

REPORT OF CHAIR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: PROGRESS REPORT****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Policy Committee on progress towards achieving the actions outlined in the Council's Economic Development Strategy, 2014-18.

Information and Advice

2. Policy Committee approved the Council's Economic Development Strategy at its meeting in December 2013. The strategy sets out the Council's key roles in terms of the local economy, the strategic context for economic development in the local area and statistical information showing trends in employment, earning and skills levels.
3. On the basis of this strategic context and the commitment made by the Council to economic growth as one of the main themes of its Strategic Plan, high level objectives for economic development were drafted and grouped under the headings of *Jobs, Skills and Training; Enabling Business Growth and Infrastructure and Assets*. More specific actions were also proposed and agreed by Policy Committee. The strategy sets the context for the work of the Economic Development Committee and a more detailed delivery plan and budget were approved by Economic Development Committee in March 2014 to support the actions outlined in the Economic Development Strategy.
4. The appendix to this report offers an update to Members of progress to date and outlines proposed actions for the next 12 months to support the wider objectives of the strategy.

Taking the strategy forward

5. The update provided reflects activity undertaken since the Economic Development Strategy was agreed by Policy Committee in December 2013. The Strategy forms the basis of the Economic Development Committee's annual delivery plan and budget setting. A more detailed report on performance against the Economic Development Delivery Plan will be discussed at Economic Development Committee in Q4 2014-15. Areas of underperformance or of limited progress will be reviewed and potentially allocated additional targeted staff or financial resources to ensure that progress against the overall strategy is maintained.

Other Options Considered

6. None.

Reason(s) for recommendations

7. Policy Committee agreed to consider an annual update on the Council's Economic Development Strategy when it approved the overall strategy in December 2013.

Statutory and Policy Implications

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), 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 below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

9. Financial implications of delivering the Economic Development Strategy are considered by the Economic Development Committee through its annual budget setting exercise.

RECOMMENDATION/S

10. It is recommended that Policy Committee:
 - a. notes the update on the Council's Economic Development Strategy;
 - b. agrees to consider a further update in 12 months' time

Report of the Chair, Economic Development Committee, Cllr Diana Meale

For any enquiries about this report please contact Celia Morris extension 72043

Constitutional Comments

This report is for noting only.

Financial Comments [SEM 28.11.2014]

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Nottinghamshire County Council's Economic Development Strategy: report to Policy Committee, 11 December 2013, published.

Minutes of Policy Committee, 11 December 2013, published.

Economic Development Strategy, Delivery Plan and Budget 2014-15: report to Economic Development Committee, 11 March 2014, published.

Minutes of Economic Development Committee, 11 March 2014, published.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All divisions