



**North Tyneside Council**

# Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

18 June 2018

**Tuesday 26 June 2018** Room 4.01, Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside **commencing at 6.00 pm**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Page(s)</b>
<b>1. Apologies for Absence</b> To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.	
<b>2. Appointment of Substitute Members</b> To be notified of the appointment of any Substitute Members.	
<b>3. Declarations of Interest</b> You are invited to declare any registerable and/or non-registerable interests in matters appearing on the agenda, and the nature of that interest.  You are also invited to disclose any dispensation in relation to any registerable interests that have been granted to you in respect of any matters appearing on the agenda.  You are also requested to complete the Declarations of Interests card available at the meeting and return it to the Democratic Services Officer before leaving the meeting.	

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4.	<b>Minutes</b>	
	To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 March 2018.	3
5.	<b>Business Support</b>	
	To review implementation of the action agreed by Cabinet on 12 June 2017 in response to the sub-committee's report and recommendations relating to Business Support.	6
6.	<b>Work Programme 2018/19</b>	
	To consider and determine the sub-committee's work programme for the year ahead.	17

**Members of the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee:**

Councillor Joanne Cassidy	Councillor Pam McIntyre
Councillor Davey Drummond	Councillor Janice Mole
Councillor John Harrison	Councillor Martin Rankin
Councillor Janet Hunter (Chair)	Councillor Willie Samuel
Councillor Karen Lee	Councillor Joan Walker (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Maureen Madden	Councillor Frances Weetman

## **Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee**

**27 March 2018**

Present: Councillor Janet Hunter (Chair)  
Councillors J Cassidy, S Cox, S Day, P Earley,  
P McIntyre and J Walker

### **EP34/03/18 Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor K Lee.

### **EP35/03/18 Substitute Members**

There were no substitute members appointed.

### **EP36/03/18 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations reported.

### **EP37/03/18 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 14 February 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **EP38/03/18 Coastal Regeneration Update**

Graham Sword, Senior Manager, Regeneration, and Julie Bews, Regeneration Project Manager, attended the meeting to present details of coastal regeneration projects, which was preceded by a tour of the Spanish City Dome jointly with Members of the Culture and Leisure Sub-Committee, provided by Andrew Coleman, Site Manager, Robertson Construction.

Steve Bishop, Senior Manager, Cultural Services, outlined the background to the redevelopment of the Playhouse, Whitley Bay explaining that it was now into year 9 of the contract with SMG Europe. The last year had been the most successful to date with over 75,000 visits to the theatre. The pantomime alone attracted over 22,000 visits. The theatre re-launch in 2009 was very much a starting point for the ongoing regeneration of Whitley Bay. The Playhouse continued to support a diverse programme of theatre and music.

It was reported that exceptionally good progress had been made during the last six years to undertake a series of improvements along the length of the North Tyneside coastline. Work was continuing to improve the offer along the coastline.

In 2015, Whitley Bay was named the most improved retail centre over the past five years in the country, with a drop in the number of empty shops. The Authority would continue to work with and support the private sector to enhance the coastline through potential development opportunities.

The Whitley Bay Seafront Master Plan sets out the Authority's ambitious plans to regenerate the coastline between St Mary's Lighthouse and Cullercoats Bay. In presenting the progress on projects delivery, officers highlighted the positive economic impact of the investment in the Whitley Bay Seafront Masterplan in relation to tourism and business.

Northern Promenade phase 1 extensive works to replace the surface, provide new lighting, seats, bins and shelters was now complete between Watts Slope to Rendezvous Cafe. Watts Slope toilets and promontory were completed and opened to the public in 2016 and included the return of the ice cream kiosk which operated by local family business Di Meo's.

Reconstruction of the Central Lower Promenade was progressing well and was due to be completed in the next few weeks.

The Southern Promenade had suffered recently due to increased levels of storm activity which had caused extensive damage to the structure and walkways which resulted in the promenade being closed off to public access. An outline bid for external funding to undertake the restorative works to stabilise the area had been submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government.

In 2016, an operator was appointed to run a Land Train along the coastline. The Land Train began operating between Whitley Bay seafront/Playhouse and St Marys Island in early August 2017 and had been a popular addition to the coastal offer, in addition to the events they hosted.

