

## Economic Development Committee

**Tuesday, 04 October 2016 at 14:00**

County Hall, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP

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### AGENDA

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | Minutes of the last meeting held on 6 Sept 2016  | 3 - 6   |
| 2 | Apologies for Absence  |         |
| 3 | Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers:- (see note below)<br>(a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests<br>(b) Private Interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) |         |
| 4 | Nottinghamshire Leader Programmes - Status Update  | 7 - 14  |
| 5 | The N2 Town Centre Programme   | 15 - 22 |
| 6 | Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy - Copy of Consultation Response   | 23 - 28 |
| 7 | Work Programme   | 29 - 34 |

### Notes

- (1) Councillors are advised to contact their Research Officer for details of any Group Meetings which are planned for this meeting.
- (2) Members of the public wishing to inspect "Background Papers" referred to in the reports on the agenda or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act should contact:-

- (3) Persons making a declaration of interest should have regard to the Code of Conduct and the Council's Procedure Rules. Those declaring must indicate the nature of their interest and the reasons for the declaration.

Councillors or Officers requiring clarification on whether to make a declaration of interest are invited to contact Martin Gately (Tel. 0115 977 2826) or a colleague in Democratic Services prior to the meeting.

- (4) Councillors are reminded that Committee and Sub-Committee papers, with the exception of those which contain Exempt or Confidential Information, may be recycled.
- (5) This agenda and its associated reports are available to view online via an online calendar - <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/dms/Meetings.aspx>

## minutes

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Meeting | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE           |
| Date    | 6 September 2016 (commencing at 2.00 pm) |

### Membership

Persons absent are marked with `A`

### COUNCILLORS

Diana Meale (Chair)  
Roy Allan (Vice-Chair)

Alan Bell  
Richard Butler  
Stan Heptinstall  
John Knight

John Ogle  
Gordon Wheeler  
John Wilmott

### CO-OPTED MEMBERS

- A Mr M Chivers – (Alliance Boots)  
A Ms N Gasson - (Federation of Small Businesses)

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Fiona Anderson - Place Department  
Pete Barker - Resources Department  
Phil Berrill - Place Department  
Matt Lockley - Place Department  
Nicola McCoy-Brown - Place Department  
Oliver Whittaker - Place Department

### CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The following changes of membership for this meeting were noted: Councillor Bell replaced Councillor Payne and Councillor Butler replaced Councillor Brown, both for this meeting only.

### MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5 July 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Heptinstall declared a private interest as he is involved in businesses which receive some funds from sources referred to in reports on the agenda, which did not preclude him from speaking or voting on those items.

## **NTU INNOVATION OUTREACH FEASIBILITY STUDY - SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES**

Fiona Anderson introduced the report and Lynn Oxborrow from NTU gave a presentation on the options available following completion of the feasibility study.

### **RESOLVED: 2016/0033**

That Committee approves Option C (Pop-up support), as set out in paragraph 17C of the report, to be closely aligned with the ERDF Enabling Innovation project.

## **N2 ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY**

Nicola McCoy-Brown introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED: 2016/0034**

That the progress made in developing the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Growth Strategy be noted

## **DERBY-NOTTINGHAM METROPOLITAN STRATEGY – CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

Matthew Lockley introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

### **RESOLVED: 2016/0035**

- a) That Committee considers and comments on the draft Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 to inform the County Council's consultation response;
- b) That authority be delegated 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) That Committee receives a copy of the final consultation response for noting at a future meeting.

## **BASIC BROADBAND FOR ALL: BETTER BROADBAND SUBSIDY SCHEME**

Phil Berrill introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED: 2016/0036**

That the changes to the basic broadband subsidy scheme (open until the end of 2017) which now includes access to wireless broadband and will allow the majority of the funds set aside for the voucher scheme to be utilised to further the fibre broadband roll out in Nottinghamshire, be noted.

**D2N2 DIGITAL BUSINESS GROWTH PROGRAMME**

Oliver Whittaker introduced the report and responded to questions and comments from Members.

**RESOLVED: 2016/0037**

- a) That, subject to EU funding being secured, the establishment of two full-time posts within the Economic Development Team of a Programme Manager at Band C and a Programme Co-ordinator at Band A (both subject to job evaluation) on 3-year fixed term contracts, subject to and in line with, the European Funding obligations, be approved.
- b) That should the European Funding not become available, further options be brought back to this Committee for consideration.

**EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL INVESTMENT FUND (ESIF) CAREERS LOCAL UPDATE**

Fiona Anderson introduced the report on the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF).

**RESOLVED 2016/0038**

That subject to the successful outcome of the County Council's submission for Careers Local, the establishment of one new full-time equivalent administrative post to enable the County Council to undertake the role of Managing Agent be approved.

