

IMPROVING PLACES SELECT COMMISSION

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, ROTHERHAM.
S60 2TH**

**Date: Wednesday, 22nd February,
2017**

Time: 1.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

1. To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.
2. To determine any item(s) the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for absence
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Questions from members of the public and the press
6. Communications
7. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th January 2017 (Pages 1 - 10)
8. Rotherham Economic Growth Plan 2015 - 2025 - Progress Update (Pages 11 - 36)
9. Scrutiny Review of Waste Management (Task and Finish Group) (Pages 37 - 42)
10. Emergency Planning Task and Finish Group
11. Council Housing Tenants - Scrutiny Update
12. Date and time of the next meeting - Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 1.30 pm

Improving Places Select Commission: membership: -

Councillors Allen, Atkin, Buckley, B. Cutts, Jepson, Jones, McNeely, Mallinder (Chairman), Marles, Price (Vice-Chairman), Reeder, Rushforth, Sheppard, Taylor, J. Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Wyatt.

Co-opted members:- Mrs. L. Shears, Mr. P. Cahill and Mr. B. Walker.

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Present:- Councillor Mallinder (in the Chair); Councillors Atkin, Buckley, Jepson, Jones, Marles, McNeely, Price, Reeder, Sheppard, Taylor, Julie Turner, Walsh, Whysall and Wyatt, Mrs. L. Shears and Mr. B. Walker.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Beck, Cutts and Rushforth.

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor McNeely made a personal interest in Minute Nos. 46 and 47 (Council tenant).

42. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no members of the press and public present at the meeting.

43. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair reported that her Local Government Association Mentor, Head of Scrutiny at Lambeth Council, would like to attend the next meeting and pre-meeting briefing of the Select Commission.

Resolved:- That an invitation be extended to the Head of Scrutiny at Lambeth Council to attend the 22nd February, 2017 meeting of this Select Commission and pre-meeting briefing.

44. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2016

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission, held on 30th November, 2016, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

Arising from Minute No. Minute No. 37(6) (Housing Allocation Policy Amendments), Councillor McNeely asked how the Directorate would deal with a person who had a tenancy but they had chosen to be homeless?

Arising from Minute No. 37 Resolution (2)(iii) the Scrutiny agreed to the proposed 6 amendments and (iii) referred to new tenants not being allowed to apply to transfer within the first 2 years of their tenancy. There was a loophole for Band 4 in that existing tenants could transfer within 2 years; new tenants and existing tenants should be treated the same.

Sandra Tolley, Housing Options Manager, confirmed that anyone who took on a new tenancy could not go back onto the Housing Register for 2 years as set out in the Transfer Policy. This was intended to tighten up the loophole.

Arising from Minute No. 37(d), it was noted that a report had been approved at the Cabinet/Commissioners' meeting on 9th January, 2017, regarding enhanced Enforcement activity across the Borough and proposing a joint contract with Doncaster Council who already had an external provider undertaking enhanced environmental impact work. The contract was open for the Authority to enter into it for a 12 month period. It would not just be for cemeteries but across the Borough.

Arising from Minute No. 37(h), it was noted that Dignity and its sub-contractors would be held to account by the Authority. Dignity had employed additional contractors to ensure grounds maintenance works were completed in a timely fashion and to a better standard. It would cover all cemeteries and not just Maltby.

Arising from Minute No. 37 (resolution 2), information was requested on the pricing structure for the provision of memorial benches, opening hours of cemeteries and crematorium and the availability of land for a possible extension to the Maltby cemetery.

Resolved:- (1) That a report be submitted in 6 months on the joint enhanced Enforcement contract with Doncaster Council.

(2) That the information requested with regard to the provision of memorial benches, opening hours of cemeteries and crematorium and the availability of land for a possible extension to the Maltby cemetery be submitted to the next meeting.

45. EMERGENCY PLANNING TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Councillor Wyatt, Chair of the Task and Finish Group, provided the following progress and update details:-

- The Group met in December which had been attended by an experienced Forward Liaison Officer and 2 Borough Co-ordinators
- The Emergency Plan was being re-written and consulted upon
- The Group was to meet on 16th January and would be considering procurement and commissioning and how external providers complied/assisted with the emergency plan
- The issue had been raised in the re-writing of the Plan of the need not to lose community resilience

The Select Commission thanked Councillor Wyatt for his update.

46. REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Damien Wilson, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment, presented a performance report for the Services provided by the Regeneration and Environment Directorate.

Performance information for the 3rd quarter of the 2016/17 year was currently being collated by the Performance and Quality Unit. The current status of performance for the Service at the end of the 2nd quarter (April-September 2016) was as follows:-

- 4 Indicators were off target (red)
- 22 Indicators were on target (green)
- 2 Indicators were (amber) off target but progress towards achieving the target was satisfactory
- 12 measures were reported annually and information would be available at the end of quarter 4

The Directorate plan was currently under review to meet the 1st April deadline which would also reflect some of the Performance Indicators as well as some new Indicators.

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The blue rating on the performance scorecard referred to no performance information being available or that it was an annual Indicator.
- The missed bin collection rate was well under target and did not include the collection of recyclates. The recyclates collection vehicles had been out of date for some time and were being explored for the green waste collection. There were cost implications but a business case was being prepared.
- Further information would be sought with regard to the percentage of municipal waste landfilled.
- Whilst Rotherham probably had the most stringent taxi licencing policy in the country, it could not impose it on anyone else or stop people from licensing their taxis elsewhere and operating under a sub-contract arrangement with an existing Rotherham taxi operator. The message was to ask for a Rotherham registered taxi so you would know that the driver had been subject to the rigorous policy. If customers continued to ask for a Rotherham taxi hopefully there would be no trade for those that came from outside Rotherham and flouted the rules.
- In terms of enforcement, those drivers that had not complied with the BTEC requirement and there was something that the driver could do to rectify the outstanding issue, their licence could be suspended and re-issued once complete. If it involved something that the driver could not rectify e.g. historic behaviour the licence would not be re-issued/granted.

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- There was data for each individual library across the Borough which could be supplied to Members. Consideration was being given to a more central town centre location for the main library.
- Acknowledgement that the town centre had migrated with the move of Tesco from the Forge Island site. Footfall data was analysed on a quarterly basis using the same fixed points and giving consistency in how it was gathered. If the cameras were moved to take account of the new town centre it would be a new baseline and take a period of time to enable comparisons to be made.
- Request for a breakdown of actual anti-social behaviour incidents including figures rather than percentages.
- The Police crime recording measures had completely changed with a lot more recorded than previously.
- Rotherham was the third best performing local authority in the country with regard to planning applications.
- Key sites were already monitored by cameras some of which were battery operated. Currently there were a limited number of cameras but there would be investment if they proved their worth. Flytipping formed part of the broader enforcement activity with a general enforcement target. That was then broken down to look at what was done in Enforcement.
- Further analysis required with regard to the levels of street cleanliness measure.
- There was action (including financial penalties) the Authority could take with regard to utility companies when they had not reinstated highways to an acceptable condition after conducting works.
- It was critical to develop alternative income streams if there were non-statutory activities the Authority wanted to maintain in the future. Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing staff had been challenged to sell the services of the Authority and spot any opportunities. Part of the core team were now going through the business model that was used to support the business sector working on how they could gear themselves up to becoming more commercial. The new Head of Service had a history of developing commercial workstreams. When a contract was lost it should be challenged as to why.
- The current target for Grounds Maintenance contracts was 719, 286 for Q2 and 73 in Q3. An understanding of the nature of the complaints was required as some may be compliments/requests for service opposed to complaints.

- Recruitment was underway for the post of Street Scene Manager.
- Work was underway in gathering data on the number of people resident in the town centre. .
- There was data available through the Safer Roads hub with regard to people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents. The data told you where the priority areas, however, in the South Yorkshire context Rotherham was not particularly high by comparison.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the quarter performance be submitted to the Select Commission once it had been considered by Cabinet.