The new Premier Inn and Beefeater Restaurant opened in mid July 2017 on the site next to the Spanish City Dome. The build had brought over £4.5 million of private sector investment into Whitley Bay. Local people had benefited from a scheme through Jobcentre Plus and had secured employment with Premier Inn and Beefeater which provided over 70 new jobs in this facility.

Approximately 6 million people already visited the coast every year, bringing £270 million into the local economy and supporting over 3,500 jobs. The coastal improvements would provide an extra attraction for passengers coming off cruise ships at the Port of Tyne, which already contributed millions of pounds to the local economy.

The Spanish City restoration which was due to be completed in Spring 2018 would strengthen the positive impact that the regeneration of the coast was having and lead to further interest and investment. The restoration and wider coastal regeneration was already having a positive impact on the economy with millions of pounds being invested by the private sector. The latest figures showed that 33 new ventures had launched in Whitley Bay in the last 24 months. Whitley Bay Chamber of Trade membership had risen from 20 to 275 and it had seen 46 new businesses start up in the last year or so.

Key areas of note included the submission of a stage 2 bid to Heritage Lottery Fund for £2.1 million towards the restoration of St Mary's Lighthouse in June 2018.

Coastal Property Developments included the former High Point Hotel, where 14 town houses were under construction on the site and were due to be completed in May 2018. The show house which would be utilised in the launch of a new marketing campaign would be open for viewing during the May Day bank holiday.

The Council was granted planning permission to develop 12 new, high quality executive family homes on the site of the former Avenue pub in Whitley Bay. Improved site conditions had resulted in the foundations potentially changing from pile foundations to raft, which were a cheaper option. However, any alterations in the foundations would require a change to the planning approval. The site would be sold to Aurora Properties to take forward the development of the site.

Planning permission to demolish the empty Whisky Bends pub was granted and work was underway to clear the site and expected to be demolished by the end of March 2018. The cleared site would be marketed as a development opportunity.

Members sought clarification on business investment with regard to supporting the local economy and new coastal developments. Members were assured that although the coastal development work was still ongoing, the regeneration of the coastal area was having a positive impact, which in turn would lead to further interest and investment by local businesses and the private sector in general.

The Chair thanked officers for their presentation and attendance at the meeting, and representatives from Robertson Construction for the tour of the Spanish City Dome.

It was **agreed** that the presentation in relation to the update on Coastal Regeneration be noted.

**Meeting: Economic Prosperity**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Title: Business Support Recommendations**

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**Author: Sean Collier** Tel: 0191 643 6409

**Service: Business & Economic  
Development**

**Wards affected: All**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

To review implementation of the action agreed by Cabinet on 12 June 2017 in response to the sub-committee's report and recommendations relating to Business Support.

### **2. Recommendations**

To note the response in the table in Appendix 1 and receive a verbal update on the progress of the agreed actions

### **3. Details**

See appendix 1

**1 Cabinet Response to Overview and Scrutiny Recommendations**  
**2 Completed Action Plan**

**2.1 Business Support Sub Group**

In accordance with Section 21B of the Local Government Act 2000, Cabinet is required to provide a response to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within 2 months. In providing this response Cabinet is asked to state whether or not it accepts each recommendation and the reasons for this decision. Cabinet must also indicate what action, if any, it proposes to take.

<b>Overview and Scrutiny Recommendation</b>	<b>Initial Officer Comments</b>	<b>Action to be taken (if any) and timescale for completion</b>	<b>Update June 2018</b>
<p><b>Recommendation 1</b> <b>Cabinet requests the Council's Business and Enterprise Team to signpost SME's to the Growth Hub, record and analyse substantive interactions between the Council and SMEs and review the Local Enterprise Partnership's (LEP) list of scale up businesses to identify any unknown businesses requiring support.</b></p>	<p>The Business and Enterprise Team signpost SMEs to the Growth Hub where appropriate but there are currently no arrangements to record or analyse substantive interactions with any local authorities. The LEP is considering a funding proposal to add this service to the Growth Hub from Autumn 2017.</p> <p>The LEP supplied a list of scale-up businesses in May 2017 and this is currently being reviewed for additional business support.</p>	<p>Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise to continue to work with the LEP through the Local Authority / LEP Network Group. Changes to operational procedures will be considered as they arise and the Senior Manager will report back to the Head of Business &amp; Economic Development.</p> <p>Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise to contact all North Tyneside businesses on the LEP scale-up list offering the support of the Business and Enterprise Team by end July 2017.</p>	<p>The Business and Enterprise Team continues to work with the LEP and Growth Hub promoting mutual referrals.</p> <p>The identified scale-up businesses were contacted by the Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise as well as the LEP, offering additional support. In January 2018 the LEP launched its Scale up North East programme and the Business and Enterprise Team have received three referrals from this programme to date.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2</b> Cabinet should seek to maintain the Council's investment in the provision of</p>	<p>The approved budget for 2017/18 includes provision for the Business Factory services which are 50% funded by</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>No action - The current ERDF funded Business Factory project ends in March 2019 and the</p>

