

# Public Document Pack



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PUBLIC

To: Members of D2 Joint Committee For Economic Prosperity

Thursday, 24 June 2021

Dear Councillor,

Please attend a meeting of the **D2 Joint Committee For Economic Prosperity** to be held at **9.00am** on **Friday, 2 July 2021** in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG, the agenda for which is set out below.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen E. Barrington'.

**Helen Barrington**  
**Director of Legal and Democratic Services**

## **A G E N D A**

### **PART I - NON-EXEMPT ITEMS**

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence (if any)

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest (if any)

3. Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)

To confirm the non-exempt minutes of the meeting of the Derby and Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity held on 04 March 2021.

## **D2N2**

4. LEP Update

## **D2**

5. Appointment of district representative to D2N2 Board
6. Preparing and delivering our market town programme
7. Vision Derbyshire: Skills and Employment (Pages 7 - 12)
8. Vision Derbyshire: Economic Development
9. Refreshing our approach to delivery
10. Date of Next Meeting - 5 August 2021
11. Exclusion of the Public

To move “That under Regulation 21 (1)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972”

## **PART II - EXEMPT ITEMS**

12. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest (if any)

13. Verbal update on East Midlands Global Gateway

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Agenda Item 3

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **D2 JOINT COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY** held on 4 March 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

**PRESENT**

Councillor B Lewis  
(in the Chair)

<b><u>Amber Valley Borough Council</u></b> Councillor C Emmas – Williams	<b><u>Erewash Borough Council</u></b> Councillor C A Hart
<b><u>Chesterfield Borough Council</u></b> Councillor T Gilby	<b><u>High Peak Borough Council</u></b> Councillor A McKeown
<b><u>Derby City Council</u></b> Councillor C Poulter	<b><u>South Derbyshire District Council</u></b> Councillor M Ford
<b><u>Derbyshire County Council</u></b> Councillor B Lewis	

Also in Attendance –

Bolsover District Council – G Galloway and L Hickin.

Chesterfield Borough Council – H Bowen.

D2N2 LEP – S Rose.

Derby City Council – G O’Donovan.

Derbyshire County Council – E Alexander, D Arnold, J Battye, T Gregory and A Westray-Chapman.

Erewash Borough Council – J Jaroszek.

East Midlands Councils/Transport for the Midlands - A Pritchard.

North East Derbyshire District Council – G Callingham.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor A Dale (North East Derbyshire District Council)

**01/21**      **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** There were no declarations of interest.

**02/21**      **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3 December 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

## **03/21 MIDLANDS CONNECT/TRANSPORT FOR THE EAST**

**MIDLANDS: UPDATE** The pending Integrated Rail Plan was of huge import and its implications had been key to the Midlands Connect growth strategy and the focus of investment and activity going forward. There had been an indication that the Plan would be published on 3 March, 2021 but this had not transpired and was now likely to be published either before the local authority purdah period or before the Summer recess.

It was understood that all the necessary technical work had been done to support the finalisation of the Plan but it had not yet been considered by ministers or senior officials. Those discussions were now taking place and a lot of work had been undertaken by local authorities impacted by the Eastern Leg to influence the outcome of the Plan, specifically in response to the recent report of the National Infrastructure Commission. Councillors Cutts and Gilby, along with Councillor Blakin at Leeds, had taken a lead role in making the case to Government and involved significant MP engagement and social media activity focused on MPs and key decision makers.

The key financial challenges being faced on the Eastern Leg were still prominent. The NIC report had made it clear that the total cost of proposals on the rail network were in excess of the remaining available budget and therefore choices would have to be made. The priorities of the East Midlands would be to ensure the delivery of the hub station at Toton, connectivity to Chesterfield and the Staveley Infrastructure Maintenance Depot, all of which were core to the East Midlands HS2 Growth Strategy and on which collective aspirations had been based for the last 5 or 10 years.