47. NEW STRATEGIC TENANCY POLICY

Wendy Foster (Social Housing Officer), Sarah Watts (Housing Intelligence Officer) and Sandra Tolley (Housing Options Manager) gave the following powerpoint presentation:-

Fixed Term Tenancies

Localism Act 2011	Housing and Planning Act 2016
Landlord's discretion	Compulsory for local authorities
2 years in exceptional circumstances	Discretionary for Housing Associations
5 years the 'norm'	2-5 years unless:- Tenants forced to move Someone with disability or long term illness Families with children under
No upper limit	

Benefits

For landlords	For tenants
Make better use of social housing stock	Greater independence
More flexibility with properties	Support tenants to achieve aspirations
Support housing management	Minimise under-occupancy/fuel poverty
	Receive increased support

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Affects for existing tenants

Existing tenants who move through choice are likely to be issued a fixed term tenancy:	Existing tenants are likely to keep their periodic tenancies if they are:
Mutual exchanges Non-statutory successions Transfers	Fleeing domestic abuse Forced to move through regeneration Full-time carers Severely disabled or have mobility/care needs

Concerns raised throughout the consultation programme

- Residents, Elected Members and Officers all expressed concerns around the blanket issuing of Fixed Term Tenancies (FTT) undermining the long term sustainability of communities

The Council's Approach

- The Council aims to balance the need to support settled, sustainable communities with the need to make best use of its stock and house residents in the greatest housing need by:-
Issuing tenancies for the maximum 'usual' term of 5 years
Ensuring tenants are aware of how their behaviour could impact on the renewal of the tenancy on sign-up
- All tenancies will be reviewed and the Council will seek to offer a further 5 year tenancy in the same property for the vast majority of tenants

Tenancies will not be renewed where

- The Council will allow fixed term tenancies to come to an end where there have been serious breaches of the Tenancy Agreement leading to a Notice Seeking Possession (NSP) being active at the point of review:
NSPs are usually served for rent arrears or anti-social behaviour
Notices are active for a period of 12 months
Currently 1,149 (5.7%) RMBC tenants with an active Notice Seeking Possession

A tenancy for a different property will be issued where:-

- A further 5 year fixed term tenancy for another, more suitable property will be offered where:-
The property is adapted, the adaptations are no longer needed but are likely to be helpful to another family
The household is overcrowded
The household is under-occupying a 4+ bedroomed house

Discussion and Feedback

- Is issuing fixed term tenancies for the highest (normal) 5 year term the right approach for RMBC?
- Is the proposed approach to renewals right?

- (a) Allowing tenancies to expire where there is an active Notice Seeking Possession
- (b) Offering alternative properties where tenants are significantly under-occupying, are over-crowded or no longer need an adapted property
- (c) Issuing a further 5 year tenancy if (a) and (b) do not apply

Fixed Term Tenancies in Rotherham

- RMBC opted to introduce fixed term tenancies in 2013 to tackle under-occupancy and fuel poverty and make better use of its larger (4+ bedroomed) homes

	2013	2015
Number of properties with just 1 occupancy (262 properties)	117	82
% of 4+ homes under-occupied	45%	38%
Number of/% of fixed term tenancies issued		34 10%

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- The Housing Bill had received Royal Assent in May 2016.
- Issuing FTT was not the right approach but the Local Authority had no choice.
- Is issuing fixed term tenancies for the highest (normal) 5 year term the right approach for RMBC?
 - The maximum FTT should be for 5 years - any less and tenants would feel it was not worth decorating, create a community etc.
 - Not thought that automatic renewal would be allowed.
 - Tenants feeling it was not worth investing in their property would have a knock-on cost to the Authority
- Is the proposed approach to renewals right
 - If a tenant had an active Notice Seeking Possession (NSP) they had contravened their Tenancy Agreement. However, if a tenant received a NSP mid-way through their tenancy but there was nothing further for a year it would be removed; if it was received in the last 6 months of the 5 years tenancy they would be penalised.
 - It would increase the number of people in private tenancies.
 - NSPs should continue to be used as it gave an opportunity to manage the behaviour of tenants in a less resource intensive way.
 - It was hoped that a full explanation on sign up of the implications of non-compliance with the Tenancy Agreement would help with sustainability
 - Consideration was required as to what point a NSP broke a 5 year tenancy and clear criteria for officers.
 - Tenants should not be moved from their property due to under

occupancy, particularly elderly tenants. Work should take place on persuading them to move into more suitable accommodation.

- The Authority did not tend to use Demoted tenancies. An application had to be made to Court and it was almost a first step to seeking possession but giving the tenant a chance to pull the tenancy back.
- A detailed Tenancy Policy would be written once the Regulations were published. Current tenants would not receive a copy of the Tenancy Policy as existing tenants would not be affected by the changes unless they applied for a mutual exchange/transfer. There would be one 1 Tenancy Agreement even though it would not apply to all tenants.
- Currently it could only be assumed that the appeal process would be the same as it was for flexible tenancies for 4+ bedroom properties i.e. tenants could appeal when they were first offered a tenancy, the term of tenancy but not the kind of tenancy and if it did not accord with Policy. They could appeal when the review was carried out and had the outcome thereof. It was envisaged that the Area Housing Officers would visit look at the tenancy and make a decision; it would then be passed to their Senior Officer. If there was an appeal it would be considered by Housing and Estates Manager or equivalent who had the knowledge but not directly involved in making the decision. Customers had been given the information upfront and knew how long their tenancy was for. There had been no appeals as yet as the tenancies were not due to end until 2027.
- Under the Localism Act the Authority had tightened up on statutory successions and within the Policy there was the discretion to manage successions. However, it was not known whether there would be that discretion within the new Regulations. The new Tenancy Agreement had also included successions and additional family members to succeed but had been put on hold pending the Regulations.
- It was important that the Council tried to get the balance with regard to under occupancy and was difficult for both the tenant and for the Department to approach the subject. Through fixed term tenancies it opened up communication between the Department and tenants so it could be can addressed sensitively.
- The mandatory FTT was for new tenants and not existing tenants. Downsizing was being addressed with existing tenants in a sensitive manner. FTT tenants would be made aware from the start that the tenancy was issued for a fixed period and work with them through the reviews and verification period to identify at what point in their lives they would need more suitable housing. At the end of the 5 year period a review would take place and, if the property was still deemed as suitable and there had been no tenancy issues, they would stay. If a property was no longer suitable there was the Choice Based Letting

process and they would be helped to find a property through the Allocations Policy. The proposals included anyone who had mobility needs they would retain a life time tenancy upon moving in.

- The Government had mooted that families with children under the age of 9 would get a tenancy for up to 10 years so that the child(ren) could stay in secondary education. They had also mooted carers and pensioners may be given life time tenancies.
- Proposal that it be mandatory for all new tenants to attend a tenancy workshop and have a housing options interview before they joined the housing register to emphasise the expectations around a FTT.
- There was to be a Financial Inclusion Team and Tenancy Support team with the emphasis on supporting tenants rather than the enforcement role.
- It was important to balance the time cost implications as well as reviewing a tenancy. A number of new tenancies were issued that required a review before the 5 year period ended which was resource intensive. 2 years was a short period tenancy and would translate into higher number of voids and associated costs of re-letting properties. The Service would not wait until the end of the 5 years to take action against anyone undertaking anti-social behaviour or not paying rent.
- Letting and sub-letting were addressed through the tenancy verification process.
- A new tenant would be issued with an Introductory Tenancy, usually for 12 months, and then a 4 years MFTT – a total tenancy term of 5 years so giving parity with existing tenants.
- Clear links with Key Choices and the Choice Based Lettings Policy would be ensured so that tenants did not feel they were being forced into particular areas. It was hoped that implementation of the Policies would make better use of the existing stock.
- There was a likelihood that the introduction of MFTT might lead to an increase in the number of Right to Buys given that the qualification period had reduced from 5 years to 3.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That once issued, the Regulations and the Tenancy Policy be submitted to the Select Commission.

