

Bolsover District Council

Council

11 October 2017

Growth Strategy

Report of the Assistant Director Economic Growth

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To present an update on the Growth Strategy 2014-2024
- To approve the production of a revised Growth Strategy, in consultation with stakeholders and agencies.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 In 2014 Council adopted a Growth Strategy produced following a Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review in 2013 and a subsequent successful bid to the LGA for an independent specialist consultant to support the development of the growth strategy. The bid provided 7 days support for the council.
- 1.2 Since the adoption of the strategy the council has achieved a great deal, recognising that further cuts in government grant will make maintaining and building on these achievements more challenging in the future. This strategy has refocused the Council's activity to maximise opportunities and unlocking the potential to deliver growth by maximising income from New Homes Bonus and the Business Rates. The strategy is about maximising opportunities to ensure our long term viability.
- 1.3 However, there has been significant national and international change since the Growth Strategy was approved. The decision to leave the European Union has undoubtedly been the focus for central government with other changes such as the future of Business Rate Retention and New Homes Bonus now uncertain. There has also been the approval of HS2 line as a national infrastructure project, the LEP Growth HUBs are now established, LEP funding is now being realised and a restructured Homes and Communities Agency will be changing to Homes England.
- 1.4 With a backdrop of these wider contextual changes and continuing financial pressures as a result of government spending cuts, it is an appropriate time to acknowledge where progress has been made, reflect on areas which have been more challenging and update the strategy to continue to provide direction to the Council over the coming years.
- 1.5 There are three strategic priorities in the current strategy, and some achievements are outlined below:

Supporting Enterprise: maintaining and growing the business base

- Ongoing Business Relationship Management support with local businesses
- Promotion of funding and opportunities that become available
- Inward investment and pitchbook material produced for Coalite as part of Derbyshire County Council delegation to China and Midlands Engine promotion at MPIM
- Established an Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering business network
- Developed a new Business Engagement Strategy
- Produced inward investment material for the district
- Optimising opportunities to develop a range of accommodation to support the visitor economy

Enabling Housing Growth: increasing the supply, quality and range of housing to meet the needs of a growing population and support economic growth

- Set up Council house building joint venture, with Woodheads
- Total B@home properties in progress is 92 with a further pipeline to exceed the 100 property target
- Set up Market Sale house building joint venture also with Woodheads
- Brookvale Phase 1 being built by Keepmoat and delivering 153 high quality homes
- Brookvale Phase 2 has gone out to the preferred development partner panel to bid for further phases
- Target of bringing 15 empty properties back into use per annum will be achieved
- Projecting to exceed the target of 'Enable the development of at least 1,000 new properties within the district by March 2019'
- Working collaboratively with the private sector to deliver Clowne North

Unlocking Development Potential: unlocking the capacity of major employment sites

- £5.8m and £2m secured from D2N2 and DCC respectively to contribute to £21m remediation and development scheme for Coalite
- Leading the redevelopment of key town centre projects :

Bolsover – development of Sherwood Lodge site- options for mixed use development,

Clowne – new civic route; urban design scheme incorporating pedestrian priority treatments and public realm improvements,

Shirebrook – remodel and enliven the market place; public realm redesign to create more multi-functional and animated civic space,

South Normanton- redesign and re-establish the market place as the heart of the village;

Promotion of the Robin Hood line/ Gateway projects

- Developer Forum re-launched with regular attendance of 60
- Development team approach established for all major site developments

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The strategy sets out our growth ambition, priorities and the approach that we will take to enable the growth of the local economy to create stability and prosperity.
- 2.2 The strategy has been developed in line with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Economic Plans for Sheffield City Region and D2N2 Derby/Derbyshire/Nottingham/Nottinghamshire) to ensure that we support the delivery of the wider regional growth, achieve maximum leverage and improve collaboration. Both LEP's are in the process of reviewing their Economic Plans, which gives a further reason to review the growth strategy, to ensure priorities are aligned for future funding opportunities.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

- 3.1 As part of the process to refresh the growth strategy it is proposed to host a workshop with officers and elected members to shape the strategy.
- 3.2 As part of the process stakeholders and external agencies will be consulted on the draft revised strategy.
- 3.3 Individual transformational projects may require Equality Impact Assessments to be completed as part of the business case and may require further consultation.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 A number of projects have been identified during the development of the strategy. These have been refined as part of the consultation with officers, members and the business community.

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

- 5.1.1 The new growth and transformational projects which form the action plan will require detailed businesses cases which will include the financial implications and identify and risks.
- 5.1.2 The Growth Strategy objective is to improve the economic resilience of the authority. Increasing business rates through the retention scheme and New Homes Bonus are considered as two sources of funding which demonstrate growth. The council has received £400k for 2015/16 to 2016/17 from the Derbyshire wide business rate pool, money which would have otherwise been returned to central government; With regards to New Homes Bonus the council received a total of £1,315,503 in 2016/17, an increase of £265,993 from 2015/16.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

5.2.1 Legal implications will be considered as the business cases for the transformational intervention projects are developed.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

5.3.1 Human Resource implications will be considered as the business cases for the inclusive growth and transformational projects which are developed.

6 Recommendations

6.1 That Council notes the progress made in achieving the objectives set out in the Growth Strategy.

6.2 That Council endorses a review of the Growth Strategy and notes that a revised version will be presented to Cabinet and Council in due course.

7 Decision Information

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: <i>BDC: Revenue - £75,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £150,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Capital - £250,000</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</p>	No
<p>District Wards Affected</p>	All
<p>Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework</p>	Unlocking Growth Potential Transforming Our Organisation

8 **Document Information**

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Growth Strategy	
Report Author	Contact Number
Asst Director Economic Growth	242222