**MANSFIELD TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PROJECT**

Fiona Anderson introduced the report on the Mansfield Townscape Heritage project.

**RESOLVED 2016/0039**

- a) That the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the contribution of a total of £45,000 as match funding be approved. These funds to be allocated as £9,000 per year over a five-year period commencing in the 2018/19 financial year
- b) That the authority be delegated to the Corporate Director, Place to sign a Partnership Agreement on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council.

## **WORK PROGRAMME**

Members requested that reports on the following topics be brought to future meetings of the Committee:

- BREXIT Implications
- Implications of the Derby/Nottingham metropolitan strategy
- How the N2 Economic Growth Strategy affects Nottinghamshire town centres

## **RESOLVED 2016/0040**

That the work programme be noted.

As this was Matt Lockley's last attendance at Committee, since he was taking up a new post in Aberdeen, the Chair thanked Matt for all his hard work and support and wished him all the best for the future.

The meeting closed at 15.34.

## **CHAIR**

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2016****Agenda Item: 4****REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE****NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LEADER PROGRAMMES – STATUS UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Committee with its third six-monthly update on the North and South Nottinghamshire LEADER Programmes noting:
  - a) The impact of the EU Referendum on European rural growth funding (lead up and post result), and;
  - b) Objectives, risks and opportunities going forward.

**Information and Advice**

2. Although (subject to eligibility) rural projects can apply for **any** European funding, there are two dedicated sources of rural funding in Nottinghamshire. These comprise:
  - The LEADER Programmes for which the County Council is the Accountable Body, and;
  - The Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnerships (D2N2 LEP) European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) Growth Programme – a geographically targeted source of funding for rural growth activities worth £5.2m across the D2N2 area.
3. There are 2 LEADER Programmes in the county:
  - The North Nottinghamshire LEADER Programme which covers eligible rural areas in Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Bassetlaw – with £1,853,000 provisionally allocated to spend by 2020, and;
  - The South Nottinghamshire LEADER Programme which covers designated rural areas in Gedling, Rushcliffe and Ashfield - with a provisional £1,555,000 for the same period.
4. Earlier reports to Committee noted significant delays in starting the national LEADER Programme but that extensive local engagement activity had commenced with very positive pipeline interest.

## Pre-Brexit Activity - LEADER

5. In April, the County Council submitted Delivery Plans on behalf of each delivery partnership - the Local Action Group (LAG). This mapped out the intent for the 16/17 year in terms of spend and types of activity. This was accompanied by an Attestation Report reviewing activity performance in the preceding year. In May, the Council's first claim for the Running Costs and Administration (RCA) was submitted to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) agent, the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). Extensive training materials were developed and a bespoke training programme delivered to enable partners on the LAG to make compliant and eligible funding decisions.
6. In the field, the two dedicated Programme Officers worked to raise the profile of the Programme with businesses and sector interests and engaged directly with applicants to support the development of their projects.
7. However since May, progress (including the generation of pipeline activity and recruitment to the Programme) has been severely impacted by two purdah periods preceding the Police and Crime Commissioner's Election and the EU Referendum.

## Post Brexit Result

8. Following 23<sup>rd</sup> June EU referendum result, the RPA formally extended the restrictions imposed during the referendum purdah period. Both LAG Chairs have written to the RPA to note the impact of the "stop-start" nature of the programme on performance and local credibility. It is understood that many local groups have chosen to do the same.

## European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Treasury Announcement – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016

9. On 13<sup>th</sup> August, the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement suggested a "business as usual" approach until the Autumn Statement set for 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016.
10. In rural terms, the government sought to underwrite direct payments to farmers until 2020 (Common Agricultural Policy – CAP Pillar 1). The situation for CAP Pillar 2 (including LEADER) and other ESIF funds (including EAFRD and European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund) was less clear as the government sought only to honour projects contracted **before the Autumn Statement**.
11. This is a positive move but given LEADER approval times can take up to 6 months, this has impacted on what projects can realistically achieve. [Appendix 1](#) sets out the current position of the LEADER Programmes in Nottinghamshire.
12. The practical details for LEADER were explored during a teleconference with senior regional and policy leads from the RPA on 18<sup>th</sup> August. The following will be applied locally in the context of the advice received:



- Both Nottinghamshire LEADER Programmes will continue to actively work with applicants to push through projects formally in development and/or with submitted Outline and Full Applications - but only where there is reasonable confidence that a signed contract can be achieved and resourced by the Autumn Statement. **This is to maximise access to guaranteed LEADER funding for Nottinghamshire by prioritising those with the best chances of success and making best use of limited local and RPA resources**
  - There will be a review of progress and applicants contacted in order to help inform their business decisions to proceed/withdraw from the process.
13. There remains uncertainty for those projects that are not formally in development or cannot get to the point of a contract before the Autumn Statement. Further, no activity to generate new pipeline interest can be undertaken in case access to LEADER ceases. If LEADER does continue – all local programmes are likely to be recommenced from a standing start. In the context of the Treasury statement - it will only be able to support activity that is **deliverable within the time period that the UK remains within the EU.**
14. The risks of the situation are that:
- No current projects progress to contract before the Autumn Statement
  - That the support and interest of the LAG declines – making compliant and locally informed decision making impossible
  - In prioritising existing activity, the programme is skewed to a ‘first come, first served’ basis, meaning the quality and holistic growth impact of the programme is potentially lost
  - That the delivery costs of the programme are far greater than the grant awarded and funding of these costs could technically be withheld by the RPA – noting that the administration budget should not exceed 16.5% of overall spend
    - The eligible administrative costs incurred to date are estimated to be £85,914<sup>i</sup> this would require a total, contracted grant award to projects of £520,691 to meet the percentage cap. The RPA is aware that many Accountable Body costs are higher than the threshold and will look to address this flexibly.
  - Impacted rural growth potential and lost financial leverage/added value from grant intervention
  - Rural “drag back” on wider economic performance
  - Loss of confidence in the Programme
15. These risks are not unique to Nottinghamshire. Although no formal PR activity is being undertaken, every effort is being made to mitigate against the risks, maximise spend and maintain interest. This will put us in a favourable position should the Autumn Statement announcement result in the continuation of the LEADER programme.

## **D2N2 EAFRD Growth Programme**

16. The RPA were represented at the D2N2 Rural Reference Group which met ahead of the Treasury Announcement. It was noted that 2 calls had been made to date:

- *Business Support* – whereby the initial 23 outline applications were likely to result in an estimated 6 Full Applications to be considered for support, and;
- *Tourism Collaboration* – of which the 3 received outlines were expected to be submitted for full consideration

13. This position potentially represents a significant underspend and lost opportunity for the rural economies of D2N2. Consequently, the D2N2 Rural Reference Group agreed the need to maximise spend and decided that the LEP should prepare calls for (individually or combined):

- Food processing
- Business Development (round 2)
- Tourism Infrastructure

14. It is unlikely that any new calls can be launched before the Autumn Statement, as the lead in to contracted activity is too long and will raise expectations. On the assumption that access to EAFRD Growth Programme will continue post Autumn Statement, the RPAs process approach is likely to change:

- National calls would be launched by the RPA (not LEP specific) to a national timetable – LEPs will add in their local priorities and targets;
- Calls would be open for 12-18 months with quarterly close downs, and;
- The 2 stage application process could potentially be streamlined – more Expression of interest than full outline submissions.

15. It is hoped that the RPAs desire to simplify process to promote take up will also be applied to LEADER should funding be available post Autumn Statement.

## **NEXT STEPS**

16. The Rural Services Network (RSN) held a national rural conference 5-6 September, focussing on the implications of BREXIT for the rural economy. Whilst no real conclusions could be drawn, its initial summary points appear below accompanied by possible responses from Nottinghamshire in bold:

- a. The need to be proactive in influencing the governments approach to negotiations

**We will continue to work with the RSN and to input into government consultations, gathering and applying best practice through participation in such bodies as the County Councils Network and Chief Economic Development Officers' Society (CEDOS) in order to ensure that rural issues are not overlooked.**

- b. To engage MPs and Ministers with the general rural overview – single interest groups may unintentionally be deflecting a wider understanding of the interdependencies of the rural economy

**Work will be undertaken to review current work on rural economic development – including that of partners and in particular D2N2 LEP with a view to developing a Rural Economic Strategy for Nottinghamshire that pulls together existing and planned activities to achieve a common goal of a sustainable, prosperous rural economy. To include:**

- **digital and connectivity plans**
- **partnerships**
- **new market opportunities**
- **market town development**
- **heritage and townscape improvements**
- **local transport**
- **rural tourism**
- **Food and drink**
- **Identification of emerging risks/opportunities and gaps rural in provision**

- c. Direct CAP payments to farmers subsidise farm income on average 50-60% - post 2020 these payments are likely to continue domestically but will be more outcome focused. There are huge regional disparities but small farms are already struggling with cash flow so the needs of the sector need to be understood in terms of the knock on effects of farm productivity on the supply chain, training needs and growth potential if the payments reduce/cannot be accessed/require new farm business modelling or further diversification

**There is a need to better understand the agricultural sector and its supply chain. A bid for Feasibility Funding will be sought from the Economic Prosperity Committee (Business Rates funding) to conduct this research. This will build on ongoing work with the agri-tech and agri-food sector in the context of Midlands Engine trade mission to China in November 2016**

- d. Rural tourism is benefitting from a short term bounce from the devaluation of the pound. Longer term the contribution of tourism to Gross Domestic Product is forecast to decline – tourism is a key source of farm diversification and rural employment