48. COUNCIL HOUSING TENANTS - SCRUTINY UPDATE

Co-opted member Mrs. L. Shears reported that there was no update to be reported.

49. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That a further meeting be held on Wednesday, 22nd February, 2017 at commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Summary Sheet
Council Report

Title:

Rotherham Economic Growth Plan Progress Update.

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No.

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report
Damien Wilson.

Report Author(s)

Tim O'Connell.

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-wide.

Executive Summary

This paper, and the attached appendix, provides an update of activity from the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan, from its first year of delivery.

Recommendations

- Members note the progress achieved towards delivery of The Rotherham Economic Growth Plan.

List of Appendices Included

Rotherham Economic Growth Plan 2015-2025 Monitoring - Collection 1 (November 2016).

Background Papers

Rotherham Economic Growth Plan 2015 – 2025.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Rotherham Together Partnership Business Growth Board.

Council Approval Required

No.

Exempt from the Press and Public

No.

Title (Main Report) - Rotherham Economic Growth Plan Progress Update

1. Recommendations

1.1 Members note the progress achieved towards delivery of The Rotherham Economic Growth Plan.

2. Background

2.1 The Rotherham Economic Growth Plan was officially approved and adopted by RMBC and the Local Strategic Partnership in November 2015.

2.2 The Plan is split into 7 themes, each of which has a number of targets and a delivery plan; setting out the priorities and activities for the first year of delivery.

2.3 With the plan having been “live” for 12 months, the Economic Development Team has led on an exercise to monitor the progress against the targets and work plan. The full monitoring return is attached to the paper as an appendix.

3. Key Issues

3.1 The key issues and achievements from each of the 7 themes are set out below:-

3.2 Theme 1 - Grow existing and develop new business

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
New starts p.a.	975	985	+10	
3 year survival rates	55.5%	60.0%	+4.5%	Volatile indicator: looking for a sustained upward direction of travel over number of years.
Number of Businesses	6,390	6,810	+420	Large rise, likely linked to more people working on a contract or a self-employed basis.
Rotherham based jobs	98,000 (2014)	100,000 (2015)	+2,000	Job numbers were last at this level in 2008 (pre-recession).

3.3 Theme 1 work plan highlights:

- A European funded business support programme “Growth Hub Enhancement” has been agreed, with Rotherham Investment and Development Office (RiDO) assisting Rotherham based companies to access support and services. Target companies are being identified.
- 30+ local companies have been interviewed to identify their requirements for sustainable growth.
- A Sheffield City Region wide start-up programme “Launchpad” commenced in September 2016, with delivery by RiDO.
- RiDO has delivered two business accelerators during 2016/17.

3.4 Theme 2 - Skills for employment and progression

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
Employment rate	67.4%	70.7%	+3.3%	
% achieving 5+ GCSEs at A*-C	67.1%	*	n/a	* This indicator is no longer collected. Alternative indicator required.
Residents qualified to NVQ level 4	23.1%	26.3%	+3.2%	Expect this to rise further once the Higher Level Skills Centre opens
Apprenticeship starts	1,889	2,500	+611	Time on lag on figures so baseline is 2013/14

3.5 Theme 2 work plan highlights:

- Successful Apprentice of the Year and Local Employment Advisory Forum (LEAF) events delivered.
- Colleges and providers are actively promoting apprenticeship vacancies.
- A Skills sub-group is developing a pilot project to better connect schools and business and provide real life business challenges.
- The Council is delivering “Ambition Rotherham” in partnership with The Source – 58 job starts to date.
- RNN Group has reported a 23% increase in enrolment for Higher Education courses.

3.6 Theme 3 - Inclusion, wellbeing & employment

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
Unemployment rate	9.7%	6.4%	-3.3%	
% of working age population in 20% most deprived areas claiming benefits	23.4%	*	n/a	This information is no longer available and a replacement target will need to be identified.
Residents qualified to NVQ Level 2	65.7%	67.6%	+1.9%	

3.7 Theme 3 work plan highlights:

- Work has commenced with the Department for Work and Pension (DWP) and Sheffield City Region (SCR) partners on a series of “work & health” projects.
- Voluntary Action Rotherham (VAR) is a partner in the Building Better opportunities (BBO) programme with specific input through the provider route for volunteering.

3.8 Theme 4 - Employment land and business premises

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
M2 of industrial/commercial floorspace	3.03m	3.07 m	40,000	Major employment sites are expected to come on line following adoption of Local Plan.

3.9 Theme 4 work plan highlights:

- Work is underway to develop a Property Fund, with a £5million allocation from the Capital Programme.
- Work is progressing on developing the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (AMID) concept. McLaren Automotive has recently announced a £50 million investment in a factory to produce carbon fibre body tubs on the Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP).
- Roll out of Superfast South Yorkshire, with 3,500 properties in Rotherham now with access to fibre broadband.

3.10 Theme 5 – Housing

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
No. of residential properties	114,791	Not available yet	n/a	Still falling short of the annual target of 900 new dwellings p.a.
No. of affordable homes	25,875	Not available yet	n/a	Challenging environment to provide affordable new homes.

3.11 Theme 5 work plan highlights:

- Rotherham has been included in the Starter Homes Programme recently announced by the Government. The Council's bid relates to 12 town centre sites totalling 8.73Ha which will deliver 1014 homes of which 454 would be Starter Homes. The Council is seeking a total of £31.6m investment from the government in addition to practical support, advice and expertise. Sites include Sheffield Road, Millfold House and the former Henley's Garage on Wellgate.
- Development at Waverley is delivering around 150 units per annum.
- Consultants have been appointed to produce a Masterplan for Bassingthorpe Farm.

3.12 Theme 6 - Town Centre

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
Residential units	250	0	n/a	100+ potential units in Howard Building. Starter Homes sites identified and approved. Westgate Chambers has been sold for residential development.
Residents	500	-	n/a	Updated figures not available yet.
Vacancy rate	13.7%	15.5% <i>(equates</i>	-1.8%	Challenging trading conditions. Masterplan interventions required

		<i>to 23 units)</i>		to deliver improvement.
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3.13 Theme 6 work plan highlights:

- White Young Green has been appointed to deliver a town centre Masterplan, which will be available in April/May.
- Completion of the purchase of Forge Island is expected in February 2017, with money secured from SCR.
- Discussion with developers and operators has shown an appetite for a major leisure development, including cinema and hotel(s).
- SCR Funding secured for a Higher Level Skills Centre.

3.14 Theme 7 - Transport

Target	2015 baseline	2016 return	Change	Comments
Increase modal share of active travel	-			Data still to be collected, Anecdotally the position is improving with Rotherham outperforming other areas.
Increase % of journeys made by public transport (bus)	-			Awaiting 2016 figures from South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTTE).
Increase % of journeys made by public transport (tram/train)	-			Tram figures affected by delay of tram-train to 2018.

3.15 Theme 7 work plan highlights

- The Tram-Train pilot is progressing, but is unlikely to commence before mid-2018.
- Feasibility money has been secured to carry out a major study into connectivity around the AMP and the wider AMID area.
- Consultants have been appointed to prepare a major scheme business case for widening of the Parkway.

- Funding has been secured from SCR for works to the A618, improving access and connectivity to Gullivers, Rother Valley Country Park and Vector 31 Business Park.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

4.1 This is a report for scrutiny of progress towards delivery of the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan. The report highlights overall progress towards achievement of outcomes. Members are asked to note the progress achieved. Members may wish to consider whether there are themes or areas within the plan that they wish to scrutinise in further detail and request further reports.

