

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Local Growth Scrutiny Committee on 6th December 2022

Outcome of Call-In of Decision EX41 22/23 – Future Skills Hub

Report of the Chair of Local Growth Scrutiny Committee

Classification	This report is Public
Report By	Chair of Local Growth Scrutiny
Contact Officer	Joanne Wilson, Scrutiny & Elections Officer 01246 242385 joanne.wilson@bolsover.gov.uk

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To present to Scrutiny the outcome of Executive’s reconsideration of the report on the Future Skills Hub, following consideration of the Call-In of Decision EX41 22/23 by Scrutiny on 4th October 2022.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

1.1 The development of a Future Skills Hub within the District has been identified as a key deliverable contained in a number of core strategic documents including Vision Bolsover and the Business Growth Strategy.

1.2 The original decision was called-in for review based on the following decision-making principles:

- Due consultation
- A presumption in favour of openness
- Clarity of aims and desired outcomes
- Regard for equal opportunities
- Options are considered and reasons given for the decision
- Consideration of all relevant factors
- Decision is in the best interests of the district as a whole

2. Details of Proposal or Information

2.1 The report on creation of a Future Skills Hub was reconsidered on the 31st October.

2.2 Members of Executive received a detailed summary of the points raised during the Call-In. Scrutiny Members concluded that based on the evidence presented there was sufficient scope for Proposal 2 to be the better option to take forward. Proposal 2 provided greater financial benefits and would also ensure training outcomes for a wider cohort than Proposal 1 with greater scope for further enhancing the facility at Proposal 2's location and the potential to create a wider offer from other providers within the site.

2.3 Scrutiny Members recommendation was as follows:

That the matter be referred back to Executive for reconsideration, as based on the issues raised in the Call-In, the evidence presented and Member considerations, the Scrutiny Committee finds:

- there was lack of clarity in the original report with the reasoning for the decision unclear;*
- the option chosen provided more limited outcomes, most notably the lack of Post-16 provision, and did not meet the wider objectives of Vision Bolsover;*
- there was lack of consultation and wider oversight with Members outside of Executive, with the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny not taken;*
- that Proposal 2 within the original report is considered to be the better option offering greater opportunity to achieve key objectives within both Vision Bolsover and the Business Growth Strategy and would urge Executive to reconsider and amend their decision accordingly.*

2.4 Following further discussion Executive resolved the following:

“..that the decision made by Executive at its meeting held on 5th September 2022 as set out below, remain unchanged;

that (1) based on the two options as set out in the report, Proposal 1 was the preferred option,

(2) delegated authority be given to the Business Growth Manager and Assistant Director of Development and Planning, in consultation with the Executive Director of Strategy and Development and the Leader of the Council, to complete negotiations in relation to Proposal 1. “

3. Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 In order to complete the Call-In process, the outcome of Executive's reconsideration is required to be reported back to Scrutiny.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 There are no alternative options. Once Executive has reconsidered their decision, it is not open to further scrutiny challenge.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Local Growth Scrutiny Committee note the outcome of Executive's reconsideration.

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

None from this report.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

None from this report.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Environment:

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details:

N/A

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

None from this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

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: Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	Yes
Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	No

District Wards Significantly Affected	District wide proposal and impact. In relation to the development – Shirebrook South and Ault Hucknall In relation to service provision – All wards
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Details: Consulted with LEP prior to original report, who have no objections to either option providing 50% match funding is offered (capital expenditure only) and the outputs identified in the original expression of interest are achieved.

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.
Economy

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Appendix No	Title
1.	Decision Notice 021122

Background Papers
<i>(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 Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>
Documents relating to the Call-In can be found in past papers of Executive and Local Growth Scrutiny Committee.