In terms of the wider Midlands Connect work programme, a lot of work had been ongoing with the strategy refresh. This refresh had been dependant on the Integrated Rail Plan but also the Government's decarbonisation strategy for transport which was due out shortly. Some of the priorities and policies within the strategy would have a material impact on the focus and shape of the Midlands Connect strategy going forward.

The Government has made available £5m to Midlands Connect for the next financial year. This will enable the current work programme to continue, planned activities to progress and research to be taken forward. Midlands Connect will be going into a spending review later this year to try and secure a longer, multi-year settlement.

**04/21 D2N2 LEP UPDATE** An announcement was made on 3 March, 2021 that Derbyshire had been successfully shortlisted as Freeport area, one of eight in the country. The Humber had also been successful and provided an opportunity to make the most of the East Midlands connectivity offer between the airport and seaport port. A compelling case had been put forward in the bid, as well as a large amount of support for the bid from the East Midlands MPs and it was noted that Government was increasingly looking to local MPs to be advocates and the champions for local priorities.

The first ask from Government was that within the next two to four weeks, every freeport area would need to reconfirm governance arrangements, including Board membership. This would then trigger Government releasing capacity money to develop the outline and full business cases by Autumn to access the wider £175m available for all 8 freeports.

Government was providing a procurement framework contracts as well as setting up a network of working groups to support development of the 8 freeports. The critical work now was to put effort and energy into addressing all of the challenges and issues to submit the required documents to Government.

The Levelling Up and Community Renewal funds had been launched on 03 March 2021 as part of the Chancellor's budget and further guidance would be expected in coming weeks. Although only one funding round had been announced (18<sup>th</sup> June) it was expected that subsequent rounds would be available.

The expectation was that there would be one bid per MP constituency and that where there were competing bids, MPs would be involved in selecting priorities. Counties could submit Levelling Up bids for transport projects, given their role as transport and highway authority. Although the LUF was open the whole of Derbyshire, priority areas had been identified by Government.

**05/21**      **DERBYSHIRE RECOVERY STRATEGY UPDATE**      The Economic Recovery Strategy had been finalised and associated action plans developed; much partnership work has taken place and implementation of priority actions is well underway.

Capital projects in particular have progressed, including the safe and active travel scheme which includes a new cycle route in Chesterfield due to go to consultation on 25 March, 2021. A programme of work was being developed for rural mobility hubs as well as progressing demonstrator projects for hydrogen and rural mobility.

Derby City provided an update on business grant schemes that had been provided to keep businesses going during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the last three months, £15m in direct grants and support had been paid across around 5,000 grant payments. £7.4m had been provided from DAYS for the additional restrictions grants. It had been estimated there would be £4m remaining after paying the short term survival grants. This money must be spent by March 2022 and partners on the economic steering group would be engaged on what the rest of the funding should be used for. Other smaller pots were being made available to support a range of businesses.

The Ascent scale-up programme had been a significant investment from the City Council supported by £5m of core funding. This programme was to support the businesses with highest potential in Derby and there were around 50 that would receive the support over a two year period. The employment and

training portal was being developed; it was key that an effective technology led portal was in place to assist those who were seeking new employment. This would be procured in the next few months.

A High Street Task Force had been established in relation to the Market Town Renewal and was due to meet on 11 March 2021 to assess the implications of the changes to lifestyle, business, premises and expectations of town centres moving forward. There were also other factors to consider such as low carbon/alternative energy generation as well as aligning interventions with current activity. There were a number of recovery strategy interventions that the task force had already started to deliver including the role out of Shopappy before Christmas.

It was noted that the funding streams announced in the Budget primarily enabled Derbyshire to do the work outlined in the Recovery Strategy.

**06/21      PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A NON-STATUTORY STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE**      The Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) was being progressed to complement the ongoing work being undertaken by D2 partners on climate change and address the impacts of the Covid-19 crisis through the D2 Economic Recovery Board.

Additionally, through the Vision Derbyshire programme, a Climate Change and Planning Policy Work Theme was being progressed, sponsored by Councillor Gary Purdy and Julian Townsend. This Vision Derbyshire work would dovetail with the SPF and provide an important context and agreed principles for addressing the impacts of climate change through the planning process.