5. Consultation

5.1 The Rotherham Economic Growth Plan Monitoring report was presented to the Rotherham Together Partnership's Business Growth Board in January 2017.

6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

6.1 Management of the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan is ongoing. The Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment has overall responsibility for the plan.

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

7.1 This report reviews progress to date in delivering the Economic Growth Plan. A number of projects referred to in the report are within the Council's approved Capital Strategy, progress on which is reported through the Financial Monitoring report to the Cabinet and Commissioners' Decision Making Meeting. This report does not contain any direct financial and procurement implications.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 This report reviews progress to date in delivering the Economic Growth Plan. It does not contain any direct legal implications.

9. Human Resources Implications

9.1 This report reviews progress to date in delivering the Economic Growth Plan. It does not contain any direct human resources implications.

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

10.1 Successful delivery of the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan is essential in creating opportunities for children and young people and vulnerable adults. The Children and Young People's Services and Adult Care and Housing Directorates are key partners in delivering skills, employment and inclusion outcomes under Themes 2 and 3 of the Growth Plan. This report should assist in informing priorities and actions within both directorates.

11 Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 This report reviews progress to date in delivering the Economic Growth Plan. It does not contain any direct equalities and human rights implications.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 Successful delivery of the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan requires action across partners and other directorates. Partners' Corporate Plans and all council Directorate Plans and Service Plans should include statements and actions identifying how partners, directorates and services will contribute towards economic growth in Rotherham.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 This report is a review of progress to date in delivering the Rotherham Economic Growth Plan. There are no specific risks arising as a result of this report.

13.2 Economic growth is dependent on a wide range of international, national and local factors. The Rotherham Economic Growth Plan maps out a programme of investment in economic growth and infrastructure over the short, medium and long term aimed at maximising Rotherham's growth potential.

13.3 Delivering the Plan requires sustained long term action across a range of partners. The plan has a 10 year lifetime and is a partnership between the public, voluntary and private sectors. To ensure appropriate partners are engaged and have ownership of the plan, progress and issues are reported to the Rotherham Business Growth Board. Sub groups, chaired by Board members, and involving appropriate stakeholders are responsible for producing and overseeing the delivery of action plans.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

14.1 Tim O'Connell, Manager, Rotherham Investment and Development Office, tim.o'connell@rido.org.uk Tel. 01709 254444

14.2 Simeon Leach, Economic Development Manager, Simeon.leach@rotherham.gov.uk 01709 823882

Approvals Obtained from:-

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services:- Jon Baggaley, Finance Manager, Regeneration & Environment and Capital

Director of Legal Services:- Ian Gledhill, Principal Officer, Legal and Democratic Services,

Head of Procurement (if appropriate):- Not applicable

This report is published on the Council's website or can be found at:-

<http://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories=>

Rotherham Economic Growth Plan 2015-2025

Monitoring - Collection 1 (November 2016)

1. This is the first collection of data for the Economic Growth Plan 2015-2025. Collection 2 will be produced in May 2017.

1.1. Economic Growth Plan Themes

Theme 1 - Grow Existing and Develop New Business

Theme 2 - Skills for Employment and Progression

Theme 3 - Inclusion, Wellbeing, and Employment

Theme 4 - Employment Land and Business Premises

Theme 5 - Housing

Theme 6 - Town Centre

Theme 7 - Transport

2. Delivery Plans and Performance Monitoring Information

2.1. Grow and Develop New Business

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Numbers of new starts per annum	975	1,200	985	Numbers risen slightly. Impact of Brexit on UK economy could begin to have an effect in future years
Survival rates (three years)	55.6%	60.0%	63.1%	Indicator is very volatile so large increase during past year is likely to partially drop back in future years. Aim for upward direction of travel over 10 years of Plan lifetime.
Number of businesses (base)	6,390 (revised)	7,250	6,810	2015 baseline figure now available and included. National trend for increasing business numbers – although Rotherham has seen a bigger increase than average. Difficult to give a precise reason for large increase in last couple of years but there is some evidence that people are reacting to flexibility in the labour market and working on a contract / self-employed business model rather than being directly employed (many of the new business are likely to be one person enterprises).
Rotherham based jobs	98,000 (2014)	102,300	100,000 (2015)	Fluctuations caused by sample sizes (it is survey based) but it does reflect higher employment rate in borough and falling unemployment. To put into context Rotherham had over 100,000 employee jobs prior to the 2008 recession / crash

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Growth programme: identify those businesses in Rotherham with major potential for growth and the support they need to maximise this	Identify those companies with greatest growth potential	Dec 2015	Working alongside Growth Hub to identify high growth SMEs and support them through the Growth Hub Enhancement Programme. Programme contract agreed October, 2016. Target companies now being identified	Andrew Nettleton - RiDO
	Ascertain what support is required to maximise their growth	Mar 2016	Barriers to Growth survey carried out with 30 companies to identify areas where RMBC can make a difference. RiDO to continue meeting companies on an ongoing basis to ascertain what support is needed. BD sub-group to agree on how to feed the information collected into its future support activities.	RiDO/Chamber/ Growth Hub/BGB Sub Group
	Econometric Model for Rotherham / SCR with multipliers	Mar 2016	Discussions to be held with SCR team on what information we can access from them. Subsequent to this, identify what additional info we require, where to access it and the cost.	SCR / EDT
Investor Package: Agree on the offer available to businesses seeking to invest in Rotherham	Identify business requirements and activity to be funded	Nov 2016	Develop our offer on back of discussions with local businesses. Make sure it links to and complements the offer available through the SCR. RMBC attending MIPIM in early 2017 as part of the SCR	RiDO
Business start-up support	Develop and deliver an enhanced and highly visible business incubation programme including Idea generation, start-up events, peer to peer mentoring, coaching and start-up accelerator programmes	Mar 2016	Since September 2016 the SCR Launchpad project is providing European funds to deliver comprehensive business start-up support in Rotherham. The programme has been developed by the Business Incubation Team and includes a business idea modelling workshop and How to Start a Successful Business workshop. One to one coaching and mentoring is also provided. A contract is currently being procured to market start-up in Rotherham. RiDO has also taken a SCR lead in procuring and managing a SCR start-up video. A Korean “accelerator programme” was delivered 1 June – 31 August at Moorgate Crofts. A 2 nd programme part funded by UK Steel Enterprise is underway due to complete on 2 nd February 2017.	Tim O’Connell - RiDO
Promotion	Develop a PR/marketing campaign for Rotherham as a place for business to invest	Dec 2015	Work has been undertaken on marketing/brand, with Richard Carey leading a “Marketing sub-group” of the Board (note – put on hold during thinking place work). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Place Marketing. Work almost finished, subject to visuals and producing a “Storybook.” Business to business launch planned for February 2017 - Investor packs and video produced for BCSC conference, which were well received. - Damien Wilson & Tim O’Connell representing Rotherham at MIPIM in 2017 	Tim O’Connell RiDO Chamber RMBC Comms
Procurement	Develop a strategy to increase use of	Jun 2016	The Business Growth Board set up a Buy Local task group led by Barry	RMBC, NHS,

	local supply chains and % of local spend by major organisations in borough		<p>Mellor. The group have progressed two areas of work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Meet the Buyer event is due to take place in February 2017 at the New York Stadium, led by RMBC and the Rotherham NHS Trust with support from and an open exhibition. • Netalkers. An online system for Rotherham businesses to aid and improve communication and local spend opportunities, this is progressing to a February 2017 launch. 	Chamber/ BGB Sub Group
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2.2. Skills for employment and progression

