

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date:</b>	20 March 2017
<b>Title:</b>	Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee for Economic Development
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

**Contact name:** David Fletcher

**Tel:** 01962 846125

**Email:** david.fletcher@hants.gov.uk

### 1. Executive Summary

1.1. Following Cabinet's considerations of the report 'Future Approach to Economic Development and Business Engagement' on 12 December 2016 and its approval to establish a Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee for Economic Development, this report seeks to brief Cabinet on:

- a) the proposed Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee for Economic Development and its suggested terms of reference;
- b) the associated proposed Business Engagement Forum and its suggested terms of reference.

1.2. This report also seeks Cabinet's approval of:

- a) the terms of reference for the Cabinet Advisory Sub Committee for Economic Development (*see Appendix 1*);and
- b) the terms of reference for the Business Engagement Forum (*see Appendix 2*)

### 2. Contextual information

2.1. The County Council works closely with both the local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), and with Hampshire district councils to support economic prosperity in Hampshire. This partnership working is particularly important in helping to secure and deliver major development and regeneration projects on key sites, such as the Enterprise Zones. This type of activity is expected to increase across Hampshire in the future, as, for example, the ministry of defence rationalises its estate, bringing forward new sites and opportunities for redevelopment or regeneration.

2.2. The Cabinet report of 12 December 2016 proposed two key measures to enhance both the County Council's approach to economic development and its engagement with the business community:

a) The establishment of a Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee for Economic Development, chaired by the Leader and involving the following key Cabinet portfolios:

- Leader of the County Council and Executive Member for Policy and Resources;
- Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Childrens Services;
- Executive Member for Economic Development;
- Executive Member for Environment and Transport.

b) The establishment of a Business Engagement Forum, consisting of:

- The Cabinet Sub-Committee for Economic Development;
- The Board of the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Business Alliance (HIBA);
- The Chairs of the Enterprise M3 and Solent Local Enterprise Partnerships.

### **3. Cabinet Advisory Sub Committee – Purpose and Terms of Reference**

3.1. The County Council fulfils a very significant role in supporting the local economy:

- a) Infrastructure (including transport and digital), skills and development sites and premises are all recognised as 'key drivers of growth', and the County Council is a central player in these agendas;
- b) Direct interventions, including support for key sectors, transformational regeneration projects and the promotion of the visitor economy, which are delivered by the County Council through the Economic Development function within the Department of Economy, Transport and Environment (ETE);
- c) Through the County Council's significant procurement of goods and services from local businesses.

3.2. Given that several Cabinet portfolios contribute to the economic agenda, the proposed Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee could add value by:

- a) encouraging a more holistic approach to supporting the economy;

- b) ensuring the County Council contributes most effectively to the Strategic Economic Plans of the two Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and responds in a comprehensive manner to major consultation and policy development initiatives such as the Government's recently launched Industrial Strategy Green Paper;
- c) establishing clarity on the nature of specific economic development related interventions and relative priorities as and when required;
- d) facilitating a co-ordinated approach to supporting major development projects such as Solent Enterprise Zone (Daedalus) or Whitehill Bordon for example;
- e) advising and assisting in the development of revised delivery arrangements for economic development, as set out in the Cabinet report approved on 12 December 2016;
- f) participating in the proposed Business Engagement Forum (see below).

3.3. Appendix 1 provides the draft terms of reference for the Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee. An informal and exploratory meeting of the proposed members of the Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee met on Tuesday 14 February 2017 where the draft terms of reference were discussed.

#### **4. Business Engagement Forum – Purpose and Terms of Reference**

- 4.1. Last year's consultation with local businesses provided clear evidence that the business community wishes to engage more closely and effectively with local government, especially give the prospect of a move to 100% business rates retention by 2020 to help fund Council services.
- 4.2. The Business Engagement Forum would provide direct feedback from the private sector to the Cabinet Sub Committee to help inform the County Council's approach to economic development, incorporating:
  - a) issues and challenges facing the business community, including skills, planning and development, transport, and business premises etc;
  - b) current and anticipated trading conditions (especially relevant in context of Brexit);
  - c) views and intelligence which can inform policy making and delivery arrangements (local and national);
  - d) key business issues which influence regeneration and development;
  - e) effectiveness of current business support arrangements in Hampshire;

- f) intelligence and support for informing dialogue with central government and its agencies and work with other strategic partners, e.g. the emerging Sub National Transport Body for the South East.

4.3. Appendix 2 provides draft terms of reference for the Business Engagement Forum. An initial informal and exploratory meeting of the proposed members of the Forum has been scheduled for Monday 27 March 2017, to discuss the purpose of the Forum and its terms of reference, to ensure that the private sector is both comfortable with the approach and confident that this will be a value added initiative. Any suggested amendments arising from this further consideration will be reported to Council in the County Council's report on this matter.