**Officers are continuing to work with the sector and the Destination Management Organisation to understand and support the sector and the offer and to resource opportunities to develop the product as appropriate. This includes facilitation of qualitative improvements in the offer. For example, the D2N2 Visitor Accommodation Strategy and work to support the development of the Pilgrim Father's story in North Nottinghamshire**

**Other options considered**

17. None. This report is for noting only.

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

18. This report has been prepared to support the Committee's understanding of the latest position on LEADER including the impact of Brexit on the take-up to date and the potential risks and opportunities for rural areas and funding going forward.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

19. 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.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

20. It is recommended that Committee notes the content of this report as part of its six-monthly update on the Nottinghamshire LEADER programmes.

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

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Mandy Ramm, ext 72685

### **Constitutional Comments [SG 20160916]**

Because this report is for noting only no Constitutional Comments are required.

### **Financial Comments [SES 16/09/16]**

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

### **Background Papers**

- *LEADER Rural Development Programme – opportunity to submit application:* report to Economic Development Committee, 1 April 2014, published.
- *LEADER Rural Development Programme – Nottinghamshire proposed submissions:* report to Policy Committee, 2 July 2014, published.
- South Nottinghamshire Local Development Strategy submission.
- North Nottinghamshire Local Development Strategy submission
- *LEADER rural development programme – outcome of submission results:* report to Policy Committee, 10 December 2014, published
- South Nottinghamshire LEADER Delivery Plan – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015
- North Nottinghamshire LEADER Delivery plan – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015
- *Nottinghamshire Leader Programmes – Status Update:* report to Economic Development Committee, 8 September 2015, published

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

Eligible rural communities in Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe

## APPENDIX A – LEADER PROGRAMMES – NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (Combined)

### Eligible Outline and Full Applications Submitted and Current Position

| Note – Priority 5 – Culture and Heritage allocation merged with other priorities.   | Priority 1<br>Support for Increasing Farm Productivity | Priority 2<br>Support for Micro and Small Businesses – including Farm Diversification | Priority 3<br>Support for Rural Tourism             | Priority 4<br>Provision of Rural Services          | Priority 6<br>Support for Forestry Productivity   | POTENTIAL GRANT VALUES                             |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| <b>OUTLINE APPLICATIONS</b>   |  |   |   |  |   |  |
| <b>PROGRESSING TO FULL APPLICATION – FOR CONTRACTING BEFORE THE AUTUMN STATEMENT</b>  | <b>NA</b>  | 4 Projects –<br><b>£152,318</b> grant request value                                   | 2 Projects –<br><b>£85,436</b> grant request value  | <b>NA</b>  | 1 Project –<br><b>£22,176</b> grant request value | <b>7 Projects – Potential Grant Value £259,930</b> |
| <b>WITHDRAWN /ON HOLD DUE TO BREXIT UNCERTAINTY/PROGRAMME UNABLE TO RESPOND TO OPERATIONAL DEADLINES DUE TO NATIONAL DELAYS</b>   | <b>NA</b>  | 3 Projects –<br><b>£184,945</b> grant request value                                   | 5 Projects –<br><b>£109,566</b> grant request value | <b>NA</b>  | <b>NA</b>   | <b>8 Projects - Potential Grant Value £294,511</b> |
| <b>OTHER – FOUND OTHER FUNDING/NOT PROGRESSING</b>  | 1 Project –<br><b>£27,652</b> grant request value      | <b>NA</b>   | 1 Project -<br><b>£61,600</b> grant request value   | 1 Project –<br><b>£138,000</b> grant request value | <b>NA</b>   | <b>3 Projects – Potential Grant Value £227,252</b> |
| <b>FULL APPLICATIONS</b>  |  |   |   |  |   |  |
| <b>FULL APPLICATIONS PROCEEDING</b>   | <b>NA</b>  | 4 Projects –<br><b>£83,281</b> grant request value                                    | 1 Project –<br><b>£7,000</b> grant request value    | <b>NA</b>  | <b>NA</b>   | <b>5 Projects – Potential Grant Value £390,281</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>POTENTIAL VALUE OF APPROVALS BEFORE THE AUTUMN STATEMENT £350,211.</b></li> <li><b>TOTAL VALUE OF PROJECTS WITHDRAWN DUE TO DELAYS/CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCE £521,763</b></li> </ul> |  |   |   |  |   |  |

<sup>i</sup> Costs to 31<sup>st</sup> July 16.

4<sup>th</sup> October 2016

**Agenda Item: 5**

## **REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE**

### **THE N2 TOWN CENTRE PROGRAMME**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To offer further details of the “Unlocking Growth in N2 Town Centres” Programme, developed on behalf of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee and included within the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership’s Local Growth Fund submission to Government.

