

GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Growth Scrutiny Committee of the Bolsover District Council held in the Council Chamber, The Arc, Clowne on Wednesday, 16 October 2019 at 10:00.

PRESENT:-

Members:-

Councillor Jen Wilson in the Chair

Councillors Tricia Clough, Derek Adams, Jim Clifton, David Dixon, Chris Kane, Tom Kirkham, Tom Munro, Graham Parkin, Peter Roberts and James Watson.

Officers:- Pam Brown (Partnership, Strategy and Policy Manager & Leader's Executive Officer), Laura Khella, Joanne Wilson (Scrutiny and Elections Officer) and Alison Bluff (Governance Officer).

Also in attendance at the meeting was Councillor Mary Dooley, Portfolio Holder for Partnerships and Transformation.

360 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received on behalf of Councillor Tricia Clough.

361 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business to consider.

362 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

363 MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Derek Adams and seconded by Councillor Christopher Kane.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of a Growth Scrutiny Committee held on 19th September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

364 LIST OF KEY DECISIONS AND ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN PRIVATE

Committee considered the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document.

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor Christopher Kane

RESOLVED that the List of Key Decisions and items to be considered in private document by noted.

365 SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

Committee considered their Work Programme 2019/2020.

With regard to the Committee's Review of Current and Future External Funding, Members agreed that the following brief be put to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) on 20th November 2019.

While we appreciate the area has had a strong link with the logistics sector and this has seen significant growth over the last few years, we want to ensure we are attracting businesses that will offer highly-skilled jobs, allowing us to move away from employment that has been lower-skilled/lower pay.

We would like to attract businesses linked with green technologies and higher-skilled technologies. We also advocate the idea of linking the re-development of the former Coalite site to green/new technologies, particularly with the push towards electric vehicles and greater use of green energy. As a Scrutiny Committee, this is our vision for the area, but we wish to understand how this fits in to the bigger picture.

What is the LEP's vision/strategy for both the County and Bolsover directly?

What type of Business/industry do the LEP wish to attract to the County and Bolsover District? What growth opportunities do you see?

What level of business support is offered by the LEP either countywide or specific to Bolsover District and how much has been taken up by Bolsover businesses?

How much investment has there been to date and what is planned for the future within Bolsover District?

What engagement has taken place with the business sector in Bolsover and what is planned for the future?

How is the LEP working with education providers so that we can ensure we have the right skills base to attract the industries we want?

We are aware that Derby University have a bigger presence now in the Chesterfield area.

How is the LEP building relationships with them?
How could BDC and businesses/organisations in the Bolsover area link better to the university, to secure more opportunities locally?

We are aware from previous work with the Sheffield City Region of the Advanced Manufacturing Park and the Enterprise Zone around Catcliffe.

How are D2N2 LEP making links with the advanced manufacturing and construction sectors, so we can see something similar within our region, which is accessible for the north-east of the county?

How is the LEP encouraging international investment within the region?
Is there any regular D2N2 representation at an international level?

Moved by Councillor Tom Munro and seconded by Councillor David Dixon

RESOLVED that (1) the Work Programme 2019/2020 be noted,

(2) the above brief be put to the LEP in advance of the Committee's meeting on 20th November 2019.

The meeting concluded at 1020 hours.