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments																														
Employment rate	67.4%	n/a	70.7%	Large rise within year. Still trailing SCR (71.5%) and UK (73.5%), but gap to both has closed over the last quarter. Indicator is very reliant on national/international economy.																														
% achieving 5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C	67.1%	72.0%	**	The validated secondary performance data is due to be published by the DfE on the 19 th January 2017. ** Source: ONS APS (June 2016) ** The validated secondary performance data is due to be published by the DfE on the 19 th January 2017. A new secondary school accountability system has been implemented in 2016. The headline accountability measures for schools are: Attainment 8, Progress, Attainment in English and maths (A*-C) and EBacc entry and achievement. The provisional GCSE and equivalent results for 2016 are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The average attainment 8 score per pupil has increased by 2.4 to 48.5. This is 0.3 above the national average. The progress 8 score is 0.03, this is above the national average. The percentage of pupils achieving A*-C in English and maths is 61.3%. This is 2.6% above the national average. There are no secondary schools below the DfE floor standard. The percentage of pupils who achieved Ebacc has increased by 2.4% to 19.7%. This is 3.1% below the national average (all schools) and 4.9% below the national average (state-funded schools). 																														
Unemployment rate (as % of economically active population)	9.7%	8.5%	6.4%																															
Residents qualified to NVQ Level 3+	47.3%	55.0%	47.9%	Source: ONS APS (Dec 2015)																														
Residents qualified to NVQ Level 4+	23.1%	31.0%	26.3%	Expect this to rise further once the Higher Level Skills Centre at Rotherham College comes on line.																														
Apprenticeship Starts, Intermediate	1205 (2013/14)	1600																																
Apprenticeship Starts, Advanced	684 (2013/14)	900																																
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Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Ensuring that young people are prepared for the world of work after leaving statutory education	Improved IAG for young people, including annual careers/LEAF event and SCR Learn to Work	Nov 15	Schools have statutory responsibility for delivering IAG, which varies significantly in both quality and breadth – a picture replicated nationally and recently announced by Ofsted as a key feature for future inspections. LEAF event held on 14/11 @ Magna. Very successful, with 67 organisations advertising over 500 vacancies to 1429 local schoolchildren and jobseekers. The Skills Task Group of the Business Growth Board are developing a proposal to support the better connection of Rotherham schools and businesses.	Schools, colleges and providers
	Continue to embed enterprise and employment skills in the curriculum through Rotherham Ready and the SCR Enterprise Advisor Pilot.	On-going	The Rotherham element of the SCR Enterprise Advisor Pilot is very active with Advisors meeting on a monthly basis. Key achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 Secondary Schools, 5 Special Schools, 1 x 6th Form College and F.E Colleges engaged in the Rotherham area. 22 employers engaged as Business Advisers and matched with schools/colleges. Monthly Enterprise Adviser Breakfast meetings (minimum 60% attendance to maximum 100% attendance. Recently held a twilight session for 40 teachers and Enterprise Advisers to come together and showcase work that has been done and have the opportunity to discuss how the LMI Brochures ‘Shape Your Future’ will be used in schools with pupils and parents. The meeting was also attended by a representative of the Careers and Enterprise Company who was really impressed with the quality of the relationships (EA’s & Schools) which have been developed, how the programme is progressing in Rotherham, and how the impact of the work between education and business is really evident for all to see. Rotherham is being floated as a model of good practice.	Rotherham Ready and RYE
	Provision of a ‘minimum entitlement’ statement that all young people in Rotherham can expect in relation to career development.	Mar 2016	School Effectiveness are working with the SCR team to understand the careers landscape in the region.	School Effectiveness
	Ensure that businesses understand the importance of the role they play in fostering the employability skills of their potential future workforce, including providing high quality work placements.	On-going	The Rotherham business community have played a very active role in the LEAF 2016 event with 67 businesses exhibiting. The Skills task group of the Business Growth Board are progressing with the development of a project to pilot in four schools to better connect schools and business and provide real life business challenges as learning experiences.	RYE, RMBC, Colleges, B&RCC, Business Community (Rachel Blake)

Apprenticeships	Ensure businesses are aware of the benefits of apprenticeship recruitment	Ongoing	Colleges and other providers are actively promoting apprenticeship vacancies and the RNN group are working on an event in early 2017 to support businesses to improve their knowledge of the apprenticeship levy.	Roth College/DVC and provider network																													
	Better promote apprenticeship opportunities to young people	Ongoing	The Skills task group of the Business Growth Board are progressing with the development of a project to pilot better connecting schools and business and provide real life business challenges as learning experiences. All schools receive a weekly apprenticeship vacancy bulletin and all 14-19 year olds have access to the Youth website, which includes local apprenticeship vacancies.	Schools / Colleges / NAS / Providers																													
	Providers to engage businesses who have the right 'type' of apprenticeship vacancy for those seeking an apprenticeship	Ongoing	No focused work undertaken, however providers are continually looked for the right type of vacancy which will attract high calibre candidates.	Roth College / DVC / Provider Network																													
	Grow annually the number of apprenticeships within the growth sectors and advanced apprenticeships	Sept 15	<p>All apprenticeship providers are focused on growing numbers.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>11/12</th> <th>12/13</th> <th>13/14</th> <th>14/15</th> <th>15/16</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rother Valley</td> <td>1,180</td> <td>1,180</td> <td>1,020</td> <td>1,190</td> <td>1,110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotherham</td> <td>1,210</td> <td>1,050</td> <td>1,050</td> <td>1,090</td> <td>1,150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wentworth & Dearne</td> <td>1,390</td> <td>1,180</td> <td>1,070</td> <td>1,350</td> <td>1,430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Totals</td> <td>3780</td> <td>3410</td> <td>3140</td> <td>3630</td> <td>3690</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	Rother Valley	1,180	1,180	1,020	1,190	1,110	Rotherham	1,210	1,050	1,050	1,090	1,150	Wentworth & Dearne	1,390	1,180	1,070	1,350	1,430	Totals	3780	3410	3140	3630	3690
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Jobseekers	Improve IAG and support for the under/unemployed - Deliver Ambition SCR 18-24 (Rotherham) and progress proposals for Ambition 24+ to provide key worker support to target groups	Dec 15	<p>RMBC are delivering Ambition Rotherham in partnership with the Source.</p> <p>: Achievements to-date (30/11/16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starts 169 (target 259 by July 2017) Job Starts 58 (target 177 by July 2017) Sustained jobs – i.e. min 6-months - 28 (target 60 by July 2017) <p>Work on an Ambition 24+ model has been progressed via a number of Sheffield City Region work and health projects, which subject to funding will commence delivery in 2017.</p>	RMBC / SCR LEP / DWP / The Source																													
	Increase the availability and take up of good quality work experience opportunities and placements	Ongoing	DWP are continually seeking new work experience opportunities. Interserve working as part of the community work placement programme regularly place people into work experience and are having some success in progression to work.	DWP, Interserve, RMBC (Ambition)																													
	Support enterprising people by offering pre-self-employment support	Ongoing	Pre-self-employment support is offered via RiDO, Rotherham Youth Enterprise and Jobcentre Plus.	RYE, B&RCC, DWP, Colleges																													
	Promote volunteering as a route into employment and/or training	Ongoing	Voluntary Action Rotherham continue to grow work of the volunteer centre. In 2016 VAR received over 1800 enquiries from individuals wanting to find out more about volunteering – Community Volunteer Ambassadors also promote volunteering to the general public as well as the work of the Volunteer centre.	VAR, RMBC																													