#### **Background**

2. At its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, Policy Committee received an update on the work of both the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee (N2 EPC) and the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2 LEP). The update explained that the EPC was set up to reflect the requirements for a more formal arrangement in Nottinghamshire to support work with the D2N2 LEP. All the Leaders of local authorities in Nottinghamshire are members of the N2 EPC and all of the Chief Executives attend in an advisory capacity. The N2 EPC has responsibility for strategic issues related to growth and economic development in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, as well as considering strategic priorities such as employment and skills, infrastructure and place marketing.
3. This Committee has previously received reports on the process and associated progress with the D2N2 LEP submission to government of its Growth Deal, seeking Local Growth Fund (LGF) resources under its third round. At its meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016, the N2 EPC endorsed the Growth Deal and it was submitted to government on the 28<sup>th</sup> July.
4. The “Unlocking Growth in N2 Town Centres” Programme (N2TC Programme), developed jointly by the N2 EPC partners, is designed to bring forward a series of capital investments to improve the viability and economic performance of key town and service centres across the N2 EPC area. The N2TC Programme has long been deemed a priority for LGF investment by the N2 EPC and its inclusion within the submission has previously been welcomed by this Committee.
5. Should the N2TC Programme be supported, it is anticipated that the County Council act as the accountable body. Decisions related to the N2TC Programme will be made by the N2 EPC.

## The N2 Town Centre Programme

6. Appendix 1 to this report offers a brochure, designed to offer an overview of the “Unlocking Growth in N2 Town Centres” Programme, developed to support the LGF submission. In summary, the Programme will aim to address a number of inter-related town and service centre issues:
  - Changing shopping habits - due to a number of factors, town centres face reducing footfall, an increase in vacant units, low investment and a resulting poor perception of the environment.
  - Vacant Premises - vacant units spoil the experience of town centre users and existing premises might not meet the requirements of potential new occupants.
  - Balance of uses – the balance of uses within a town can be undermined by, for example, the predominance of a particular types of use or single retail offer. An uneven spread of services across a town centre leads to uneven footfall and can threaten business viability.
  - Planned Growth - town centres will need to adapt and accommodate high levels of planned employment and housing development in the wider area, as promoted by the private sector.
  - Accessibility - poor links into the town centres, parking issues, traffic circulation and congestion can result in a reluctance to visit.
  - Appearance - increasingly unattractive environments contribute to reductions in footfall into the town centres.
7. Each town / service centre’s needs are unique and the Programme has been designed to offer the required flexibility. Offering capital resources only, the N2TC Programme seeks (initially) £10M of LGF resources and has been developed on behalf of the N2 EPC by an officer group representing the district, city and county councils. To date, under the guidance of the N2 EPC, this group has:
  - Prepared the rationale for the project;
  - Drafted and finalised the submission to the LEP;
  - Responded to the assessment process undertaken by the LEP and secured a positive re-assessment, and;
  - Secured its inclusion within the LEP’s Growth Deal submission.
8. The process for securing a positive re-assessment was down in part to a call for potential early phase projects across the N2 EPC area, which collectively gave the Programme a better degree of substance as to where and what type of specific projects were likely to come forward and as a consequence, allowed for a more robust value for money and impact assessment to be made.
9. These projects were assessed by the team to offer an indicative list for early commencement within the Programme. They will all need to be the subject of a detailed assessment and depending upon the government’s approval and further discussion with the LEP, it is likely this will mirror the process adopted by the LEP for assessing individual projects, via its established Local



Assessment Framework. There is sufficient flexibility in the process to enable the swapping of projects in and out. Whilst the following list references specific projects, it is the case that they are at various stages of their development:

- Ada Lovelace House, Kirkby
- Beeston Square
- Bingham Town Centre
- Bulwell Market
- Clifton Retail Area
- Worksop Town Centre
- Fox Street, Sutton in Ashfield
- Kirkby Civic Square
- Mansfield Old Town Hall
- Radcliffe Village Core
- Sutton Indoor Market
- Tudor Square, West Bridgford

### **Further Developments**

10. The N2 EPC has allocated £500,000 from its Business Rates pool towards the N2TC Programme to support activities such as: feasibility studies, business case-making, part-funding capital costs and supporting the Programme's management.

### **Other Options Considered**

11. None. This report is for noting only.

### **Financial Implications**

12. There are no immediate revenue costs associated with the Programme; the bid to date has been developed through officer time.
13. Should the LGF capital resources be secured for the Programme, then the County Council will become the accountable body and management costs will be finalised. It is anticipated that this can be met via a combination of management fees included within the N2TC Programme submission and as referenced in the report, via the Business Rates Pool as agreed by the N2 EPC.
14. Should the Council wish to developed bids of its own and / or work collaboratively with any of the district councils, the capital implications will be the subject of separate reporting processes via the respective Committees as part of the budget process for 2017/18.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

15. 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.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

12. It is recommended that report is noted.

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

For any enquiries about this report please contact:  
Geoff George ext 72046

**Constitutional Comments [SG 20160916]**

Because this report is for noting only no Constitutional Comments are required.

