

Economic Agreement with Nanjing

To: Economy & Environment Committee

Meeting Date: 27th May 2014

From: Graham Hughes, Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To outline for Committee how it is proposed to take forward discussions in relation to the proposed Economic Cooperation with Nanjing, China.

Recommendation: Committee is asked to note the way forward in relation to the proposed Economic Cooperation with Nanjing, China.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A Motion was considered and passed at Full Council on 13th May 2014 outlining proposed economic cooperation between Cambridgeshire and Nanjing, China. Council requested that through the Economy & Environment Committee an economic partnership agreement be drawn up.

2. MAIN ISSUES

- 2.1 The wording of the agreed motion is as follows:

This Council notes that:

- *an approach has been received from the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China on behalf of the city of Nanjing, in respect of Economic cooperation with the businesses and institutions of Cambridgeshire.*
- *Nanjing is one of the four ancient capital cities of China and is located in the Yangtze River Delta. It is the capital city and political, economic scientific, educational, and cultural centre of Jiangsu Province, it has a population of 8 million. It has Universities of more than 800,000 students and is home to 75 high-level scientific institutes, 307 technical engineering research centres and has 80 academy fellows. It has a mix of emerging research facilities and industries that mirror many of those in Cambridgeshire, and the East of England.*

This council believes:

- *That this is a very exciting and welcome approach from Nanjing City, and the potential for Economic development, technological research, and cooperation between us should be further explored.*

Therefore, this council calls on the Economy and Environment Committee to:

- *Draw up an appropriate form of words acceptable to the City of Nanjing and Cambridgeshire County Council, following consultation with principal businesses, trade associations and appropriate institutions in and around Cambridgeshire by its September committee meeting.*

- 2.2 In order to take this forward, it is proposed that work is undertaken to consult with local businesses, trade associations and appropriate institutions to determine what elements such an agreement should contain in to deliver the maximum benefit to them and the broader economy. The results of this consultation will be presented back to the Committee, together with a proposed response to the City of Nanjing, in September 2014.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

This has the potential to bring economic benefits to Cambridgeshire and therefore it supports corporate priorities.

3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives

There are no significant issues under this heading.

3.3 Supporting and protecting vulnerable people

There are no significant issues under this heading.

4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resource Implications

It is intended that this work will be resource neutral for the Council and the lead will be taken by the private sector.

4.2 Statutory, Risk and Legal Implications

There are no implications under this heading.

4.3 Equality and Diversity Implications

There are no implications under this heading.

4.4 Engagement and Consultation Implications

The Council will be working closely with partners to shape this proposed economic cooperation.

4.5 Localism and Local Member Involvement

There are no implications under this heading.

4.6 Public Health Implications

There are no implications under this heading.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS GUIDANCE

Source Documents	Location
Motion to Council	B301, Castle Court