective assets – whether that's catalysing major service transformation such as health and social care integration and benefits reform, unlocking land for new homes and commercial space, or creating new opportunities to save on running costs or generate income.
- 1.3 The four core objectives of the programme are:
  - Creating economic growth (new homes and jobs)
  - More integrated, customer-focussed services
  - Generating capital receipts
  - Reducing running costs

### 2. Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet are requested to agree the submission (if the current bid is successful) of an Asset Delivery Plan for further OPE funding (£500,000) by Shropshire Council as lead body of the Shropshire Estates Partnership and delegate the preparation and submission of the plan to the Chief Executive who will submit an Assets Delivery Plan.

## REPORT

### 3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 The Shropshire Estates Partnership has a wide range of bodies represented. All are currently committed to preparing a collaborative asset plan and delivering collocated services.
- 3.2 As lead body of local partners Shropshire Council will be responsible for the collection of contributions for any bid support or match funding that the funding from the bidding process will not cover.
- 3.3 The bid may not be successful so funding will need to be provided if the programme ambitions are to be delivered. Each project will need to be considered on its merits and contributions between partners negotiated with future savings to each organisation being the driver.

### 4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. The value of the feasibility bid if successful is £50,000 that would be available to the Board to undertake an assessment of each project put forward in the bid.
- 4.2. The Final Services and Assets Delivery Plan submitted by Shropshire Council as lead body, will reflect the projects considered viable following the feasibility work if successful this bid is valued up to £500,000 to assist in the project delivery.

### 5. Background

- 5.1 Following a meeting of Cabinet and partners in 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016 a Shadow Assets Board of all key partners was formed and a terms of reference for a Shropshire Estates Partnership (SEP) agreed. The terms of reference are attached at Appendix B. The SEP comprises:

- Shropshire Council (the lead authority)
- Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital Trust
- Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital Trust
- West Mercia Police (represented by Place Partnership)
- Shropshire Fire Authority
- Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust
- Shropdoc (Shropshire Doctors Co-operative Ltd)
- NHS Clinical Commissioning Group
- South Staff's and Shropshire Community Mental Health Trust
- National Probation Service
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Defence
- University Centre Shrewsbury (University of Chester)
- Shropshire Town & Rural Housing (STAR Housing).
- DWP – Job Centre Plus
- NHS Property Services

- Network Rail

- 5.2 On the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016 the LGA invited authorities to apply for funding from the OPE programme, the deadline for feasibility funding was 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Please note that a feasibility funding bid (£50,000) to the OPE programme has been submitted to the Local Government Association. The bid is attached at Appendix A. The decision regarding our expression of interest will be announced on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016.
- 5.3 Following a meeting of partners on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016 it was agreed that Shropshire Council as lead local partner of the Shropshire Estates Partnership prepare an outline programme supported by Place Partnerships and a bid for feasibility funding was submitted.
- 5.4 Place Partnership are a company owned by West Mercia Police, Hereford and Worcester Fire Authority, Worcestershire County Council, Redditch Borough Council and Worcester City Council who have successfully secured OPE funds and are already working with Police and Fire colleagues on asset rationalisation.
- 5.5 If this bid is successful a Final Services and Assets Delivery Plan will be developed for submission on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2016. The decision regarding our Asset Delivery Plan will be announced on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016.

## **6 Alternative Options and Appraisal**

- 6.1 Whilst the LGA has invited expressions of interest for funding even if the bid is not successful there are many opportunities for major service transformation such as health and social care integration and benefits reform, unlocking land for new homes and commercial space, or creating new opportunities to save on running costs or generate income.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1 Having prepared an outline of opportunities that partners can work through it was considered prudent to seek additional funding that was available to employ project support to carry out a feasibility exercise.
- 7.2 Once the feasibility exercise is complete and given the current financial constraints a further funding bid to assist in project delivery is recommended.

**List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)**

**Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)**

Michael Wood

Robert Tindall (Deputy)

**Local Member**

All

**Conflicts of interest declared by members**

**Appendices**

A. One Public Estate – Expression of Interest on behalf of the Shropshire Estate Partnership dated 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016

B. Shropshire Estates Partnership Terms of Reference