<p>business support for start up businesses through programmes such as the work currently delivered through the Business Factory.</p>	<p>European Regional Development Funds (ERDF). The ERDF project is scheduled for completion in March 2019.</p>		<p>Business and Enterprise Team have submitted a further ERDF application to extend the project another three years.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3</b> Cabinet, through its risk management processes, continue to monitor the likely impact of Brexit on European funding for business support and take appropriate action to mitigate against the risk of funding for business support programmes delivered in North Tyneside being withdrawn and not replaced by alternative funding from the UK Government.</p>	<p>There is an overarching corporate risk in respect of the impact from Brexit for North Tyneside. The risk was raised in November 2016, and as part of the Council's risk management process has been updated by risk owners (both the relevant member of SLT and Cabinet Member) and agreed by SLT on 28 March 2017 before being endorsed by Cabinet on 8 May 2017. The latest review will also be presented to Audit Committee on 24 May to provide assurance that the corporate risks within the Council are being managed effectively.</p> <p>The risk detail includes a number of controls to help mitigate the impact of this risk and potential loss of funding.</p> <p>The risk will continue to be managed along with all other corporate risks as part of the Council's normal risk management process.</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>No action – the impact of Brexit continues to be monitored as one of the Council's corporate risks.</p>



<p><b>Recommendation 4</b> The Elected Mayor and Cabinet Members, in conjunction with local Members of Parliament, the North East Local Enterprise Partnership and the local business community, take every opportunity to lobby the Government for continuing investment to replace the European funded business support programmes following the withdrawal of the UK from the European Union.</p>	<p>The North East Combined Authority (NECA) Economic Directors Group has tasked the LA EU Engagement Group with producing a paper to consider post European funding mechanisms. It is anticipated that this will be a substantial piece of work to enable local government partners to lobby Government in the most effective way that will take into consideration the papers that have already been produced by the LGA and the Industrial Alliance.</p>	<p>Head of Business and Economic Development to report progress to the Elected Mayor and Cabinet Member for Economic Development by September 2017.</p>	<p>Significant lobbying has taken place to date both locally and nationally and the Government have committed to creating a UK Shared Prosperity Fund to replace European funding. Details are unclear at this time however a consultation is expected later in the year.</p> <p>The North of Tyne Combined Authority strategy group have produced a paper on options for future funding and are also progressing work around a local Industrial Strategy which may lead to future resources.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5</b> Cabinet give consideration to ways in which the Council can enhance access to finance by micro and small businesses in North Tyneside, including the possible use of revolving funds and the promotion of crowd funding schemes.</p>	<p>The North East Jeremie Fund is scheduled to launch in early summer 2017 with £120m of additional loan and equity funds for businesses. A review of any gaps in this service should take place once the details of this fund have been confirmed.</p>	<p>Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise to conduct a review of financial support available to SMEs in North Tyneside and report the findings to the Head of Business and Economic Development and Cabinet Member for Economic Development by September 2017.</p>	<p>The North East Fund was not launched in 2017 as anticipated due to delays with the European Investment Bank which part funds the scheme. The scheme launched in June 2018 and a North Tyneside event was held on 13<sup>th</sup> June. The only major gaps appear to be around incentives for inward investment compared to other regions however this will be reviewed in September 2018</p>

