

PUBLIC

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION** held on 5 December 2019 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor T King

Also in attendance – Councillors G Hickton and R Mihaly

17/19 MINUTES RESOLVED (1) that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member; and (2) a meeting had been arranged between the Cabinet Member and Mr Adlington-Stringer.

18/19 INVEST IN D2N2 PROJECT EXTENSION – DELIVERING AND DEVELOPING “INVEST IN DERBYSHIRE” INWARD INVESTMENT SERVICE Frank Horsley presented the update report to the Cabinet Member on the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) “Invest in D2N2” project and the Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP). He also sought approval for the continuation of the partnership grant agreement with Marketing Derby for a further 12 months.

The report outlined the background, funding and aims of the project, which was to carry out a series of activities to support businesses looking to relocate or start up in the D2N2 area and to provide opportunities for organisations across Derbyshire to establish a more co-ordinated approach to activity and a more dynamic inward investment service for the county. A partnership grant agreement with Marketing Derby to deliver project activity on behalf of the Council and DEP was agreed, which provided a more responsive, local service working alongside contacts in borough and district authorities and enhanced marketing activity through events, publications and digital media.

A specific work package was developed for delivering “Invest in Derbyshire” and a strategy document “Delivering Inward Investment in Derbyshire 2017- 19”, endorsed by the DEP Board. The impact of the project and the extra resource received very positive feedback from district/borough council and private sector partners and culminated in May 2019 with the formal launch of the new “Invest in Derbyshire” brand and website. A considerable body of activity had been delivered, and the key achievements for Derbyshire were detailed within the report. There had been 70 additional investment enquiries of which 41 were live.

Following the success of the first phase, a successful application had been made to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to extend the project for a further three years. This was for

£3,230,666 with 50% funded through ERDF. The DEP element was £355,855 and the Cabinet Member approved £177,928 to support delivery of the Invest in Derbyshire service. Approval was also given to prepare a new agreement with Marketing Derby to manage and deliver the extended project. The Executive Director – Economy, Transport and Environment had delegated authority to continue the agreement to the end of the project. As part of this process, an annual performance review would be presented by Marketing Derby to the DEP Board via the DEP Investment Steering Group.

The project would continue to deliver a wide range of specialist inward investment support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with the focus on supporting businesses to grow and invest in the region which would attract more successful businesses to the D2N2 region supporting innovation and best practice, as well as delivering jobs in disadvantaged communities. Following the success of the first phase of the project and the work generated as a result, the second phase included a proposed additional inward investment executive for Derbyshire.

A detailed “Invest in Derbyshire” delivery plan for the period to 2022 had been drafted and would be taken to the next DEP Inward Investment Steering Group for endorsement. The plan set out a framework for measuring performance, actions, timescales and resources with the proposal for performance to be managed quarterly through the DEP Investment Steering Group. It outlined a range of actions for further developing the service and key areas of focus and would cover mandatory ERDF outputs proposed for delivery for the D2 element.

The project and the “Invest in Derbyshire” element continued to deliver the Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement (DESS) and complimented both the Midlands Engine Strategy and D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan. Inward investment formed an integral part of the Council’s commitment to delivering new and enhanced enterprise and investment services.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet Member (1) note the report and the proposal to extend the “Invest in Derbyshire” service following the approval of the “Invest in D2N2” (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire) European Regional Development Fund contract extension;

(2) note and approve the proposals for managing performance and delivery and delegates authority to the Cabinet Member to monitor performance through the Derbyshire Economic Partnership Investment Steering Group and

(3) delegate authority to the Executive Director - Economy, Transport and Environment, to agree an extension of the partnership grant agreement between Marketing Derby and the Council on an annual basis until 31 December 2020, subject to satisfactory performance and achievement of agreed outputs.