Original agreement to create the SPF was provided at the D2JC meeting in June 2019. The report highlighted that the primary justification for preparation of the Framework was to address the high priority placed on strategic planning and strategic plan making by Government set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and to help partners fulfil their obligations under the 'Duty to Cooperate' and Localism Act 2011 for joint working on cross boundary strategic planning matters. It also confirmed the SPF would cover the whole of the D2 area, including the Peak District National Park Authority, and that the Joint Committee would provide the strategic oversight and governance for development and delivery of the SPF.

Since June 2019, various reports and updates had been shared with the D2 Chief Executives' Group and the D2JC outlining progress of work on the Framework, key issues and securing endorsement for next steps. This included consideration of implications of the Government's Planning White Paper which set out proposals for major reform to the planning system but was silent on strategic planning and strategic plan making and proposed to abolish the Duty to Cooperate. Draft Terms of Reference had also been considered setting out

details of key roles and responsibilities for the Joint Committee in providing strategic oversight and governance for delivery of the SPF.

Through discussion with the Chief Executives it had been agreed there was an important role for the SPF in the reformed planning system to set out a shared statement of key, strategic objectives and priorities for all partners in how the county and city would grow in the future, providing an important context for the preparation of future local plans by partners. The draft ToR had also endorsed for presentation to the D2JC, subject to inclusion of further details of how preparation of the Framework would be resourced.

In addition to the above, regular progress reports on the SPF had been provided at a number of Derbyshire-wide and Housing Market Area (HMA) based officer planning policy and development management groups. Two special meetings on the SPF had also organised on 10th December 2020 and 11th February 2021 for officers of all the D2 partners to discuss the Framework in more detail. Discussions at these groups had highlighted a desire by the majority of partners to report the SPF to their respective members on planning committees or planning boards, particularly to set out the background of the need to prepare the Framework; highlight its key purpose and how the Framework aligned with their Local Plans; its potential resource implications; and to seek members' endorsement to progress further joint working to deliver the Framework.

Partners had also agreed that future work streams to deliver key elements of the Framework should be taken forward based on established HMA officer working groups facilitated and coordinated by the County Council and that emerging HMA growth strategies in the preparation of future Local Plan Reviews should be aligned with, and reflected in, the Framework.

Since January 2020, a number of significant work streams had been undertaken by the D2 partners to progress the Framework, details of which had been set out within the report.

Although Committee members had agreed the resolutions, a number of Leaders wished to have further discussions with their planning colleagues to gain further information about the framework.

**RESOLVED** to (1) note the progress of further joint working by the D2 partners to deliver a non-statutory Strategic Planning Framework for Derby and Derbyshire as set out in the report; (2) consider and agree a Draft Terms of Reference for the D2 Joint Committee setting out its key roles and responsibilities for providing strategic oversight and governance for the delivery of the Strategic Planning Framework; (3) consider and agree the Statement of Common Ground that had been developed to underpin development of the Framework and set out key principles for joint working to deliver it; and (4) endorse the opportunity for the D2 partners to report the SPF to their respective members on planning committees or planning boards to seek their members' formal endorsement to progress further joint working to deliver the Framework.

**07/21**      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** The next meeting of the Committee would be to be set for the year April 2021 – March 2022.

**08/21**      **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING RESOLVED** that under Regulation 4 (2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that in view of the nature of the items of business, that if members of the public were present, exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed to them.

**SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

1. To receive declarations of interest (if any).
2. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 03 December 2020.

**09/21**      **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2020 be confirmed as a correct record (contains exempt information).

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**D2 Joint Committee Meeting  
2 July, 2021**

**VISION DERBYSHIRE:  
PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A FESTIVAL OF BUSINESS**

**(1) Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report seeks approval to access the Retained Business Rates Fund to pay for an innovative 'Derbyshire Festival of Business' under the banner of Vision Derbyshire delivered through a partnership led by the University of Derby.

