

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

6 JUNE 2023

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

Present:

Councillor Andrew Martin-Wells (In the Chair);

Councillors Paddy Brown, Ben Clayton, Jim Lindridge and Mike Young.

Officers: Tony Hanson, Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services
Beverley Bearne, Assistant Director, Development and Growth
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Pam Hargreaves and Stephen Wallace.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023

Received.

4. The Role and Remit of the Economic Growth and Regeneration Services *(Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services)*

Type of decision

For information.

Issue(s) for consideration by the Committee

The Committee received a comprehensive presentation by the Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services and

Assistant Director, Development and Growth outlining the role and remit of the Committee and the service areas of the Authority that fell under its management. The presentation also included challenges and priorities and an overview of the various capital schemes the Council was managing over the forthcoming years. It was agreed that the presentation be shared with Committee Members.

The Committee debated issues arising from the presentation, including the following:-

- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Officers referred to the programme of charging points installation being undertaken by the Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA). The Committee was also informed of the future increase in electric vehicles in the Council's stock.
- The Council's decarbonisation programme and how the changes made by the Council could be measured and quantified.
- The Housing Revenue Account.
- The need for detailed intelligence on the failure rate of new local businesses after three years. Details of the benefits the Tall Ships event would have for local business development were also sought for a future meeting.
- Recruitment and the wider issue of education for the future skills needs. Members also sought details of how much TVCA funding was being spent in Hartlepool on further education and skills training.
- The recently approved Waste to Energy facility and the future management of waste.
- Inward tourism and the wider promotion of the town.
- The future of the Bowls Club.
- The works at Hartlepool Train Station and the new footbridge and the approval process for the second platform and the bridge.

The Director highlighted that as it was only one month until the start of the Tall Ships event, many of his senior staff were involved in the event and may not be as quick responding to Members queries as usual. The Director hoped Members would understand the management of the Tall Ships event was now very detailed and involved and absorbing a huge amount of officer time. The Director also recorded his thanks for the work staff had undertaken on the event.

Members noted the Director's comments. Members asked if there was to be any assessment of the economic impact of the Tall Ships event. The Assistant Director stated that there would be work undertaken during the event to measure the economic and social impact of the event and this would be reported to Members.

Decision

That the presentation and the discussions be noted.

5. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 11.00 am.

H MARTIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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