

**6<sup>th</sup> September 2016****Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE****DERBY-NOTTINGHAM METROPOLITAN STRATEGY – CONSULTATION  
RESPONSE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To introduce Members to the draft Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 and suggest the principles of a County Council response to the current consultation exercise.
2. To seek delegated authority for the Corporate Director, Place, in consultation with the Chair of the Economic Development Committee and Leader of the Council, to organise the submission of the County Council's consultation response. A copy of the final consultation response for noting will be presented at a future meeting.

**Background**

3. Consultation on the Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 (henceforth the Metro Strategy) was officially launched by the Leaders of the two City Councils on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016 at an event in Derby attended by Cllr Meale. Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council have been developing a 'metro' approach for some months now – firstly as an important strand of the proposed North Midlands Devolution Deal and latterly (since the stalling of the Devolution Deal) as a discrete strategy for the two cities and their surrounding areas.
4. The draft strategy focuses on four key themes and sets out high-level priorities for each with a city / urban slant. It builds on some of the priorities and 'asks' from the North Midlands Devolution Deal and suggests a distinct 'metro' approach to these. The four themes are:
  - i. Connected Metro – transport and digital
  - ii. Metro Enterprise – inward investment / export / supply chain
  - iii. Metro Talent – skills
  - iv. Metro Living – cultural / leisure offer

Further detail on the specific priorities and actions proposed under each of these themes can be found in the appendix to this report.

5. The County Council has a variety of interests in the proposed themes and actions which will need to be considered further as the strategy is refined and

finalised. Clearly the County Council has both strategic and statutory responsibilities in areas such as transport and skills and is the lead authority in Nottinghamshire for delivering digital infrastructure. On the 'enterprise' front, the County Council is a core funder of Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire which is a key organisation in terms of delivering some of the objectives of the Metro Strategy. Understanding how the Metro Strategy will cut across or define the work of Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire will be an important early action for the County Council. There are less obvious implications for the County Council and its services in the 'Metro Living' theme, which has a focus on building a joint leisure and cultural offer for residents of the two cities.

### **Principles of the County Council's response**

6. It is suggested that the County Council should welcome the development of the Metro Strategy in broad terms and that this should be set in the context of emerging work across D2N2 on similar approaches to economic growth in rural/market town and post-industrial areas.
7. The County Council's response should seek clarity on the geographical scope of the Metro Strategy, which is not currently stated. It is assumed that the borough council areas of Erewash and Broxtowe will form an intrinsic part of the Metro Strategy, given that issues such as skills and transport will need to be dealt with at a scale beyond the immediate boundaries of the two cities. Clarifying expectations around services that the County Council commissions (i.e. public transport) or delivers directly (highways) and securing more active participation for the County Council in work on this should form part of the Council's response. Nottinghamshire County Council will need to work with the other borough and district council areas that form part of the Nottingham conurbation to understand their level of engagement with and expectations of the Metro Strategy approach.
8. The Council's response should reinforce our support for the existing arrangements which govern and are working on the East Midlands Hub HS2 station at Toton. It would not be appropriate, it is suggested, for the Metro Strategy to somehow assume a significant role in the development of strategies that will deliver the Hub station and the wider growth objectives which are currently being developed by partners.
9. It will also be important for the County Council to set out its position in terms of the focus of activities which are currently commissioned and / or delivered at a countywide or LEP level (i.e. Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, D2N2 Growth Hub, ESIF business support projects, access to finance). A principle should be established as part of the finalisation of the Metro Strategy that any specific focus on the metro areas through existing schemes and projects will need to be funded by additional resources, and not through effectively refocussing investment which is predicated on the wider county or LEP area.
10. Finally, the consultation response should be used to seek clarity about how the Metro Strategy will be overseen and managed, and where the County Council can engage effectively with this oversight and management.

## **Form of response**

11. The consultation on the draft Metro Strategy closes on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016. The consultation is web-based and takes the form of a survey. It is available here: <http://www.derby.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations/your-city-your-say-latest-consultations/metro-strategy/>. Given the County Council's strategic interests in the Metro Strategy and the potential implications for the organisation, it is proposed that a consultation response be drafted in the form of a letter from the Leader of the Council to the Leaders of both City Councils.

## **Reason(s) for Recommendations**

12. The draft Derby-Nottingham Metro Strategy 2030 is currently out for consultation. Nottinghamshire County Council will be a core strategic partner to some of the priorities proposed in the Strategy and it is important, therefore, that a response to the consultation is agreed and submitted.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described within the body of the report.

## **Finance implications**

14. None.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

15. It is recommended that Committee:

- a. Considers and comments on the draft Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 to inform the County Council's consultation response;
- b. Delegates authority to the Corporate Director, Place, in consultation with the Chair of the Economic Development Committee and Leader of the Council, to finalise the County Council's response to the consultation;
- c. Receives a copy of the final consultation response for noting at a future meeting.

**Tim Gregory**  
**Corporate Director, Place**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**  
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**Constitutional Comments [SLB 08/08/2016]**

Economic Development Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

**Financial Comments [RWK 08/08/2016]**

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

**Background Papers**

None.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All