Southampton City Council Thornhill District Energy Scheme

Project Development



Strategic Drivers

- Fuel poverty for residents
- Building performance and long term maintenance and replacement costs
- Potential revenue streams
- Reducing CO2
- Attracting external funding
- The Council's energy ambitions (SEAP)



Why Would the Council Invest?

- Controlling affordable heating costs for tenants
- HRA investment funding
- Lower public sector interest rates
- Potential revenue streams
- Longer term aspirations as an energy provider



Business Modelling & Risk

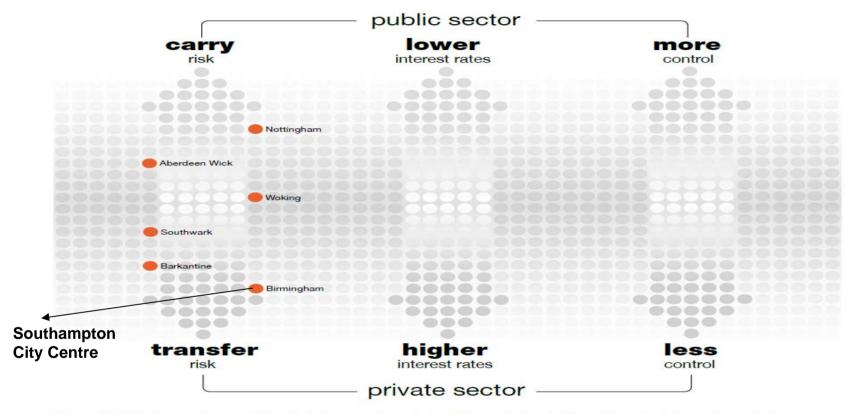
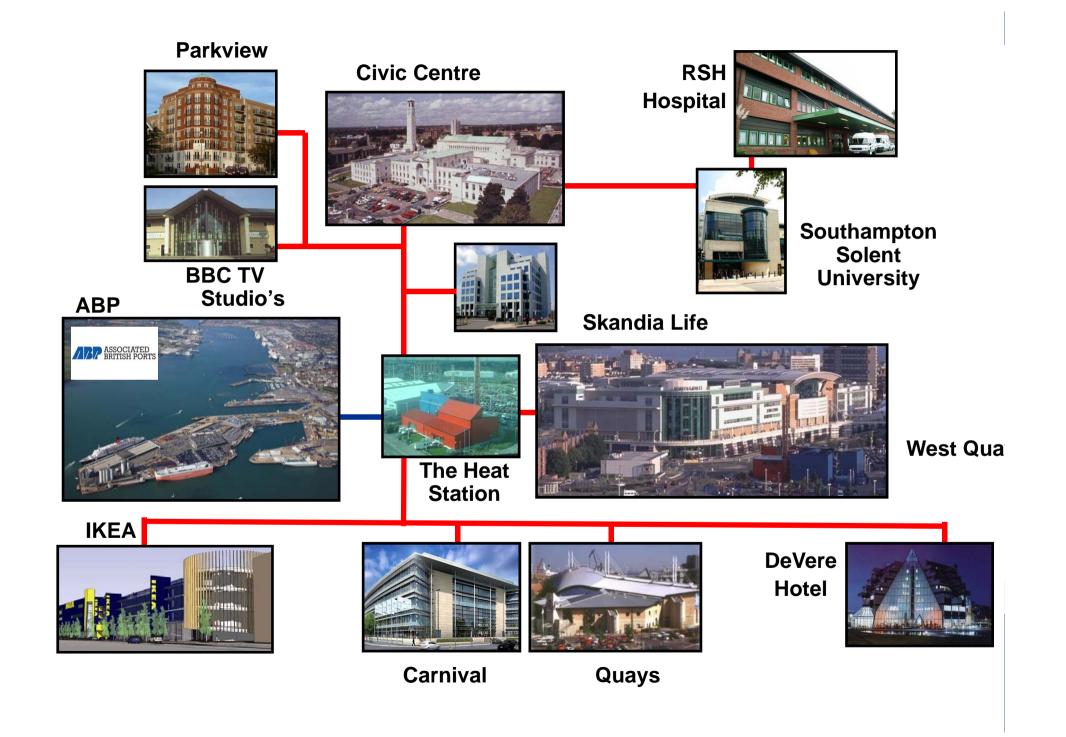


Figure 15: This diagram shows relationship between risk, control and the cost of capital for public and private sector projects









The November Opportunity

- A new heating, hot water and insulation system for 1,050 residents
- Initial energy cost savings of up to 25% and future protection from price rises
- Reduced capital and maintenance charges
- Min £30 million investment to 2015 across Thornhill (Insulation and Heating) with external funding of over £22 million (ECO)
- Council income from generated electricity
- Potential phase 2 post 2015 (min 550 flats and 3 schools)