**(2) Discussion / Decision Required by the D2JC**

**2.1 A decision is required from the Derby and Derbyshire Joint Committee regarding the allocation of £43,000 (+ VAT) from the Retained Business Rates Fund to develop and deliver a Festival of Business as part of a Vision Derbyshire project.**

**(3) Information and Analysis**

3.1 Working under the umbrella of the Vision Derbyshire theme, "Establish Relentless Ambition", the Employment and Skills COVID Recovery Cell has identified a key intervention to support business recovery in Derbyshire, working with the University of Derby and other delivery partners.

**The Proposal**

3.2 The event is to be managed by the University of Derby and delivered over a month-long window during the autumn 2021 (September/October/November). The overall aim is to help enable the business community to bounce-back from the challenges caused by the pandemic (and BREXIT) by:

- identifying existing and future skills talent
- exploring key business-related issues
- providing opportunities for collaboration and networking
- showcasing the best of Derbyshire's businesses to existing and future clients/customers/investors

3.3 The project has a number of strands of activity which include the following:

i) Showcasing Derbyshire's Business Community

The University of Derby to work in partnership with East Midlands Chamber, Federation of Small Business, Confederation of British Industry and locally based organisations such as Business Peak District, Destination Chesterfield,

Marketing Derby and Erewash Business Partnership to organise a programme of community-focused open day events that are geared to showcasing Derbyshire's businesses. The aim of this strand is to profile Derbyshire's businesses to potential customers/clients and future employees.

ii) Educational Engagement Programme

The University to work with key organisations (as referenced above), plus local authorities and D2N2 Careers Hub to implement a co-ordinated programme of education-related activities. This will include mutual visits between school/college/university and employers to deliver careers advice and guidance. Also, there is potential to include delivery of a hackathon, a series of live project briefs and masterclasses on key business-related topics e.g. business resilience. Potential extension to include a programme of intensive, one week-long work placements.

This will also link with the wider careers activity, creating additional opportunities for businesses to extend their reach through the local careers sites such as My Future, and STARTIN to potential young people in our schools, colleges and University.

The aim will be to showcase Derbyshire's businesses to the next generation of employees; to inspire school/college and university students to consider Derbyshire based employment opportunities.

iii) Online and Face-to-Face Masterclasses

Delivery of a suite of masterclasses on key topics of relevance to Derbyshire businesses. Speakers to include leading professionals, academic and businesspeople in Derbyshire, with the keynote event being the delivery of a TEDx talk. The University of Derby to publish a written version of the presentations.

The main aim of this strand is to raise the profile of Derbyshire as a 'thought leader' within the UK business community and so raise the county's profile as a place to do business.

Derbyshire Business & Enterprise Awards

- 3.4 The University to work in conjunction with East Midlands Chamber and Generation Next to showcase Derbyshire's business and enterprise-focused talent through a hybrid (virtual & face-to-face) awards ceremony. The objective of this intervention is to recognise and showcase the business and enterprise talent within Derbyshire and help raise aspirations to succeed.

The Derbyshire Business Expo

- 3.5 The proposal is to deliver a 3-day 'business expo' across locations in Derby, Chesterfield and Buxton, organised by the University of Derby as a means of promoting Derbyshire's businesses to existing and future clients.