**Financial Comments [SES 16/09/16]**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

**Background Papers and Published Documents**

- [Growth Deal Submission](#), report to the City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016
- [City of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Economic Prosperity Committee and D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership](#), report to Policy Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016

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

All



# Unlocking growth in N2 town centres

A set of physical improvements designed to stimulate economic growth





# Introduction

The 'Unlocking Growth in N2 Town Centres' programme will deliver a set of physical improvements within key towns and local centres across the City and County of Nottingham, designed to stimulate economic growth.

The programme will deliver a set of high quality town centre improvements, bringing forward unique customer-rich, mixed-use environments in which town centre businesses can prosper, offering sustainable employment opportunities and growth.

**Our revitalised town centres will stimulate additional economic investment from the private sector by providing attractive town centres and a varied market offer, including high quality retail, leisure, residential and commercial provision.**

These objectives are fully aligned with the 'Supporting our Market Towns and Rural Areas' section of the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan and will also assist businesses in the Visitor Economy sector. Further, given the D2N2 LEP's planned investments in infrastructure and housing, our town centres have more than ever a vital role to play, delivering a new chapter of growth, providing services and a new quality of retail offer.

# Context

Across the N2 area, a number of unattractive and ineffective town centre environments currently discourage visitors, threaten existing business viability and deter new investment. These town centres need to be improved to maximise their economic contribution and offer the potential for local jobs growth. Town centres will also need to change, reflecting a new role for the high street and accommodating the requirements of businesses and visitors alike.

Each of the town centres across the N2 area faces a different set of challenges and different, bespoke solutions will be required in each case. The programme approach offers the partners the ability to design such solutions, sensitive to local issues and target scarce resources accordingly.



# Programme management and evaluation

Nottinghamshire County Council will undertake the accountable body role for the programme, maintaining the close working relationships between the partners and the D2N2 LEP and bringing to the fore its experience in programme management.

The programme will report to the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee for decision-making on individual projects and overall monitoring requirements. Progress will be reported ultimately to the D2N2 LEP for performance against its Local Growth Fund targets.

The N2 Town Centre Programme partners are intelligence-rich given their active role in town centre management at City, County and District Council levels. In addition, in support of the programme's development and evaluation, expert support will be secured to inform the programme of pre- and post-improvement assessments, reflecting the positive impacts as a consequence of the interventions. The support will bring experience to the N2 Programme of:

- Measuring relative economic performance as benchmarked with town centres across the UK
- Visitor satisfaction and mystery shopper surveys
- Case studies drawn from good practice

Key to the success of the programme will be the evaluation of individual projects. As part of the assessment of individual projects, the partners will require individual projects to work with the appointed expert support to prepare a plan which will support the pre- and post-improvement assessment. This will include the following indicators:

| INDICATOR                          | METHOD                            |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total unit count (by type / use)   | Survey / assessment               |
| Retail breakdown (by type)         | Survey / assessment               |
| Non-retail (by type)               | Survey / assessment               |
| Employment assessment              | Survey                            |
| Key attractors / mix               | Survey and comparators benchmarks |
| Vacant units                       | Survey / benchmarks               |
| Rental levels                      | Valuation Office                  |
| Yields                             | Commercial agents / searches      |
| Footfall                           | Survey                            |
| Car Parking availability and usage | Survey                            |
| Town centre business confidence    | Survey / local traders etc. input |
| Users survey - including by origin | Survey                            |

## WHAT IT WILL ACHIEVE:

The Programme will be phased over a 3-year cycle, commencing in 2017/18, with around £8m of Local Growth Fund investment and around £1m for each of the following two years. It will generate the following impacts:



**563**  
NEW JOBS



**167m<sup>2</sup>**  
OF NEW/UNLOCKED  
OFFICE SPACE



**8,500m<sup>2</sup>**  
OF NEW/REDEVELOPED  
RETAIL FLOOR SPACE



**300**  
SAFEGUARDED JOBS



**0.775ha**  
OF BROWNFIELD LAND  
REDEVELOPED

Phase 1 of the programme, to be delivered during 2017/18, will involve the implementation of a set of 11 town centre projects, across 9 local town centres, which have been independently assessed and ranked.

## More information

If you wish to find out more about this programme, please contact the Nottinghamshire County Council Economic Development Team on 0115 977 2046 or via [ecdev@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:ecdev@nottsc.gov.uk)

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

1. To provide Committee with a copy of Nottinghamshire County Council's response to the current consultation exercise in relation to the Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030.