Opportunity qualification

- Existing Heat mapping and Energy master planning completed
- Thornhill identified as priority location
- Initial concept development/feasibility completed
- OJEU Framework Contract completed



DE Capital Funding (Nov 13)

- c£14 million phase 1 (1,050 homes)
- HRA (lifetime avoided costs)
- ECO (£145/tonne CO2)
- No General Fund contribution to capital build costs
- c£10 million Insulation

Potential for a phase 2 (550 homes from 2015)



DE Revised Capital Funding Estimate

- Potential funding gap of £1.5m £2m
- Tower blocks Insulation requires a far greater HRA capital contribution



However

- Market testing has identified options for significant ECO grant investment for the scheme
- District Heating now considered a Primary Measure by DECC
- Possible JV utility partnership could reduce long term operational and investment risk
- DECC funding support is available to support further project development costs
- New delivery model could be a sustainable model for use elsewhere in the City.



Principle Priorities

- Establish a utility partnership
- Implementation of a disciplined evaluation and business case close-out programme
- Produce staged decision gateways to minimise
 SCC cost and risk



Stage 1 – Project Viability Activity 1 – 3.

- Secure Project Development grant funding
- oProduction of project business case Update members.
- oCompletion Mid July

Stage 2 – Target Financial Close Activity 4-6

- oSome works within these disciplines can be initiated during Stage 1 to accelerate programme
- oCompletion Nov 14

Stage 3 – Post Financial Close support Activity 7-8

- Specific initiatives to be agreed
- oProject live Feb 16



- SCC has undertaken considerable project qualification work to determine project viability for a scheme at Thornhill.
- Members have approved funding to support the further development of this scheme
- SCC has identified specific work packages to progress the project to Financial Close
- The completion timescale for the project is critical to enable the maximum ECO funding from Npower and to contribute to the scheme viability.
- SCC is applying for funding from HNDU and has the mandate to match this (@33%)
- SCC will in parallel continue to support the project development via its own management resources and the cost associated with this are outside of the HNDU application

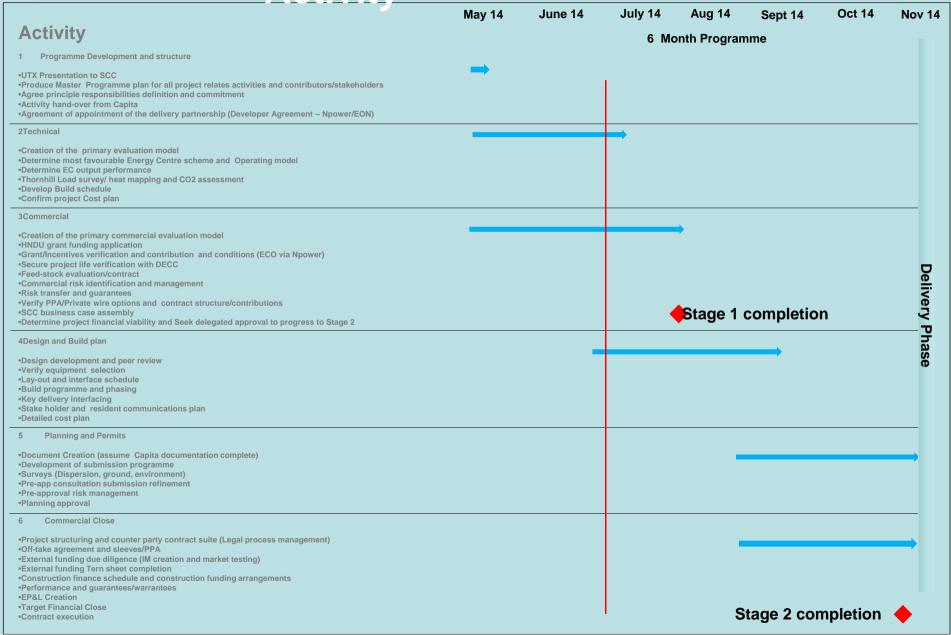


- Creation of Two stage Feasibility and Detailed Project Development plan
- Parallel close out activities multiple work packages underway
- Members approval for further investment to progress project
- Specific work packages identified to progress to financial close
- HNDU funding sought to contribute towards these final work packages
- Targeting Nov 14 for financial close



Detailed Project Development Activity





Next Steps (2014)

- Produce an outline technical and financial business case;
- Financial model to enable Carbon price sensitivity;
- Partnership with a 'Big 6' utility to fund the project;
- Decision on the lowest Carbon price for scheme viability;
- Review delivery model options;
- Planning application to proceed to de-risk and generate confidence amongst ECO funders;
- Tenant and wider resident communications.

