

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **CABINET MEMBER - CLEAN GROWTH AND REGENERATION** held on Thursday, 9 September 2021 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Councillor T King – Cabinet Member

Also in attendance: Councillor A Gibson

9/21 NON-EXEMPT MINUTES

RESOLVED – to confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Clean Growth and Regeneration held on 29 July 2021.

10/21 UPDATE ON THE INVEST IN D2N2 PROJECT AND "INVEST IN DERBYSHIRE" SERVICE

The Cabinet Member was given an update on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) “Invest in D2N2” (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) project and report on the progress of the specific Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP) “Invest in Derbyshire” service over the past 12 months. He was also asked to approve the continuation of the partnership grant agreement with Marketing Derby for the remainder of the delivery period (up to 31 October 2022) and review activity over the past 12 months.

The aim of the project was to carry out a series of activities to support businesses looking to relocate or start up in the D2N2 area and enabled existing organisations support for inward investment activity across Derbyshire. The report gave background to Phase 1, including details on the awarded ERDF grant, delivery of the project and Derbyshire County Council’s involvement. Outputs achieved for Derby and Derbyshire in the 1st phase were detailed.

Following the success of phase 1, a new agreement and delivery plan for Phase 2 were approved, to extend the project for a further three years to the end of October 2022. The project had continued to deliver a wide range of specialist inward investment in the D2N2 area, supporting increased productivity, creation of new or expanded enterprises, jobs, products and services. The project had to adjust its work during the COVID-19 pandemic and had diverted support to rescue and recovery efforts, with staff being furloughed, leading to small underspends despite enquiries remaining consistent and outputs being met.

Moving forward, much of the work for the Invest in Derbyshire service was aligned to the Covid-19 Economic Recovery Strategy to ensure a fully joined up approach. This included signposting to key areas of recovery activity such as the Green Entrepreneurs Fund which was launched in May 2021 and was directly supported by Derbyshire County Council and specific projects highlighted in the strategy being carried out.

RESOLVED – that the Cabinet Member (1) note the report and give approval to release the remainder of the funding to deliver the ERDF-funded D2N2 Inward Investment Programme; and

(2) delegate authority to the Executive Director - Place to agree to continue the partnership grant agreement between Marketing Derby and the Council until 31 October 2022.