<p>Improving the skills of people in work</p>	<p>Improve communications with businesses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business briefings delivered in partnership - Connect individuals entering work with the appropriate brokers to provide in-work skills support <p>Improve digital skills for people in work</p> <p>Deliver a 'Skills Bank' that meets the needs of Rotherham businesses</p>	<p>Dec 2015</p> <p>Dec 2015</p> <p>Dec 2015</p>	<p>RiDO deliver a regular business briefing which has included promotional activity for the Skills Bank. SCR hosted a skills summit in May 2016 which was well attended but had a large number of training providers rather than businesses. Skills Bank have presented to the Business Growth Board with various members taking up training as well as promoting via their own networks.</p> <p>Skills Bank are involved with a number of digital skills deals.</p> <p>The SCR Skills Bank was launched in May 2016. To 30th October 2016 across SCR £1,308,135 has been spent on training of which £565,665 has been invested by employers. 463 employers are registered on the website. 85 skills bank applications have been approved and 22 are in appraisal. 1,393 learners have approved skills deals and a further 223 learners in the appraisal stage. For Rotherham 11 companies have approved skills deals, 97 estimated learners, total skills bank contribution £53,490, employer contribution £12,890. 47 companies are in the pipeline with 1250 estimated learners and a skills bank contribution of £582,776.</p>	<p>DWP & SFA funded providers / SMEs/RiDO</p> <p>SFA funded providers</p> <p>SCR LEP/RMBC (Rachel Blake)</p>
<p>Skills at level 4 and above</p>	<p>Grow the level of HE provision delivered by Rotherham and Dearne Valley Colleges</p> <p>Maximise the benefit to Rotherham residents and businesses of the National College for Advanced Manufacturing</p>	<p>Sept 2017</p> <p>Sept 2017</p>	<p>HE delivery at the colleges is growing. RNN report 2015/16 to 2016/17 a 23% enrolment growth. The RNN Group have submitted an full business case to access SCR Skills Capital funding for the Rotherham Centre for Higher Level Skills. This is currently in appraisal with a decision expected in January 2017.</p>	<p>Rotherham College / DVC / TRC / RMBC</p> <p>AMRC TC (Rachel Blake)</p>
<p>Supporting good health and wellbeing in work</p>	<p>Work with business to implement the Workplace Wellbeing Charter</p>	<p>Launch, July 2015</p>	<p>We have 12 organisations that have been accredited for the workplace charter. These include large national organisations as well as small local voluntary organisations, schools and health care providers.</p> <p>We are currently working with around 30 organisations and are in the process of arranging initial meetings with further businesses. We have delivered training to a number of employers around sickness absence, healthy hearts and behaviour changes.</p> <p>RMBC are working towards achieving the charter.</p>	<p>Health Partners/RiDO (Colin Ellis)</p>

Inclusion, well-being and employment

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Unemployment rate	9.7%	8.5%	6.4%	Large drop during year. Partially dependent on the national/ international economy and potential Brexit impact coming years
% of working age population in 20% most deprived areas claiming out of work benefits	23.4%	19.0%		Data is no longer available at this geography – will seek to replace with a different indicator relating to local deprivation if possible.
Residents qualified to NVQ2+	65.7%	73.0%	67.6%	Source: ONS APS (Dec 2015)

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Addressing Digital and functional skill levels and financial inclusion	Provide digital engagement activity within communities, linked to saving money as a hook to engage in job search	Mar 2016	81 (to July 2016)	Community Learning, DWP
	Continue to develop the assisted digital service offer from libraries and CSCs, ensuring that people who need the most help to access online service receive it	On-going	65 (to July 2016)	Neighbourhoods, Community Learning, Library and Customer Services
	Establish digital community mentors/buddies to provide peer support and help upskill others.	May 2016	25 (to July 2016)	Community Learning
	Deliver ICT development programmes to the low skilled	Ongoing	.	Colleges
	Increase the take up and use of credit union accounts and financial support	Dec 2015		Laser Credit Union
Employability and progression	Increase engagement of individuals, to provide support to accessing	June 2016	RMBC have been working closely with the SCR team on the development of a series of new 'work and health' projects to support people with	DWP, RMBC, SCR LEP

	<p>employment, Develop awareness raising and outreach activity to support the increase of functional skills levels</p> <p>Learn lessons from the Ready Hubs to help support other communities.</p>	Dec 2015	<p>health conditions return to work. The project will move to delivery in 2017.</p> <p>Voluntary Action Rotherham is a partner in the BBO programme with specific input through the Specialist provider route for Volunteering – 2 elements = Individual Supported Volunteering programme and a general workshop outlining the benefits of volunteering for those furthest from the labour market.</p>	<p>Community Learning, Providers Roth Ready Private sector – in work development</p>
Maths and English	<p>Improve the functional Maths and English of the priority groups and those requiring pre-entry level support</p>	Mar 2016		<p>Colleges and SFA Providers</p>

2.3. Employment land and business premises

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Hectares of land opened up and serviced for development	-	+ 100 hectares		Majority of larger sites are included in the Local Plan, which is still going through the approval process. These are therefore likely to start being developed over the next 2-3 years. Look at how BGB and RMBC can help to facilitate this
M ² of industrial/commercial floor space	3.03m	3.5m	3.07m	Slight rise during year. Larger rises likely to follow as major employment sites come on line following adoption of the Local Plan.

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to Date	Lead Officer
Identify priority sectors for each Growth Zone	Undertake econometric review of growth zones	Feb 2016	Initial area based work has been on the town centre (Masterplan) and on AMID , both of which are moving into delivery phase during the coming year.	Simeon Leach RMBC EDT & Planning
Assess current employment land availability in the borough	Complete an update of the Employment Land Review jointly with Sheffield	Nov 2015	The Sheffield and Rotherham Joint Employment Land Review was completed in 2015. Has been used as evidence in the Local Plan work and also for consideration of planning applications, where relevant.	Ryan Shepherd RMBC Planning
Set up a Property Fund to provide loans and grants to bring forward employment sites within the borough	Set out framework for delivery of a fund Identify potential funding sources Launch Fund	Oct 2015 Dec 2015 April 2016	Looking into possibility of a Rotherham Property Fund” building on the purchase that was previously made at R-Evolution at the AMP. Funding is available through the SCR JESSICA Fund, with meetings held to identify potential projects that Rotherham could bring forward.	Simeon Leach RMBC Private sector SCR
Develop strategic packages of sites to maximise growth	Work with landowners, public and private sector partners to develop site packages / phased regeneration plans for the growth zones	Plan lifetime	Number of major sites will come out of the Local Plan. SPD and Masterplan have identified a selection of major development sites within the town centre	RMBC EDS - BRIT, EDT, Planning, Transport, Neighbourhood

				Housing & Asset Management
Prioritise development packages	Review deliverability of development packages and prioritise delivery	Phased activity over the plan lifetime	Packages are being developed for TC through the Masterplan. Work continuing on AMID Work	Simeon Leach RMBC EDT & Planning
Invest in understanding the impact of HS2 at Meadowhall	Work to identify the development and investment opportunities arising from an HS2 Station at Meadowhall. .	Once decision made on station location	Route of HS2 has now been revised with no Meadowhall station and a “traditional” spur into Sheffield Midland. Need to work out what likely impact will be for Rotherham; this will also fit with work into a possible new mainline station adjacent to Parkgate.	RMBC EDT / SCR/Sheffield CC/ HS2 Ltd
Secure the Future of the AMP	Continue to work with AMP partners to ensure that the necessary investments are made to keep the AMP at the forefront of AMM sector	Plan Lifetime	Development of the AMID is continuing with partners. RMBC seeking to purchase the AMP Technology Centre using SCR funding. If successful then this will take place by 31/3/17. Long term aim is for the TC to become an AMID asset	Simeon Leach RMBC /RIDO Harworth Estates HCA SCR
Superfast South Yorkshire	Work with BT to increase coverage on superfast broadband across the borough. Supported by grants to businesses to boost their broadband services	2015-17	The programme is ahead of schedule and on-budget. Current status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 174 new street cabinets installed (out of almost a 1,000 planned structures) • 3,490 Rotherham premises now with access to fibre broadband • Areas already with access to fibre broadband: Canklow, Dinnington, Kiveton (Kiveton Park, Todwick & Harthill), Rotherham Central • Areas coming soon include; more Kiveton and Central, North Anston, Wickersley, Rawmarsh 	Richard Copley RMBC/SY LAs/ BT / SYFS

2.4. Housing

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Number of residential properties	114,791	126,000	Not yet available	The annual number of new dwellings built is still falling short of the 900 per year required. This is expected to improve as the Council develops its own land and with the new housing development land in 2017 when the Local Plan Sites and Policies Document is adopted
Affordable homes (25%)	25,875	28,625	Not yet available	The environment for providing new affordable homes remains challenging but continues with the acquisition and construction of new council houses and partnership with registered providers.