			once the scheme is more established.
<p><b>Recommendation 6</b> Cabinet ask officers to undertake an evaluation of the levels and nature of demand among SMEs for commercial property in North Tyneside to determine whether there is evidence of a significant shortfall in small and medium sized industrial units or office space.</p>	<p>An evaluation of the demand for commercial property has been commissioned and will report the findings by the end of June 2017.</p>	Noted	<p>The report did show a decline in the amount of available industrial and office units however the findings were not conclusive as the OGN yard came on the market at the time of the report which offset the amount of industrial space available.</p> <p>A six monthly report has been commissioned to track the stock of available office and industrial units which will be analysed by the Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 7</b> If the evaluation shows substantial unmet demand, Cabinet give consideration to investing in the refurbishment of surplus property to provide more small incubator units and the provision of small and medium industrial units aimed at start up and growing businesses.</p>	<p>Cabinet approved an Industrial Estate Strategy for the Council's portfolio of industrial properties on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014. This Strategy involved the disposal of identified industrial assets with the capital receipts raised being allocated to fund improvements to the Council's remaining industrial stock.</p> <p>The phase 1 refurbishment of the former Swan Hunter offices was completed in 2016 and launched as the Swans</p>	Senior Manager for Business and Enterprise and Head of Business and Economic Development to consider findings and report proposals to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development by the end of July 2017.	<p>Funds have been approved by the LEP to refurbish the remaining three floors of the Swans Centre for Innovation and the Regeneration Team are undergoing a procurement exercise to identify the developer partner.</p> <p>A six monthly report has been commissioned to track the stock of available office and industrial units which will be analysed by the Senior Manager for</p>

	<p>Centre for Innovation. This project was part of the regeneration of the Swans Enterprise Zone and brought two floors of additional incubator units to the market. Phase 1 is now fully let and the Business and Economic Development Team are undertaking feasibility studies to convert the remaining three floors of the building.</p> <p>An evaluation of the wider demand for commercial property has been commissioned and will report the findings by the end of June 2017.</p>		Business and Enterprise.
<p><b>Recommendation 8</b> The Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee monitor the detailed proposals to emerge from the Government in relation to the 100% Business Rates Retention Scheme and consider undertaking an in-depth investigation to consider its impact on the future shape of business support services.</p>	<p>The detailed proposals for the Business Rates Retention Scheme have not yet been received by local authorities.</p>	Noted	No action – it is understood that the detailed proposals have still not been issued.
<p><b>Recommendation 9</b> Cabinet ask the Heads of Finance and Business and Economic Development to consider the possibility of incorporating promotional</p>	<p>An A5 business support leaflet can be included without impacting on postal costs.</p>	<p>Head of Business and Economic Development to liaise with Head of Finance to ensure an appropriate business support leaflet is included with the annual business rate bills</p>	<p>A business support leaflet was not included with the 2018/19 annual business rates bills however the explanatory notes were</p>

<p>material relating to the Business Factory and other business support services with business rate bills.</p>		<p>for 2018/19. The business support leaflet must be finalised by the end of January 2018.</p>	<p>amended to include reference to business support and contact details.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 10</b> In reviewing the Council's procurement strategy, Cabinet give further consideration to how trade with local small businesses might continue to be encouraged by measures such as:</p> <p>a) simplifying the processes through which companies are required to quote or tender for the supply of goods and services to the Council;</p> <p>b) providing further training and support for local businesses on how to quote or tender for the supply of goods and services to the Council; and</p> <p>c) reviewing and refining how social value is evaluated within procurement exercises so that the process derives economic benefits for the people and communities of North Tyneside</p>	<p>The 2013-17 Procurement Strategy set out a specific initiative to support local business, called "Supply North Tyneside". As part of this initiative, we have examined what else could practically be done by the Council, its strategic business partner, Engie, and our other partners (Capita and Kier) to support local businesses and help them identify, bid for and win public sector contracts. The proportion of Council spend value with suppliers in the travel to work area (TTWA) has increased from 34% in 2011/12 to 54% in 2016/17. The number of suppliers in the TTWA has increased from 24% in 2011/12 to 43% in 2016/17. Kier and Capita have assisted the initiative by working with their supply chains to increase spend with local suppliers, and local spend information is reported into the Kier Strategic Partnering Board.</p> <p>A significant amount of time</p>	<p>As previously mentioned, work will continue to support local businesses trading with the Council. The areas identified in the recommendations are subject to periodic review, but specific targets have been set in the 2017-20 Procurement Strategy improvement plan. It is anticipated the targets will be completed within the 2017/18 financial year, and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review of 'Quick Quotes'</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gather data on how NEPO's Quick Quotes is operating in practice within North Tyneside, and evaluate how successful this initiative has been in encouraging local supply.</li> <li>○ Assess what else, if anything, could be done to improve the effectiveness of Quick Quotes within North Tyneside.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>A 'one-stop' document – supply opportunities with the Council, and with our partners</b></li> </ul>	<p>Work is ongoing in relation to the procurement actions and a verbal update will be provided at the Economic Prosperity meeting.</p>

