2. INFORMATION

2.1 The officer steering group agreed early on that it would be helpful to commission a piece of work, using capacity fund money, to provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities that the garden communities project faced, and which would produce a work plan to guide and prioritise the work of the Joint Delivery Unit.

2.2 Attached as Appendix “E” is an extract from the contract brief and tender documents, which were issued in May 2015 to interested providers. Three companies submitted quotes and the contract was awarded to Aspinall Verdi who started work in July.

2.3 They intend to complete their work by September and it is therefore planned to present their conclusions to the next meeting of this joint committee – assuming that is either late September or early October.

2.4 Their report will look beyond March 2016 (which is the end period for the initial funding support from CLG) and therefore will help the partnership decide how to pitch its proposals to government for its continued support beyond that date.

2.6 Members are invited to ask questions about the project brief and timetable.