**Information and Advice**

2. Economic Development Committee considered the draft Derby – Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September. The discussion on the proposed strategy has shaped a formal response to the consultation exercise which can be found at Appendix A.

**Other Options Considered**

3. There are no alternative options to consider as the report is for information only.

**Reason for Recommendation**

5. This report is for information only.

**Statutory and Policy Implications**

6. 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.

**RECOMMENDATION**

7. Economic Development Committee note the report.

**Tim Gregory  
Corporate Director, Place**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Nicola M<sup>c</sup>Coy-Brown, 0115 977 2580

**Constitutional Comments [SG 20160916]**

Because this report is for noting only no Constitutional Comments are required.

**Financial Comments [SES 16/09/16]**

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

**Background Papers**

- *Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy – Consultation Response*, report to Economic Development Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016

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

All







Your ref:  
Our ref: DM/SJ/JC  
Ask for: Councillor Diana Meale  
Tel: 0115 977 5660  
Email: [cllr.diana.meale@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.diana.meale@nottscc.gov.uk)  
Web: [nottinghamshire.gov.uk](http://nottinghamshire.gov.uk)  
Date: 14 September 2016



**Chair of Economic Development  
Committee**  
County Hall  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 7QP

**Councillor Jon Collins  
Leader, Nottingham City Council  
Loxley House  
Station Street  
Nottingham  
NG2 3NG**

Dear John

**RE: DERBY – NOTTINGHAM METROPOLITAN STRATEGY 2030  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

Nottinghamshire County Council's Economic Development Committee considered the draft Derby – Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 (henceforth the Metro Strategy) at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September and the discussion on the proposed strategy has shaped this formal response to your consultation exercise. As you are aware, this Council operates a committee system of governance and the Economic Development Committee is the appropriate place for this type of issue to be considered.

Firstly, I recognise that as part of the devolution proposals that we worked up last year, reference was made to the distinct geographies of the area, including the predominantly urban areas around the two cities. The proposed Metro Strategy clearly articulates how some of the devolution proposals could be taken forward at a different scale and the County Council welcomes the energy and commitment that the two cities have shown in pursuing this work.

However, Members of the County Council's Economic Development Committee raised some concerns about the way in which the strategy had been developed and felt that the County Council (and the relevant borough and district councils) could have been more actively engaged in its development. Members took the view that an opportunity had been missed to gain appropriate political understanding and support, through a more extensive consultation. They also questioned the limited reference to the County Council and its borough and district council partners in the strategy, particularly given that many of the ambitions and actions would require the support of local authorities in the county areas.

The lack of clarity about the geographical scope of the Metro Strategy was also raised as a concern and Members felt that this ought to be rectified in the final drafting to avoid confusion.

Members highlighted the fact that the draft strategy lacks detail on how the ambitions and actions will be taken forward and governed. From this Council's perspective, it is important that the forward plan and governance reflects both our statutory responsibilities and our strategic interests.

In terms of the HS2 East Midlands Hub at Toton, the County Council's view is that the current governance and working arrangements around this are fit-for-purpose and sustainable into the future. Going forward, it is important to be clear about the primacy of these existing HS2 governance arrangements as far as the Metro Strategy is concerned.

I am keen that the County Council engages with and contributes to the Metro Strategy. At the same time, I recognise that this must be accompanied with the complimentary work that we are now undertaking with D2N2 partners on delivering growth in rural and market towns and in our former industrial areas.

I hope this is helpful feedback. I know from discussions with Alan Rhodes, the Leader of the Council, that he expects there to be further consideration of the Metro Strategy at future meetings of the Economic Prosperity Committee and I look forward to keeping up to date via Alan.

I have also sent a copy of this letter to Councillor Ranjit Banwait; Leader of Derby City Council.

Yours Sincerely

**Councillor Diana Meale**  
**Chair of Economic Development Committee**  
**Member for Mansfield West Division**



**REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES  
WORK PROGRAMME**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To consider the Committee's work programme for 2016/17.

**Information and Advice**

2. The County Council requires each committee to maintain a work programme. The work programme will assist the management of the committee's agenda, the scheduling of the committee's business and forward planning. The work programme will be updated and reviewed at each pre-agenda meeting and committee meeting. Any member of the committee is able to suggest items for possible inclusion.
3. The attached work programme has been drafted in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and includes items which can be anticipated at the present time. Other items will be added to the programme as they are identified.
4. As part of the transparency introduced by the new committee arrangements, committees are expected to review day to day operational decisions made by officers using their delegated powers. It is anticipated that the committee will wish to commission periodic reports on such decisions. The committee is therefore requested to identify activities on which it would like to receive reports for inclusion in the work programme. It may be that the presentations about activities in the committee's remit will help to inform this.
5. The work programme already includes a number of reports on items suggested by the committee.