	<p>has been spent in helping local firms in the construction and social care areas understand opportunities and bid for Council work, as this is where the significant amount of our spend goes.</p> <p>The Council has long had a commitment to pay suppliers promptly. In 2016/17, over 97% of the Council's suppliers were paid within 14 days. Ahead of legislative changes, the Authority also mandated changes to its terms and conditions meaning that prompt payment was also cascaded through the supply chain. Our partners have helped to ensure prompt payment to local businesses within our extended supply chain, and in particular Kier have changed their national terms and conditions to pay suppliers within 30 days. As there is a significant amount of work subcontracted locally, this is of great benefit to local suppliers.</p> <p>Other improvements have included; simplifying administrative requirements; reviewing financial thresholds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop a 'one stop' document to hold, in a single place, all the necessary detail and documentation that any supplier might need if they wanted to do business with the Authority. This will also include details of how to do business with other major partners, such as Kier North Tyneside and Capita, whose suppliers are in turn part of the extended supply chain of North Tyneside Council.</li> <li>● <b>Development Programme for Suppliers (SMEs and VCS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review and evaluate what is currently available via the Authority and NEPO. How is this training perceived by local businesses? Is it meeting their needs? What more or differently could be done?</li> <li>○ Develop a structured programme of training, based on feedback received directly by</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>at the time of every tender and making sure that these are appropriate to the size of the contract (so smaller businesses are not precluded by thresholds which are unaffordable); reviewing and reducing insurance levels where appropriate; and supplier training events.</p> <p>These initiatives will continue to be a key element of the new Procurement Strategy (2017-20) and will build upon the work supporting local business completed so far. The Strategy will be supported by an improvement plan that sets out a programme of further development, and includes a number of targets that cover the recommendations made. The targets are not solely 'task and finish' items as the areas concerned are subject to continuous or periodic developmental review.</p> <p>A detailed review of the Council's approach to social value was commenced in the summer of 2016 and is nearing completion. Engagement on a</p>	<p>Procurement team, and from the wider Procurement Community, and via Trade and VCS groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Request the Business and Enterprise team and promote the development programme through their engagement activity.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Procurement Engagement with Business Forums</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Propose a regular 'procurement' update to appropriate meetings between the Business and Enterprise team and the North Tyneside Business Forum. Using the expertise of the Business and Enterprise team utilise the meetings with North Tyneside Business forum as a conduit to reach the other trade bodies, such as Chamber of Trade groups; North East Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses.</li> <li>○ Evaluate how we engage and obtain feedback with suppliers and trade</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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	<p>proposed new Social Value policy is currently underway with the business community and our partners in the voluntary and community sector. Once engagement is concluded the revised Social Value policy will be included in the forthcoming Procurement Strategy 2017-20.</p>	<p>organisations – would establishment of market workshops help suppliers to understand our business and shape the market according to need?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local Supply – Travel to Work Area and SMEs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continue to gather data on the volume and value of contracts won by suppliers in the ‘Travel to Work Area’ and analyse and evaluate the results – what is this telling us?</li> <li>○ We will need to develop and refine our data on SMEs within our supply chain.</li> <li>○ It would help us to further understand our supply chain, including our local supply chain, by developing our knowledge base on SME suppliers. Again, in future, changes in European and national procurement law are also likely to require this data to be gathered on a consistent basis between local authorities and published in one place.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Social Value</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Finalise testing our newly developed social value priorities, and our social value answer template, with a wider sample of suppliers.</li> <li>○ Develop an approach to test the effectiveness of the revised priorities, and implement that approach in-year. This approach will assess whether our social value policy is delivering on the outcomes expected.</li> <li>○ Report results of the evaluation on a quarterly basis to the Head of Commissioning and Investment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Recommendation 11</b> Cabinet to ask the Head of Business and Economic Development to work with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure those officers who work to support business have a good understanding of what support is available.</p>	<p>A simple guide with contact details can be provided for staff outside of the Business and Economic Development Service interacting with businesses.</p>	<p>Head of Business and Economic Development to review the business support information available and working with SLT, ensure staff working with businesses have access to improved information through email and intranet by the end of September 2017.</p>	<p>Electronic information updated. Further information to be circulated in Autumn 2018 once the outcome of the ERDF application is known.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 12</b> Cabinet work with the North Tyneside Business Forum to develop and strengthen business to business networks</p>	<p>The Business Forum regularly provides a business representative at Cabinet and meets with the Elected Mayor and Cabinet Member to</p>	<p>Noted</p>	<p>No action – a business representative continues to be provided at Cabinet by the Business Forum, the Aspire programme has a</p>



