



19 April 2022

Agenda Item: 4

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ECONOMIC TRANSITION ACTION PLAN

Purpose of the Report

1. To approve the County's Economic Transition Plan, which sets out how the Council (with support from its partners) will support the economy in the future.

Information

2. The COVID-19 crisis Economic Recovery Action Plan was launched in September 2020 as an ambitious plan to recharge the Nottinghamshire economy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Combining actions initiated at national, regional and local levels and integrating a number of existing complementary activities, the Plan instigated swift and decisive action. The Plan ensured a post COVID-19 Nottinghamshire would be ready to embrace digital advances, be greener and resilient to both current and forthcoming challenges.
3. Nottinghamshire County Council and its partners continue to make remarkable progress in achieving the Goals set out in the original Economic Recovery Action Plan. A formal progress update based on the six themes of people, business, visitor economy, infrastructure, digital connectivity and place has been regularly reported back to this committee. Despite the successes and achievements made with the Recovery Action Plan, the external economic and policy environment is continually evolving and as such we will need to continue to support the economy in this period of transition. Furthermore, the economic impact of the war in Ukraine on local businesses and industry will need to be kept under close observation.
4. Nottinghamshire County Council supports and guides key partners in the region, such as: the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (D2N2LEP), the D2N2 Growth Hub, the Midlands Engine, business support practitioners, membership organisations and with the national Government, to lever wider support for our work. This plan has been prepared through dialogue with our District and Borough colleague and their identified economic priorities.
5. In December 2021, the EDAM committee agreed to support the refresh of the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan, creating an evolving document that could flexibly adapt to support the economic recovery in a timely fashion. With this in mind, a high-level transition plan has been written (see Appendix A) which sets out the broad principles of the work that will be done to create a framework for more detailed action and delivery plans to sit within.

6. At the heart of the Economic Transition Plan is our bold aim to helping Nottinghamshire's business base recover and prepare for future change and opportunities. The Plan, which can be found at **Appendix A**, covers the six themes of: people, business, the visitor economy, infrastructure, digital connectivity and place. The intention is to make the success factors measurable by linking to specific key performance indicators and will be supported by detailed action/delivery plans. These will be continually updated and progress will be reported back regularly.
7. In terms of its structure, the Plan is split into various sections:
 - **Vision and Aims** – how this plan fits into the wider Corporate Plan and its main aims
 - **Current Economic Headwind** - an overview of the current economic position
 - **Strengths and Opportunities** – details of the work done to date and identifies future opportunities
 - **This is what Council will do next** – outlines 18 objectives for the plan across the six priority areas of work and high-level actions of how these will be achieved
 - **Monitoring and governance** – how the plan will be monitored and managed in the future.

Other Options Considered

8. Approval has already been sought to refresh the current recovery strategy as a flexible document which can evolve and be amended when required. The transition plan in Appendix A provides the strategic framework for the work of the Growth, Infrastructure and Development team, whilst also allowing the flexibility for detailed action/delivery plans to be created under this. For this reason, there were no other options considered, as this would not be in keeping with the current approval received.

Reasons for Recommendations

9. Recommendation to approve the economic transition plan is being sought, as it clearly demonstrates the Council's intention to help the local economy recover and move through this transitional period. It plans to do this by being forward thinking, creative and ambitious, and putting in place measures that give real opportunities to all those who live and work in our County to achieve their potential and make them proud to call Nottinghamshire home.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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

11. The recommendations themselves have no immediate financial impact. Proposals resulting from the actions will be costed and considered and subject to the usual scrutiny and democratic process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Economic Development and Asset Management Committee:

Approves the Nottinghamshire Economic Transition Plan (as shown in Appendix A).

Adrian Smith
Corporate Director, Place

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Joelle Davies, Group Manager for Group, Infrastructure and Development (joelle.davies@nottscc.gov.uk or 0115 9774857)

Constitutional Comments (GMG 18/03/2022)

12. EDAM Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report and to give approval for the Plan.

Financial Comments (SES 18/03/2022)

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

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- *‘Progress on the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Action Plan’* - Report to EDAM Committee, 7 December 2021
- *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Action Plan*

Electoral Divisions and Members Affected

- All