### Benchmarking Good Practice

- 3.6 A review has taken place of similar events in the region to test the effectiveness of the approach. The Leicester Business Festival is the largest business event in the region. It has become “Leicester and Leicestershire’s annual economic showcase and is cited as an important part in the post-Covid economic recovery plan” ([About \(leicesterbusinessfestival.com\)](http://leicesterbusinessfestival.com)). The 2020 Leicester Festival of Business attracted 3049 participants, 798 of which were outside the region with attendees from 24 countries. Overall, 1,076 unique businesses were engaged, whilst 90% of attendees said that their business benefited from attending an event in the Festival (LBF 2020 Official Festival Report”).
- 3.7 Other areas of related good practice include: ‘My Future’ and ‘MADE in Chesterfield’. With regards to the impact of My Future, a paid for campaign running until September has reached 12,806 people and there have been 18,661 impressions leading to 630 ‘click throughs’. Also, a Google and YouTube static advert aimed at parents has had 34,421 impressions leading to 231 click throughs. In addition, a video advert aimed at parents has had 15,100 impressions leading to the main video being viewed 884 times. The platform is also used by career leaders in school and more recently, has been rolled out to work coaches in Job Centre Plus who will use it with customers
- 3.8 By way of an overview, the MADE in Chesterfield Programme brings manufacturing businesses together with schools and colleges to inspire the future workforce by raising awareness of the opportunities and skills needed to work in those sectors. Recently, the programme has been widened to capture construction as well as manufacturing.
- 3.9 There are similarities with Festival of Business proposals in that MADE engages largely via ‘open door’ sessions where students are invited to visit employer premises. To date, over 3500 students have been engaged. Last year due to COVID, this happened virtually, developing virtual workplace tours and STEM resources with UCB, MSE Hiller and Woodhead Construction. The virtual tours can be seen on the links below: -

<https://youtu.be/EXSSsQXg0Go>

*UCB STEM Skills*

<https://youtu.be/KaPsAJticc4>

*UCB Tour*

<https://youtu.be/-uLeDXKZiAQ>

*Woodhead STEM Skills*

[https://youtu.be/OOVTLz0sj\\_0](https://youtu.be/OOVTLz0sj_0)

*Woodhead Workplace Tour*

<https://youtu.be/qvlzY8ual44>

*MSE STEM Skills*

<https://youtu.be/GuM94zP-jGk>

*MSE Workplace Tour*

## **(4) Measuring Performance**

- 4.1 The following performance measures are proposed to be used to judge the success of the Festival:
- number of locally/regionally based organisations coming together to deliver the festival (10+)
  - numbers of businesses engaged (1000+)

- c. number of individual events delivered as part of the festival (50+)
- d. cumulative number of attendees at events (2000+)

## (5) Costs

5.1 The costs of the Festival of Derbyshire project have been identified as follows:

£18, 000	1.0FTE Project Manager fixed term over 6 months (including on costs) - to coordinate the various activities linked to the Festival
£15,000	Marketing/promotional work needed to build demand for the Expos
£5,000	Brand development & broader social media campaign to promote the Festival
£5,000	Impact assessment/evaluation of the Festival
<b>£43,000</b> <b>VAT</b>	<b>+</b> <b>TOTAL</b>

- 5.2 The current level of funding available in the Retained Business Rate pot (not including £1m previously allocated support for the Business Start Up Programme) is £0.8m and there is sufficient to cover the costs of the proposals as set out above.
- 5.3 Subject to agreement with Derbyshire County Council's Finance Service, it is proposed that a separate reserve account be set up to fund the Festival of Derbyshire to allow the transfer of £43,000 (+VAT) from the Retained Business Rate pot.

## (6) Going Forward

- 6.1 Although currently, the Festival is proposed as a one-off intervention to be held in Autumn, 2021, it is considered that even in the short term, such a project could bring significant benefits to businesses, potential employees and a much-needed boost to the local economy. To help understand the longer-term potential of the intervention, it is proposed to evaluate the impact of the Festival on stakeholders, capture good practice and areas of learning. This will then help refine proposals and assess whether the interventions are worthy of being sustained in the longer term.
- 6.2 The aspiration is, in fact, to build a sustainable model for delivery and whilst the underpinning business model for subsequent years has not yet been built, the detailed nature of the collaborative working engendered by the Autumn Festival should establish a model for future working that will ensure a viable delivery model. Indeed, subject to evaluation, the aim is for the 2021 Festival to be developed into a fully sustainable model, without public sector support by the University of Derby and its partners.

## **(7) Recommendations**

The D2 Joint Committee is recommended to:

- i) Note the overall aims and project proposals set out in this report.
- ii) Agree the allocation of £43,000, plus VAT, from the Retain Business Rates Fund into a nominated budget within Derbyshire County Council's Economy and Regeneration Service.

**Andrew Marsh**

**Head of Employment and Skills**

**Derbyshire County Council**

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