<p>and peer support in North Tyneside.</p>	<p>undertake an annual review. The Business Forum was also consulted on the development of the Procurement Strategy.</p> <p>The Business and Enterprise Team has recently launched the Aspire Programme where large established businesses work with new high growth businesses to share advice, knowledge and contacts.</p> <p>The Business Factory project officers worked in partnership with the Business Forum to develop a new range of consultancy services for SMEs.</p>		<p>quarterly session for high growth businesses and the Business Factory continues to provide consultancy services to start-ups and SMEs.</p>
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# Meeting: Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

**Date: 26 June 2018**

**Title: Work Programme 2018/19**

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**Author: Michael Robson**

**Tel: 643 5359**

**Service: Law and Governance**

**Wards affected: All**

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## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present the sub-committee with potential topics for inclusion in the 2018/19 Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee work programme.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The sub-committee is recommended to agree a work programme for 2018/19 and identify any further topics relevant to the remit of the sub-committee that could be included in the 2018/19 work programme.

## **3. Details**

- 3.1 The sub-committee are invited to give consideration to determining its work programme for the year ahead. In doing so members may wish to take into account the following suggestions and framework.
- 3.2 The sub-committee is one of a number of overview and scrutiny sub-committees. The role of overview and scrutiny is described in the Council's Constitution as follows:  
"Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development involves councillors of all political parties, as leaders of their communities, examining the delivery of services and influencing decision makers to ensure that they meet the needs, and improve the lives, of people in North Tyneside.  
It does this by:
- a) reviewing and challenging the impact of decisions and actions taken by the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations;
  - b) carrying out investigations into services and policy areas of interest and concern to communities in North Tyneside;
  - c) involving communities in its work and reflecting their views and concerns; and
  - d) supporting and assisting the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations in the formulation of their future plans, strategies and their decision making by making evidence based recommendations to them on how services can be improved."

- 3.3 The Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee has responsibility to perform these roles in relation to the following areas:
- Economic Development
  - Planning
  - Business and Enterprise
  - Transport Network
  - Highways and Road Safety
  - Town Centres
  - Inward Investment
  - Tourism
- 3.4 To ensure that the work programme is effective it is suggested that when evaluating topics for inclusion in the work programme the following criteria should be considered:
- Is it timely?
  - Will it duplicate any other work ongoing within the Council or the North East Combined Authority scrutiny work programme?
  - Will it add value/contribute to policy development?
- 3.5 A draft work programme has been formulated in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the sub-committee. This is attached as Appendix A. It is based on outstanding scrutiny exercises carried over from 2017/18 and topics identified by the Chair and Deputy.
- 3.6 The Senior Leadership Team discussed the overview and scrutiny work programme to identify key policy areas for scrutiny to focus on. As a result a list of key plans and strategies has been referred to the chairs and deputy chairs of scrutiny sub-committee's to discuss with relevant Cabinet Members to inform the development of the scrutiny work programmes. This list includes the following plans and strategies that relate to the remit of the sub-committee:
- Employment and Skills Strategy
  - Transport Strategy
  - Parking Strategy
  - Cycling Strategy
  - Highway Asset Management Plan
  - Travel Safety Strategy
  - Network Management Plan
  - Procurement Strategy
  - Supply Chain Approach
  - Inclusive Growth
  - Trading Company Business Plan
  - Supporting business is all of our business
- 3.7 The sub-committee has previously contributed to the formulation of many of these strategies and it is proposed that discussions with the relevant Cabinet Members will continue so that the sub-committee's work programme seeks to influence any work in these areas.
- 3.8 A press release was issued in March 2018 seeking the views of members of the public as to what services would be important for scrutiny to focus on. An article was also placed on the Authority web site and communication platforms inviting members of the public to raise issues that they thought would be suitable for scrutiny to investigate. Arising from this exercise two topics were identified by Members of the public that fall within the sub-committee's remit:

### 3.9 Parking on Pavements

*Currently many drivers park on pavements (even when totally unnecessary) causing damage to surfaces and infrastructures below (also sometimes to the cars themselves), hazards and obstructions to pedestrians (especially elderly, pushchairs, wheelchairs, etc.). It is also (grey area) illegal and not recommended in the highway code. A few streets in the borough have been designated and marked for pavement parking, hopefully with strengthening of the pavement to take the weight of vehicles for prolonged periods. It would seem to make sense if designated pavement parking was extended and existing rules covering inappropriate pavement parking were enforced better.*

*Overhanging foliage/branches on pavements. This is becoming more common.*

*Overhanging growth can cause damage or injury to pedestrians, especially where it occurs in conjunction with pavement parking. It would seem to be a good idea to prevent such injury and possible legal actions by raising awareness of residents responsibilities for their own plants and encouraging appropriate action, possibly using a neighbourhood 'street warden' volunteer type system backed by the council, maybe using the yellow card/red card system.*

### 3.10 Parking on the seafront

*The pavements along the front are wide enough to support crowds from a Wembley football match but parking is abysmal. If you go to seaside towns in the south, eg Frinton, you have parking right along the front. Whitley Bay is the original "Drive-thru". There doesn't seem to be any encouragement to stop and enjoy the town. Where families can park the time is so short and the fee is so high that they are unable to spend the day in Whitley Bay either on the beach or seeing the sights. I feel so sorry for the cafes along the sea front near the central promenade as there is no parking for customers. There are long stretches of the seafront in Whitley Bay where there is no local parking for visitors. (Tynemouth has street parking along the front and well signed carparks).*

3.11 The sub-committee may wish to give consideration to these topics.

3.12 The sub-committee has the option of establishing sub-groups (of around 4/5 members) to carry out in-depth investigations. The sub-groups operate in a more informal way and can consult with a wide range of witnesses in various settings, often over a shorter period of time. When dealing with a specific topic, this focused way of working is often more productive than trying to achieve the same in a formal committee setting. Whilst more than one topic can be prioritised across the municipal year, only one sub-group can be established at any one time due to resourcing restraints. As yet a topic has yet to be identified for in-depth investigation by a sub-group.

3.13 The sub-committee are invited to raise any others topics relevant to the remit of the sub-committee that they think should be included in the work programme. Additional topics raised will be scheduled accordingly in consultation with the Chair and the Deputy Chair.

## 4. Appendices

Draft Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee work programme 2018/19

## 5. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author:

- Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee minutes and work programme 2017/18

## Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee Work Programme 2018/19

**Chair: Councillor Janet Hunter**

**Deputy Chair: Councillor Joan Walker**

**DSO: Michael Robson**

Agenda Item	Purpose	Lead Officer	Outcome/Issues
<b>26 June 2018</b>			
Room 4.01			
Work programme 2017/18	To determine the sub-committee's work programme for the year ahead. Items already identified by Members and officers will be presented, with the opportunity for the sub-committee to raise any additional topics for potential consideration.	Michael Robson	
Business Support Sub-Group	To review implementation of the action agreed by Cabinet on 12 June 2017 in response to the sub-committee's report and recommendations relating to Business Support. Councillor B Pickard to be invited to attend.	Sean Collier	
<b>11 September 2018</b>			
Apprenticeships	To receive an update on apprenticeships when the Apprenticeship Levy and other government reforms have been operational for some time to evaluate its effect in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the number of apprenticeships in North Tyneside;</li> <li>b) the outcomes in terms of young people entering employment and gaining qualifications; and</li> <li>c) the social mobility.</li> </ul> To include a short introduction to the Apprenticeship Levy for new members of the sub-committee. To be preceded by a visit to a local employer to talk to employers and apprentices about their experiences. Councillor P Earley to be invited to attend.	Mark Barrett Pat Blyth (Tynemet)	Previously reported in February 2017. Deferred from February 2018.