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Map out need across lifetimes of Growth Plan	Publish Strategic Housing Market Assessment	October 2015	Published in 2015, identifying an annual need for 900 dwellings per year, 25% of which should be affordable.	Jane Davies / Nick Ward RMBC Planning & Housing
Bring forward increased number of completing	Accelerate delivery on major sites (Waverley and Bassingthorpe Farm)	Ongoing for Waverley	Development at Waverley continues at around 150 units per year. Consultants have been appointed to produce a Masterplan at Bassingthorpe Farm. After which a developer partner will be procured	Jane Davies / Nick Ward Housing/Planning Asset Management private sector
Identify residential development sites	Identify Council and other public sector land / assets for residential development and produce site plans	Ongoing	<p>Identification of sites is ongoing. A key site at Swinton town centre has been identified and three options for residential development have been examined. Several town centre sites have been identified for residential development with efforts being initially focussed on three "go early sites" (see below).</p> <p>Wates construction have been procured to develop seven council owned sites across the borough for a mixture of private sale, council and specialist housing.</p>	Jane Davies / Nick Ward Housing/Planning /Corporate Property

Increase town centre residential offer	Town centre – identify key sites, create prospectus to accelerate development	Ongoing	Key sites have been identified for housing development in the Town Centre Development Plan Document and a £32m funding allocation has recently been announced to support housing in the Town Centre, under the Starter Homes Programme. Discussions or ongoing with the Homes and Communities Agency over support and delivery models.	Jane Davies / Nick Ward Housing/ Planning/Asset Management
Identify funding for residential	Utilise national growth tools at the local level, e.g. Housing Zone, build to rent, custom build, national affordable housing programme	Ongoing	A bid has been submitted Shared Ownership and Affordable Housing (relating to 227 units with a total scheme cost of £27m) although no response has been received yet	Jane Davies / Nick Ward Housing/ Planning/Asset Management

2.5. Town Centre

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Town centre residential units	250	2,000		2016/17 figure being collated
Town centre residents	500	4,000		2016/17 figure being collated
Vacancy rates (<i>primary shopping frontage</i>)	13.7%	11.0%	15.5%	(23 units vacant in Sep 2016 survey)
Shopper satisfaction (<i>3 yearly</i>)	64%	TBC		Relates to shopping offer only. Comparison to 2012 awaited.

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Produce Masterplan(s) for town centre	Spec put out to Market Consultant appointed Masterplan provided	Sept 2015 Nov 2015 Jan 2016	A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been produced by Arup and now formally adopted by the Council. Contract for production of a town centre masterplan has just been awarded to White, Young, Green. The work will take approximately 7 months, with the final document ready in April/May 2017. Plan will focus on what the market will want from the key sites and how best to fund and deliver this. Will also cover parking and connectivity, into, and within, the town centre.	Simeon Leach / Mike Shires RMBC/Economy Board

Deliver a cinema	Select developer Cinema opens	Mid -2016 2018	The Economic Growth Plan has identified the need for an improved leisure offer in the town centre, with the SPD highlighting Forge Island as a prime site. Soft marketing testing of both operators and developers has been undertaken and RiDO are currently working with Lambert Smith Hampton to run this work in parallel with the production of the masterplan. It is expected that Forge Island will be the hub of any such development, with purchase of site due in January 2017.	Simeon Leach / Tim O'Connell RMBC, private sector
Deliver a hotel	Agree site(s) Contact operators/developers	Nov 2015 Feb 2016	As with the Cinema, the need for a town centre hotel has been identified, but, exactly how this will be delivered needs to come out of the masterplan work. Discussions have been held with developers/operators and their appears a definite appetite for delivery of a hotel in the Forge Island / Guest & Chrimes area	Simeon Leach RMBC, private sector
Markets complex	Agree development option Secure funding Works completed	Dec 2015 Mar 2016 2018	Work undertaken on available options, but now on hold while the town centre masterplan is being produced. There is an allocation of funding (up to £8m) in the Council's Capital Programme for the Markets. Need to look into how Doncaster's SCRIP bid for their markets and what we can learn from it.	Tim O'Connell/ Simeon Leach RMBC
Continuation of vitality grants	Secure new funding Identify target businesses	Mar 2016 Ongoing	Review of spend to date, impact and lessons learnt underway. Recommendation to re-divert any remaining funds to strengthen the incentives for national operators and/ or to promote the opportunities on key development sites will be made.	Bernadette Rushton RMBC, The Source, Retail businesses and start-ups
THI 2	Submit bid for further works to High Street and Westgate Chambers	August 2015	The bid for HLF funding was unsuccessful, but other options to build on the success of the works will be looked at within the TC masterplan Rotherham won High Street of the Year award, in the town category, for 2015	Mike Shires RMBC
Creation of a BID for the town centre	Feasibility of delivering a BID	Mar 2016	TCSG looked into feasibility, but fact that majority of town centre businesses were below the threshold for paying business rates meant it would be hard to deliver that model in Rotherham.	Simeon Leach RMBC, Chamber, Retailers, Landlords

			Looking into the possibility of using a bond holder scheme (as seen successfully in Wakefield/ Hull) to increase private sector involvement and raise funds. This will link into the Thinking Place, place marketing work.	
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2.6. Transport

Theme Targets	2015	2025	2016	2016 Comments
Increase mode share of active travel	Baseline	20% above baseline	N/A	Data is still being collected but provisionally, it is thought that proportion of travellers using active travel modes continues to grow and that Rotherham is out-performing other Local Authorities
Increase % of journeys made by public transport (bus)	Baseline	10% above baseline	N/A	Rotherham Cordon Data not yet received for 2016 (Data collection takes place in Autumn). SYPTTE to provide when available.
Increase % of journey's made by public transport (train/tram)*	Baseline	60% increase on baseline	N/A	The Tram-Train project is still delayed, due to circumstances outside the control of RMBC and the PTE. The first trams are expected to operate in the summer of 2018. A potential new mainline station is being assessed and the results of the investigations are due before Christmas 2016
*Includes projection for tram-train, but no heavy rail improvements				

Priority	Actions(s)	Timescale	Progress to date	Lead Officer
Tram – train pilot	Money secured from DfT	Opens early 2017 for initial 2 year pilot	<p>Still progressing and vehicles have been purchased, however issues with Network Rail mean it is now unlikely to commence before mid-2018.</p> <p>Lobbying and feasibility work taking place for an additional stop to be provided at Magna.</p> <p>Possibility of links between Tram-Train and new mainline station on former B&Q site at Parkgate, a bid for funding for which is likely to be made through the SCR</p>	DfT
Waverley Link Road	Agree route with SCC	On-going	RMBC has been investigating an alternative alignment with Sheffield City Council and study work has shown increased benefits. However, as the capital cost is appreciably higher, considerations are being made as to whether bids for additional funds will be made via the SCR as the DfT will not provide further funding. This item cannot be progressed whilst there remains uncertainty as to the route of HS2.	Adrian Withill Richard Baker RMBC
Widening of the Parkway	Included as part of SCRIF bid	Completion 2016	Consultants have been appointed to prepare the major scheme business case.	Adrian Withill Richard Baker RMBC
Improvements to existing road network	Infrastructure works to cope with increased traffic from economic and housing growth	Ongoing	<p>RMBC currently considering future effects of Bassingthorpe Farm development on road network.</p> <p>RMBC has submitted business case to SCR for 2016/17 funding to make improvements around A618 Growth Corridor. This would improve access for Vector 31 and potential Gulliver's developments. Decision pending.</p> <p>Rotherham's ongoing LTP Programme and STEP funded projects. This has now been realigned to meet the requirements of the SCR's strategic goals for transport.</p> <p>As the location of any new mainline station has been identified at Forge Way, it will not be possible to proceed with design work on the Parkgate Link Road which was previously blighted by the possibility of a "conflicting" new station</p>	Adrian Withill Richard Baker RMBC
Active travel	Increase active travel opportunities through infrastructure improvements	Ongoing	RMBC to start analysis of A631 Rotherham to Maltby route	RMBC - Public Health &

