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to stay, to grow!**

Staveley Town Deal Board

11th March 2022

Update on Hartington Industrial Park

Item 5b

1. Background

As noted at previous Board meetings, the project to provide power to a major Industrial Park creating jobs and growth for Staveley has been delayed due to the complexity of options for the power to be routed to site. This includes crossing the canal, rail lines, roads and accessing various land in multiple land ownerships.

2. Latest position

The project sponsor has been working with Western Power who, in August 2021 provided initial scheme plans to secure a route for power to the site and a quotation was requested. Only in February 2022, did Western Power provide a formal quotation for a range of route options from the sub station at Hollingwood Hub to site. This has taken much longer than anticipated to arrive and still requires further work to refine the route options given the complexity outlined above and changes to the road and rail infrastructure in the area that are planned.

Western Power has taken longer than planned to provide a quote, therefore, Suon has not been able to firm up the Business Case, and in turn the Internal Programme Board has not been able to review it, and is not in a position to make a recommendation about the project to the Town Deal Board. Given this, it will not be possible to seek Town Deal Board approval in time to return a summary document to government by the deadline in March. Since the delay has been caused by Western Power, the only power supplier for the site and local area, it is deemed appropriate to request a formal extension to the March deadline in order that the Town Deal Board can receive a properly developed business case and make an informed decision about the project. Until that can happen, it would be prudent to maintain the current allocation for the project, whilst recognising that this position cannot be maintained indefinitely.

3. Recommendations

Given the above position, it is recommended that the Board:

- 1) Make a formal request, through the Chair, to government for an extension to the deadline for submitting summary documents for this project. This extension would be for 4 months from the 24 March 2022, the Government formal submission date for Staveley Town Deal (during which time it is anticipated that route for the power can be confirmed and the full business case developed and assessed).
- 2) Agree to keep the current allocation (£2,148,000) for the project in place for a maximum period of four months.