

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **D2 JOINT COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY** held on Thursday, 8 June 2023 at Committee Room 1, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG.

PRESENT

Councillor B Lewis (in the Chair)

Councillors N Barker, J Dawson, C Emmas-Williams, S Flitter, A McKeown, and N Peatfield.

Also in attendance was E Alexander (Derbyshire County Council), K Apps (Derbyshire County Council), D Arnold (Derbyshire County Council), D Adle (Amber Valley Borough Council), J Battye (Derbyshire County Council), G Galloway (Bolsover District Council), L Hickin (North East Derbyshire County Council), J Jaroszek (Erewash Borough Council), R North (Derby City Council), L Sharp (Chesterfield Borough Council), and P Wilson (Derbyshire Dales District Council).

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillor S Fritchley, T Gilby, R Pearson, and B Shanker.

01/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

02/23 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 23 November 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

03/23 EXTENSION OF BUSINESS START UP

J Battye introduced the item, providing an update on the key success areas regarding the D2 Vision Derbyshire Business Start-Up Project and requested that funding on the project be extended to cover the period until December 2023 with a possible further extension beyond that time, subject to funding being approved through the Shared Prosperity Fund (see later agenda item).

RESOLVED to

- a) note the strong and continued progress of the Vision Derbyshire Business Start Up Project;
- b) note the previous changes to eligibility criteria which have ensured the Programme remains responsive to the needs of business;

c) agree the proposed extension to the timescale of the Programme, utilising the allocated Retained Business Rates fund and agree the revised, draft Memorandum of Understanding be signed by local authorities;

d) note the separate report setting out the potential use of Shared Prosperity Fund for the Business Start Up Project to support an additional extension beyond 31 December 2023 to March 2025; and

e) request the Business, Economy and Place Workstream explore the potential for a single front door for advising on grant funding opportunities across the D2 area and provide a report to the Joint Committee at a future date.

04/23 GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND PROPOSALS

K Apps introduced the item, informing the D2 Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity on the outputs of the DEP review and set out the proposed governance arrangements going forward.

RESOLVED to

1) note the content of the report and specifically the assessment of governance arrangements;

2) agree to the proposed governance arrangements, and specifically to the closing down on the DEP Board;

3) request officers prepare terms of reference to support the new governance arrangements for consideration at the next Joint Committee meeting; and

4) agree to formally thank Richard Horsley, Chair of DEP, for his dedication and achievements in the role over the past years.

05/23 JOINT WORKING AND FUNDED DELIVERY

J Battye introduced the item, providing the Joint Committee with an update on the proposed collaborative approach across D2 authorities for utilisation of the UK Shared Prosperity Funding (SPF) to support business and aid economic growth. The proposals were set within the context of the proposed East Midlands County Combined Authority and the constraints of the SPF funding criteria.

RESOLVED to

1) agree the approach to further extend the Business Start Up programme over the period 1 January 2024 to 31 March 2025 through the use of allocated SPF to fund business advisers, management costs and project

support, and note the submission of a tender to support delivery in Derby City;

2) approve the allocation of £245,000 from the shared Retained Business Rate pot to extend the Business Start Up grant for the period 1st January 2024 to 31 March 2025;

3) agree DCC to continue leadership and management of the extended business start-up scheme for the period to the end of March 2025;

4) note the discussions and progress that have been made to develop an extended De-Carbonise UKSPF project;

5) approve Option 2 as the preferred approach to delivering a De-Carbonise scheme and commissions officers to undertake the work required to finalise arrangements, including addressing the issues set out at paragraph 3.22;

6) agree that update reports for Business Start Up and De-Carbonise be brought back to Committee as appropriate; and

7) note the current position of Growth Hub and Visit Peak District and Derbyshire in relation to UKSPF and consider if any further work is required.

06/23 NEWS IN BRIEF

Joe Battye introduced the item, providing a verbal update covering key update items.

Updates were provided to Committee members on four areas; investment zones, visitor economy, growth and investment strategies and supporting skills and employment.

07/23 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

1. Declarations Of Interest

2. Minerals And Quarrying Sector

3. Combined Authority Update