## **5. Recommendations**

- 5.1 That Cabinet approves the terms of reference for the proposed Cabinet Advisory Sub-Committee for Economic Development; and
- 5.2 That Cabinet approves the terms of reference for the proposed Business Engagement Forum.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<a href="http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearhmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=0&amp;pref=Y&amp;item_ID=7931&amp;tab=2&amp;co=&amp;confidential=">http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearhmeetings/meetingsitemdocuments.htm?sta=0&amp;pref=Y&amp;item_ID=7931&amp;tab=2&amp;co=&amp;confidential=</a>	7931	12 Dec 2016

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
Business Consultation Summary Report	Hantsweb (Serving Hampshire) <a href="http://documents.hants.gov.uk/economic-development/HCCSPCBusinessConsultationSummaryReportNov2017.pdf">http://documents.hants.gov.uk/economic-development/HCCSPCBusinessConsultationSummaryReportNov2017.pdf</a>

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

1.1. The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:**

- a) The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **1.2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

It is considered that this report will have no adverse impact or cause no disadvantage to groups with protected characteristics.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1 This report raises no issues related to crime and disorder.

### **3. Climate Change:**

3.1. How what does is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

The recommendation in this report raises no issues in respect of climate change resilience or adaptation, energy consumption or impact on our carbon footprint.

## Appendix 1

### Draft Terms of Reference for the Cabinet Advisory Sub Committee for Economic Development

#### Overall Purpose

To advise the Leader and Cabinet on Hampshire County Council's strategic approach to Economic Development across all relevant portfolios, to ensure that our activities achieve the optimum outcomes in terms of supporting the local economy.

#### Objectives

- a) To provide a more holistic approach to supporting the economy across the whole of the county of Hampshire, encompassing the key drivers of growth including:
  - investment in infrastructure (transport and digital);
  - skills development;
  - development and regeneration;
  - stock of business premises.
- b) To ensure that the County Council contributes most effectively to the Strategic Economic Plans of the two LEPs and responds in a comprehensive manner to major consultation and policy development initiatives such as the Government's recently launched Industrial Strategy.
- c) To establish clarity on the nature of specific economic development related interventions and relative priorities as and when required;  
This could include, but is not limited to:
  - Support for key sectors in the Hampshire economy;
  - Relationship management for the existing business community, especially Hampshire's largest private sector employers;
  - Business support for SMEs;
  - Promotion and facilitation of transformational development projects;
  - Promotion of Hampshire as a key visitor destination.
- d) To ensure a co-ordinated approach to supporting major development projects, such as Solent Enterprise Zone (Daedalus) or Whitehill Bordon, across key functions of the County Council, and supporting work with District Council partners – where relevant.
- e) To advise and assist in the development of revised delivery arrangements for economic development, as set out in the Cabinet report approved on 12 December 2016, including scope, partners, governance and funding.
- f) To provide an economic perspective on Hampshire County Council's procurement approaches to ensure that local businesses can, where appropriate, bid effectively contracts for goods and services.

g) To participate in the Business Engagement Forum.

**Frequency of Meetings**

Proposed as quarterly.

**Membership**

- Leader of the County Council (Chair)
- Deputy Leader of the County Council and Executive Member for Childrens Services
- Executive Member for Economic Development
- Executive Member for Environment & Transport

**Supported by the following officers:**

- Chief Executive
- Director for Economy, Transport & Environment
- Assistant Director for Economic Development



## Appendix 2

### Business Engagement Forum – Draft Terms of Reference

#### Overall Purpose

To enhance the nature and effectiveness of engagement between the local business community and Hampshire County Council and to provide direct feedback from the private sector to the Cabinet Advisory Sub Committee to help inform the County Council's approach to economic development.

#### Objectives

- a) To ensure that Hampshire County Council receives current intelligence with regards to:
  - issues and challenges facing the business community, including skills, planning and development, transport, connectivity and stock of business premises;
  - current and anticipated trading conditions (especially relevant in context of Brexit);
- b) For the business community to provide views and intelligence which can inform policy making, delivery arrangements (local and national) and the prioritisation of resources;
- c) To enable the business community to influence the County Council's response and contribution to key national and local economic strategies, including the Government's Industrial Strategy and the respective LEP Strategic Economic Plans;
- d) To identify key business issues which influence regeneration and development, especially in relation to major developments and the supply of business premises;
- e) To ensure that business support arrangements in Hampshire are as effective as possible;
- f) To provide Hampshire County Council with intelligence and support for engagement with central government and its agencies and to inform work with other strategic partners, eg the emerging Sub National Transport Body for the South East.
- g) To ensure that business is engaged in the development of any plans for revised delivery arrangements for economic development activities.
- h) To identify opportunities for greater collaboration between the public and private sectors, to the benefit of businesses, county council services and/or the residents and economy of Hampshire.
- i) To provide a mechanism for the County Council to consult with the wider business community via the member businesses of the component HIBA

organisations (Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, FSB, IOD, EEF, etc.) for example to support the County Council's annual budget consultation.

**Frequency of Meetings:** Proposed as quarterly.

**Membership**

- Cabinet Advisory Sub Committee for Economic Development
- Current members of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Business Alliance (HIBA) Board
- Chair – Solent LEP
- Chair – Enterprise M3 LEP