

Meeting:	BNG Board
Date:	23 November 2007
Contact:	Anne Mulroy
Board Action:	For Discussion
Sensitivity:	Public

Subject: Item 5 - Business Plan 2008-11

Link to BNG Vision and Objectives:

The Business Plan will deliver the BNG Vision and Objectives 2008-11.

Recommendation:

Board notes the process and progress of the 2008-11 Business Plan.

Executive Summary:

- BNG has submitted a Business Plan case to CLG for 2008-11 of £105m.
- Board are asked to note the process for the Business Plan to be considered by CLG. In addition, a number of related activities are currently underway.
- The Changing Place document has now been published and circulation has begun.
- The draft summary of the research by Professor Glen Bramley on modelling future markets in BNG is appended to this report.
- The joint submission by Newcastle City Council, Gateshead Council and BNG for Growth Point Expression of Interest is also appended to this report.
- Letter to Rt Hon Nick Brown.

Implications	
Financial:	Business Plan will determine allocation from CLG for 2008-11.
Equality:	All activities in the Business Plan consider the impact on equality.
Freedom of Information:	Public
Report Status:	Open

Risk	
Strategic:	The Business Plan process outcome will affect BNG's ability to achieve its strategic objectives. Scenario planning is currently being carried out to determine level of risk at various funding levels.

Report to: BNG BOARD – 23 NOVEMBER 2007

Subject: BUSINESS PLAN 2008-11

1. THE BUSINESS PLAN

The Business Plan for 2008-11 needs to be reviewed in the context of a number of related pieces of work and initiatives within BNG. It is a comprehensive document but, as the submission to CLG for funding, it is only one part of the framework which will guide our work in 2008-11.

The Business Plan was submitted to CLG on 2 November and will be considered by Ministers in January 2008. The Plan will be considered in the context of current evidence of the market, achievement of outputs and targets. It will be reviewed by the Audit Commission and Government Office. Copies have already been circulated to Board Members. (Hard copies will be available at the meeting).

2. THE AUDIT COMMISSION

The Audit Commission have submitted their Stage 1 Review to CLG and have assessed BNG as 'performing strongly'. Item 9 on the main agenda is a summary report of their findings and a table of comments and actions required to further improve current levels of performance. The report indicates a direction of travel which will need to be maintained.

3. THE CHANGING PLACE DOCUMENT

The Changing Place document, which reflects our six month strategic review, has now been published and is being circulated widely with Partners, Stakeholders and key influencers. The document's findings are the foundation of our Business Plan and we are promoting it widely to demonstrate the fit of our plans with the wider City Region and the importance of the function and continued success of our neighbourhoods to achieving BNG's vision.

The document emphasises that investment choices are made now matter crucially to the success and sustainability for the future of the urban core.

4. SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ON IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Changing Place is supported by the ground-breaking research being carried out by Professor Glen Bramley of Herriot Watt in research modelling future markets. This research is currently in draft form and an initial summary is attached at Appendix 2. The research assesses the impact of different scenario and policy interventions on the outcomes for NewcastleGateshead and is an important demonstration of the need for continued high intervention.

5. **GROWTH POINT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Market Renewal and Growth are inextricably linked and, in recognition of this, an Expression of Interest has been submitted jointly by Newcastle City Council, Gateshead Council and BNG for Growth Point status.

The submission relates to the work of NewcastleGateshead and recognises the importance of the initial strengthening of the urban core by Growth activity in identified BNG sites in the early years with Growth in the outer areas following this so that Market Renewal is strengthened by Growth.

The Expression of Interest is attached to this report at Appendix 3.

6. **INFLUENCING THE OUTCOME**

The letter attached at Appendix 4 was sent to Nick Brown on 6 November and outlines our case for resources for 2008-11 and the linkages of our Business Plan submission to related initiatives and research within BNG.

7. **RECOMMENDATION**

Board are asked to consider and comment on any of the Business Plan 2008-11 activities outlined above.