

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND
REGIONAL TRANSPORT BOARD**

Date: 13 July 2007

Subject: **Transport Innovation Fund – Productivity Strand**

Report of: Director of Development
South East England Regional Assembly

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board note the contents of the report

Purpose of Report:

To update the Board on the context within which the region might respond to the opportunities presented by the Transport Innovation Fund.

I. Update

- I.1 At its last meeting the Board discussed a paper outlining how the region might begin to respond to the opportunities presented by the Transport Innovation Fund.
- I.2 The suggestion was that a co-ordinated approach to putting forward proposals for consideration as potential TiF-Productivity (TiF-P) schemes would be desirable. It was further suggested that to help organise the region's approach it would be helpful to set up a scheme preparation group on a 'task and finish' basis.
- I.3 In the intervening period we have had the opportunity to reflect further on the potential to secure additional resources from the TiF-P. It is clear that there already exists a number of major transport proposals that have national significance, the funding for which has yet to be secured. Crossrail is a good example of the kind of proposal that falls into this category.
- I.4 It is also clear that there already exists a number of major proposals coming forward that would help take forward national policy objectives, again, funding for which has yet to be secured. The package of proposals associated with the introduction of road user charging in Manchester is an example of this kind of proposal.
- I.5 In this context one quickly comes to the conclusion that the scope to secure additional funds is going to be extremely limited, notwithstanding that the scale of the fund itself is significant.
- I.6 We need to develop our thinking in respect of the TiF-P quickly to ensure that the region is well placed to take advantage should there be an opportunity to secure additional funds. However, our thinking needs to be tempered with an understanding of the context set out above; we will continue to do this through the 'task and finish' group referred to previously.

Martin Tugwell
Director of Development

3 July 2007

Contact: Martin Tugwell; Director of Development
T: 01483 555211 E: martintugwell@southeast-ra.gov.uk