

Report to: Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board

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Hillhouse Enterprise Zone: Progress Report

Masterplan and Baseline Report

The Mott MacDonald led master planning consultancy team, with IBI Group and How Planning have completed the Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone Masterplan (*see Appendix 1 Hillhouse Technology EZ Masterplan November 2018*) and the Baseline Report.

Following Portfolio Holder approval in April 2018, Public and Statutory Consultation finished on 1 November 2018. On 12 October a 'Drop in Event' at Thornton FC was held from 1pm – 6pm, which was well attended.

In total, 33 responses from individuals and organisations were received during the three week consultation period. All responses received have been fully reviewed and considered and this has led to a number of proposed modifications to the masterplan

The consultation comments received have been analysed and considered to enable the Masterplan to be finalised. (*see Appendix 2 Consultation Report 2018*)

The Masterplan will be considered at the Cabinet meeting on November 28th.

Marketing

A Marketing Strategy for Hillhouse Enterprise Zone will be prepared in house and will complement the Delivery (Implementation) Plan and the Masterplan. The Strategy will complement the overarching Lancashire Advanced Manufacturing Energy Cluster (LAMEC) branding and marketing approach adopted for the four Lancashire EZ's.

New site signage will be installed at three locations around the EZ boundary. Ground surveys have now been undertaken and installation can commence once advertisement consent has been granted.

www.hillhouseez.com is now live. There is some development work to add context to the site including an enquiry handling form, news feed page and some interactive layers which describe in detail the different EZ sites in Lancashire.

Implementation / Delivery Plan

Work commenced on the detailed EZ Delivery Plan earlier this year. Now that the Masterplan is completed work to complete the Delivery Plan has recommenced in conjunction with consultants Genecon, utilising initial data from the Masterplan and Baseline Report. The delivery plan will be prepared in line with the Masterplan. The delivery plan will account for capital and revenue expenditure required to deliver the EZ. Main issues that need to be addressed are:

- State Aid in terms of major land owners NPL Group
- To consider the recommendations made in the Masterplan regarding undertaking specific surveys and assessments of the whole site
- Produce a 5 year forecast with a detailed plan for the 1st Phase (3 years) including a cost plan
- Costings for detailed site surveys, including Flood Risk Assessment and highway assessment

We will continue to work with Genecon and NPL Group to develop the plan and envisage a first draft be completed by January 2019.

Forthcoming Activity

- i) Draft Delivery Plan by January 2019
- ii) A flood risk assessment to be commissioned for the entire site
- iii) A transport assessment is advised to be commissioned for the entire site
- iv) An Environmental and Ecology study to be commissioned for the entire site
- v) The planning application process for the gas fired power station, will be monitored and support offered as appropriate
- vi) Advice will be obtained on potential State Aid implications of public funding of enabling infrastructure – within this designated EU assisted area
- vii) Completing draft Marketing Strategy