**Other Options Considered**

6. None.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

7. To assist the committee in preparing its work programme.

## **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.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the committee's work programme be noted, and consideration be given to any changes which the Committee wishes to make.

**Jayne Francis-Ward**  
**Corporate Director, Resources**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact: Martin Gately x 72826**

## **Constitutional Comments (HD)**

1. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report by virtue of its terms of reference.

## **Financial Comments (PS)**

2. There are no direct financial implications arising from the contents of this report. Any future reports to Committee on operational activities and officer working groups, will contain relevant financial information and comments.

## **Background Papers**

None.

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

All

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - WORK PROGRAMME**

| <b><u>Report Title</u></b>  | <b><u>Brief summary of agenda item</u></b>   | <b><u>For Decision or Information?</u></b> | <b><u>Lead Officer</u></b>      | <b><u>Report Author</u></b>     |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> November 2016</b>                                 |  |  |                                 |                                 |
| Delivery plan and budget - six month performance review             | To review progress against the agreed delivery plan and budget allocations   | Decision                                   | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown |
| Sheffield City Region (pending decision from Secretary of State)    | Outcome of the devolution deal with Sheffield City Region  | Information                                | Fiona Anderson                  | Fiona Anderson                  |
| Autumn Statement – Local Growth Deal outcome (verbal update)        | An oral report following 23 <sup>rd</sup> September Autumn Statement and the implications and opportunities locally for the work of the Economic Development Committee | Information                                | Geoff George                    | Geoff George                    |
| Mayflower 400 reception update                                      | To provide an update on the Mayflower 400 programme of events and activities on a transformational/international scale, being led by Plymouth City Council             | Information                                | Mandy Ramm                      | Mandy Ramm                      |
| Brexit implications for the work of this Committee                  | Implications and opportunities locally for the work of the Economic Development Committee  | Information                                | Hilary Porter                   | Hilary Porter                   |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> December 2016</b>                                 |  |  |                                 |                                 |
| Graduate Placement Scheme   | Update on SME's in the county participating and having a graduate in their business  | Information                                | Fiona Anderson                  | Kevin Bartlett                  |
| Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire future resourcing requirements | To seek approval for funds to cover the resourcing requirements associated with (but not limited to) the remainder of Contract 2                                       | Decision                                   | Phil Berrill                    | Phil Berrill                    |
| Nottinghamshire Economic Development Capital Fund                   | Outcome of NEDCF Round 3 and next steps  | Decision                                   | Trish Adams                     | Trish Adams                     |
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017</b>                                  |  |  |                                 |                                 |
| Better Broadband for  | To update Committee on plans to reinvest funds to extend   | Information                                | Phil Berrill                    | Phil Berrill                    |

| <u>Report Title</u>   | <u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>   | <u>For Decision or Information?</u> | <u>Lead Officer</u>             | <u>Report Author</u>            |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Nottinghamshire Gainshare and Underspend Modelling  | the reach of fibre further across the County  |                                     |                                 |                                 |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> February 2017</b>   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
| Introduction to the newly appointed Chief Executive of Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire | Introduction to the newly appointed Chief Executive to take the helm at the organisation charged with promoting Nottingham & Nottinghamshire as a destination for inward investment, tourism and talent | Information                         | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown |
| Youth Employment Scheme (YES)   | To provide Committee with a final update on YES for which funding was provided to create 166 new apprenticeships to help get more young people into work  | Information                         | Hilary Porter                   | Hilary Porter                   |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b>  |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
| Budget and delivery plan  | To consider the Delivery Plan for Economic Development for 2017-18 and associated budget allocations  | Decision                            | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown | Nicola M <sup>c</sup> Coy-Brown |
| D2N2 Growth Hub   | An update on the Council's engagement with the Growth Hub   | Information                         | Geoff George                    | Geoff George                    |
| Nottinghamshire Integrated Innovation Centres   | To update on next steps and procurement   | Information                         | Mandy Ramm                      | Mandy Ramm                      |
| <b>28<sup>th</sup> March 2017</b>   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
|   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
|   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
| <b>25<sup>th</sup> April 2017</b>   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
|   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
|   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> June 2017</b>   |   |                                     |                                 |                                 |



| <u>Report Title</u>   | <u>Brief summary of agenda item</u>   | <u>For Decision or Information?</u> | <u>Lead Officer</u> | <u>Report Author</u> |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire – Six-monthly update | To update Committee on progress with the delivery of place marketing functions in Nottinghamshire | Information                         | Nicola McCoy-Brown  | Nicola McCoy-Brown   |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> July 2017</b>                               |   |                                     |                     |                      |
| Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire 6-monthly update         |   | Information                         | Phil Berrill        | Phil Berrill         |
|   |   |                                     |                     |                      |

Last updated 20 September 2016

