



REPORT of CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**to
COUNCIL
13 JULY 2017**

BRADWELL POWER STATION

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members on discussions with EDF regarding the potential location of a new nuclear power station at Bradwell-on-Sea (Bradwell B), and to propose the formation of a Joint Bradwell Member Board, comprising Members and Officers from Maldon District Council (MDC) and Essex County Council (ECC) to facilitate partnership working on areas of mutual interest.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the draft Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) vision for the Bradwell Nuclear Power Station Project set out at **APPENDIX 1** which will form the basis of a Planning Performance Agreement setting out mutually agreed project outcomes, be endorsed.

3. AREA FOR DECISION / ACTION

- 3.1 A key element in the capacity of the Joint Councils (MDC and ECC) to effectively engage in the Bradwell project is the extent to which they are adequately and proportionately resourced by the scheme developer. The approach of parties signing up to a PPA is now commonplace and is a feature of the UK contemporary nuclear new build programme. A PPA affords Councils the opportunity to provide support to officer duties which facilitate engagement in a project at a scale and complexity that is relatively unusual within the national and regional context. This can include the need to supplement Council resources with wider advice drawn from specialist organisations and to seek support in respect of additional capacity. The overall aim is to ensure no deterioration in wider service capacity as a consequence of addressing the particular challenges of responding to a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
- 3.2 Experiences on other contemporary nuclear new build (and also grid transmission) has shown that having a shared vision at the project outset can be highly beneficial in ensuring that the PPA is tailored against the backdrop of mutually preferred outcomes. Early alignment on a PPA vision will be crucial to achieve effective working within the Joint Councils, with wider regulators/stakeholders and the developer.

- 3.3 A draft vision is attached at **APPENDIX 1** to the report for Members' comment and consideration. The PPA vision was initially informed by ARUP Consultant's experience from Hinkley, Wylfa and Moorside as contemporary nuclear programmes along with a broad understanding of underlying constraints and opportunities at a site level. The PPA vision attempts to reflect both the needs of the developer as well as the anticipated overriding principles for the Joint Councils. The draft vision has been updated and endorsed by the Joint Member Bradwell Board.

4. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 4.1 Delivery of a new nuclear power station at Bradwell is a key project set out in the Council's Corporate Plan for 2017 / 18.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – A key role of the Board will be to ensure that the Maldon and the wider community play an active role in the project and that a rigorous public engagement process is undertaken.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None identified.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – None identified.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – The PPA will form the basis of the Joint Council's bid for resource from the developer to provide sufficient resource and expertise to properly fulfil their requirements throughout the various stages of the project.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – Initial support will be provided within existing resources.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – The Council will, at the appropriate stage have the opportunity to input into the screening and scoping report for the Environmental Impact Assessment to be submitted as part of the Development Consent application.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 A clear PPA vision set out at the outset of the Bradwell New Build project will help the Joint Councils develop a clear programme of work set out to achieve mutually desired project outcomes.

Background Papers: None.

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