

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of **IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - PLACES** held on Wednesday, 17 May 2023 at Council Chamber, County Hall, Matlock,.

PRESENT

Councillor S Bull (in the Chair)

Councillors J Siddle, A Clarke, N Gourlay, D Greenhalgh, D Murphy and J Nelson.

Also in attendance was Councillor .

Apologies for absence were submitted for Councillor P Niblock and R Redfern.

39/2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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Councillor J Siddle declared a personal interest in item 42/23 as the proposed routes would pass through parts of his electoral ward.

40/2 MINUTES

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The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2023 were confirmed as a correct record.

41/2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS (30 MINUTE MAXIMUM IN TOTAL)

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There were no public questions.

42/2 INTEGRATED RAIL PLAN UPDATE

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Chris Hegarty, Senior Project Officer, attended the meeting to provide the Committee with an update on the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) and to support wider discussions on the implications of IRP for Derbyshire.

The IRP for the North and Midlands had been published by the DfT on 18 November 2021. The IRP had been devised to review the principal rail investment proposals in the Midlands and the North, High Speed 2 (HS2), Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) and Midlands Engine Rail to ensure that they were co-ordinated, balanced and sequenced to meet the Government's overarching objectives in an affordable and value-for-money manner.

From a Derbyshire perspective the key elements of the IRP were:

- A new High Speed line from Birmingham to East Midlands Parkway
- High Speed service north to Leeds

- Toton Station
- Electrification of the Midlands Main Line
- Northern Powerhouse Rail Services from Manchester to Sheffield
- Midlands Engine Rail

Whilst many of the precise details of the schemes in the IRP had still to be confirmed, there were a number of issues which would require further consideration in terms of implications for Derbyshire. To ensure such issues were highlighted and understood, the Council was a very active partner in the HS2 East local authority group, meeting with HS2 Ltd and government officials to present the strongest views on behalf of Derbyshire. Such issues and considerations included the network capacity; the effect on communities; existing rail network while IRP was being carried out; Chesterfield connectivity; the future of the Staveley depot site and the safeguarding of the original route.

Details were provided on each of these issues and Mr Hegarty expanded further on the safeguarding aspect which was a particular concern to Derbyshire.

The site previously identified for the HS2 maintenance depot at Staveley remained 'safeguarded' in its allocation. If there was no new high-speed line to maintain, then the proposed infrastructure depot was unlikely to be required. The timescale over which the safeguarding designation remained in place would continue to present challenges to residents and business in the Chesterfield Borough and for the County Council in its strategic role as transport authority and sponsor of regeneration proposals in the Staveley corridor. These issues also extended to the continued safeguarding of the previously proposed route for the HS2 line north of East Midlands Parkway to Clay Cross, Barlborough and Staveley. Until the HS2 north study had been completed, communities close to the original alignment would continue to face uncertainty. Properties that had previously been purchased by HS2 Ltd to safeguard land were now starting to deteriorate, impacting on local communities. The authority was continuing to lobby HS2 Ltd to have the 'safeguarding' removed.

RESOLVED that the Committee notes the update on the Integrated Rail Plan and has provided comments for consideration in on-going discussion with HS2 Ltd and Department for Transport.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Mr Hegarty for his most informative update.

43/2 COMMUNITY SAFETY IN DERBYSHIRE

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Christine Flinton, Head of Community Safety, attended the meeting to inform members of the work being undertaken in Derbyshire relating to

Community Safety, including the Derbyshire Safer Communities Board governance arrangements.

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were made up of a number of 'responsible authorities' which included: local authorities; police; fire and rescue service; probation services and the integrated care board.

The Council derived its statutory responsibility in carrying out its community safety role from the following legislation: the Crime and Disorder Act 1988; Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014; Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015; Domestic Abuse Act 2021; and the Police Crime and Sentencing Act 2022.

Derbyshire had in place a Safer Community Board (SCB) which had eight community safety partnerships covering all aspects and priorities including the Resettlement, Cohesion and Integration Board which had only been set up very recently.

The Committee was informed of examples of the work that had been undertaken by the Team and these included: schools action plan for managing the risk of young people support under the Channel Panel; specialist support for victims of Modern Slavery; commissioning of specialist services for both adults and children/young people who had suffered domestic abuse or sexual violence; and providing leadership to the implementation of the new serious violence duty.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman thanked Christine Flinton for her informative presentation.

RESOLVED that the Committee notes the update provided on the work being undertaken in Derbyshire relating to Community Safety, including the Derbyshire Safer Communities Board governance arrangements.

44/2 WORK PROGRAMME 2023-24

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The Committee's draft work programme for the municipal year 2023-24 was presented and Members were invited to suggest possible items for consideration.

Members were keen to include Civil Parking enforcement charges and pothole patching and repair as areas they would like on the work programme.

The Chairman also reminded members of the Committee that from July 2023, the meetings would commence at 10.30am.

RESOLVED that the Committee notes the 2023-24 work programme.

