

**Report to: Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board**

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Wyre Council**

**Date of Meeting: 5 February 2019**

### **Hillhouse Enterprise Zone: Progress Report**

#### **Masterplan and Baseline Report**

The Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone Masterplan was adopted at Cabinet on November 28<sup>th</sup> 2018.

#### **Marketing**

The application for Advertising Consent was submitted January 4<sup>th</sup>. Site notices went up Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January (3 weeks). Pending any major issues installation should take place in February 2019.

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

#### **Implementation / Delivery Plan**

Work is progressing on the Implementation Plan.

We are currently awaiting comments from the main land owner NPL Group regarding phasing and some costings. A first draft will be considered by the council before being finalised. There are early issues that have been identified:

- State Aid in terms of major land owners NPL Group – we are taking independent advice on this via our Head of Finance (Section 151 officer).
- To actively consider the recommendations made in the Masterplan regarding undertaking specific surveys and assessments of the whole site

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

### **Forthcoming Activity**

- i) Complete Delivery Plan by mid- February 2019
- ii) A flood risk assessment to be commissioned for the entire site
- iii) A transport assessment 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