Skills Shortages	To examine whether any progress has been made by the Council in gaining a better understanding of skills shortages in the borough.	Craig Anderson	Options not yet formulated (Oct 2017).
<b>13 November 2018</b>			
Highways Asset Management Plan – Annual Report	<p>a) To examine the annual report presented to Cabinet setting out delivery of the HAMP over the past 12 months and the plans for the coming 12 months and</p> <p>b) Give particular consideration to the impact of significant investment on the highway network at</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the Coast Road/Beach Road;</li> <li>ii. Norham Road,</li> <li>iii. Holystone Roundabout; and</li> <li>iv. North Bank of the Tyne</li> </ol> <p>in terms of reducing congestion and supporting economic development and inward investment.</p>	Colin McDonald Mark Newlands Karen Cassar (Capita)	
<b>15 January 2018 at 4.00pm</b>			
North of Tyne Devolution	To examine the proposed devolution of powers to a North of Tyne Combined Authority, how the £600m of extra money will benefit the economy of North Tyneside and how decisions of the Authority will be scrutinised.		Considered by Cabinet on 11 December 2017 and Council on 18 January 2018. 19 February. Cabinet on 19 March 2018 gave its approval in principle.
Local Enterprise Partnership	To examine the proposed relationship between the North of Tyne Combined Authority and the North East LEP in terms of delivering the Strategic Economic Plan in North Tyneside and the governance of grant funding.		SEP presented to NECA O&S on 13 September 2017 “for information”.
European Funding	To examine the steps being taken by the Council and the Combined Authority to identify economic development programmes currently supported by European funding, for example the Business Factory, consider the risks of Brexit and examine the how the government intends to administer the replacement funding arrangements.	Sean Collier	Schedule of projects and funding circulated to the sub-committee by Paul Buie on 17 November 2017.

<b>12 March 2018</b>			
Regeneration in the North West of the Borough	To give consideration to the regeneration and investment priorities and plans for the smaller town/retail centres in the North West of the borough and review them in the light of the views expressed by the communities during engagement activities such as the Mayor's Listening Events, resident panels, tenant groups, ward surgeries etc.	Graham Sword	

<b>Items to be scheduled</b>			
100% Business Rate Retention	To revisit the topic when more detailed proposals are known. Given the broad implications of the proposals on the overall financial management of the authority any work might be undertaken in conjunction with the Finance Sub-Committee. (Overview of proposals presented in March 2017.)	Janice Gillespie	Nothing yet to report (Oct 2017).
100% Business Rate Retention	To examine the outcomes from the pilot business rate retention schemes.	Janice Gillespie	
The Tyne & Wear Bus Strategy	To examine the NECA Bus Strategy.	John Cram Nick Bryan	Public Consultation on both strategies was expected early 2018 but delayed.
NECA Transport Strategy	To examine and comment on the draft NECA Transport Strategy.	Andy Flynn	Update to be sought on timescales and Councillor C Johnson to be notified of sub-committee's wish to contribute to any response from the Council to any future consultations.
Visits to local businesses	To provide the sub-committee with a better understanding of the economy in North Tyneside, to provide an insight into the types of issues faced by large employers and help shape the sub-committee's work programme. Potential visits: a) Sterling Pharma Solutions, Dudley b) LEDA Transport Solutions, Killingworth – North	Sean Collier	

	<p>Tyneside New Business of the Year Award Winner 2017</p> <p>c) Gastech, Tyne Tunnel Trading Estate heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system manufacturer and installer – North Tyneside Business of the Year Award Winner 2017</p> <p>d) Kykcloud, on the Royal Quays provide asset management and mobile building inspection software and was acquired by Texas company Accruent in 2017.</p> <p>e) Elfab manufacture pressure relief systems on West Chirton Ind Est. They were identified as one to watch in the European Business Awards.</p>		
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**Potential in-depth investigations**

Name of sub-group	Membership	Brief outline of scope and timescale	Lead officers	Progress