	<p>and promotional projects such as “Sky led bike rides.”</p>		<p>(funded by SYPTE) to consider potential improvements to road network for benefit of public transport users. Continue to investigate measures on the A633 with the PTE to improve bus journey time reliability and will be revisiting congestion on the A630 through Dalton to identify measures that improve journey time reliability on this corridor.</p> <p>Proposals have been put forward to the SCR under the Sustainable Transport Exemplar Programme (STEP). Due to a restructuring of how bids are assessed, it is unlikely that there will be a full spend in the current financial year, but there is a significant programme in Rotherham for 2017/18.</p> <p>RMBC has been successful in being awarded DfT funds for the “Bike It” project whereby schools are visited to encourage cycling to school. This builds on significant success in the past.</p> <p>RMBC has bid, through the SCR for DfT’s money for sustainable travel via the Local Sustainable Access Fund for implementation in 2017-2020. A decision is awaited.</p>	<p>Transport</p>
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Summary SheetImproving Places Select Commission Meeting 22nd February 2017**Title**

Waste Management Review

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report:

Damien Wilson, Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment

Report author(s): Martin Raper Head of Service Street Scene**Ward(s) Affected:** All**Summary:**

An Improving Places Select Commission Task and Finish Group undertook a waste management review in December 2015 and requested that a progress report on the Task and Finish Group's recommendations be submitted to the Improving Places Select Commission in early 2017.

Recommendations

To note the content of this report and approve the direction of progress.

List of Appendices Included

None

Background Papers

Scrutiny Review: Waste Management
Review from the Improving Places Select Commission Task and Finish Group
December 2015.

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Title

Waste Management Update

1. Recommendations

To note the content of this report and approve the direction of progress.

2. Background

An Improving Places Select Commission Task & Finish Group undertook a waste management review in December 2015 and requested that a progress report on the Task & Finish Group's recommendations be submitted to the Improving Places Select Commission in early 2017.

The review was one of a number undertaken within the then Environment and Development Services (Now Regeneration and Environment), identified by the Commissioner Sir Derek Myers for a scrutiny review to take place during 2015/2016.

The Group looked at options in relation to Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs); re-use facilities, the collection of bulky items, green waste collections, kerbside collections textiles and small electricals and the collection of commercial waste.

The Group recognised that waste management is one of the most important front line services that the Council delivers to the people of Rotherham and is both a Waste Collection and Waste Disposal Authority.

The outcome of the review identified the following short and medium term actions

Short Term (within the 2015/16 financial year)

- Consider the ways in which home composting may be promoted in Rotherham, including the cost/benefit of offering free/subsidised compost bins to residents.
- Continue the discussions with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) with a view to offer a collection service to all householders in Rotherham which enables greater reuse of unwanted furniture.
- A joint approach to the provision of bulky waste collection services to all householders in Rotherham which enables greater reuse of unwanted furniture.
- The establishment of a textile/ bric-a-brac/ small electrical goods household collection service.
- Negotiate with FCC the Council's current HWRC contractor, and a third sector/not for profit organisation to introduce a small-scale re-use facility on one or more of the HWRCs as a means of encouraging re-use and

raising awareness of the opportunities for reuse of household bric a brac and other small items.

- Explore with FCC the scope for introducing a charge for non-household waste at HWRCs during 2016/17 for the remainder of the contract period at all Council HWRCs for all items of non-household waste that the Council may legitimately make a charge for. Evaluate the benefits to the Council as well as the likely impact on user satisfaction and any adverse consequences such as increases in fly tipping.

Medium Term (From 2016/17 onwards)

Given that Rotherham Council works collaboratively across a range of waste services with Barnsley and Doncaster and there is an effective governance arrangement already in place through the Joint Waste Partnership Board (BDR).

- Members would like to see the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) provision being considered as a whole across the partnership. This opens up potentially greater economies of scale and the ability to sustain acceptable levels of provision at lower cost. The joint contract is due for renewal in October 2018. In order that proper consideration can be given to transforming the way the service is provided. It is recommended that work begins early in 2016/17 with BDR partners to jointly review the most cost-effective way of commissioning HWRC services across the three boroughs and scope a service specification that will ensure income is maximised and costs are minimised, while maintaining a service level that will be acceptable to residents.

Careful consideration should be given to the establishment of re-use facilities at HWRCs either as part of a new joint contract through the BDR arrangements, or as a Council sole commissioned service.

- Members also recommend that BDR examines the opportunities and benefits of a combined contract for the collection of green waste across the three boroughs during the growing season, thus maintaining a valued service to residents, increasing recycling rates and potentially saving money. Members do not exclude the possibility that a charge may need to be made for this service.
- Produce a fully costed business plan for a substantial expansion of the commercial waste collection service throughout the Borough and potentially beyond the Borough boundaries. Include in the appraisal the option of a combined service through the BDR waste partnership to maximise scale and profitability.

3. Key Issues

During 2016, the structure in the Regeneration and Environment Directorate has seen significant change with new appointments to the positions of Strategic Director and Assistant Director of Community Safety and Street Scene. The Waste Service structure was strengthened in October 2016, with the

appointment of the Head of Service for Street Scene who is supported by a Waste Manager on an interim basis whilst the final structure is introduced during first quarter of 2017. The Waste Collections Team is working to a Waste Service Plan which, in the main will be completed by March 2017, including an improvement plan, new structure, health and safety, budget, waste strategy, and a review of the commodity arrangements.

As part of this work, the recommendation of the Improving Places Select Commission Task and Finish Group will be taken into account and included within the service development plans that will be presented during 2017.

3. Review

The Improving Places Select Commission Task and Finish Group review of December 2015 requested progress for each of the short term recommendations which are as follows:

- **Consider the ways in which home composting may be promoted in Rotherham, including the cost/benefit of offering free/subsidised compost bins to residents.**

Rotherham currently offers compost bins to all residents at a discounted rate and these can be ordered through our web site - http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/200084/bins_rubbish_and_recycling/552/order_a_compost_bin

A campaign through the Council's internal and external communications and local media will be delivered promoting composting and subsidised composting bins in early spring of 2017. This will be in conjunction with the promotion of the re-commencing of the kerbside garden waste collections and the need to minimise contamination.

- **Continue the discussions with the British Heart Foundation (BHF) with a view to offer a waste collection service to all householders in Rotherham which enables greater reuse of unwanted furniture.**
- **A joint approach to the provision of the bulky waste collection service to all households in Rotherham which enables greater reuse of unwanted furniture.**
- **The establishment of a textile/ bric-a-brac/ small electrical goods household collection service.**

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) proposal has been considered in detail with the financial implications of commissioning the service being further understood. BHF would require funding to deliver the model which would also lead to a reduction in income for the Council (specifically a reduction in income from the Bulky Items Collection Service). Whilst some operational savings would partially offset this loss, the net financial position may be adverse, especially taking into account the cost of disposing of items collected by BHF which are not suitable for reuse. It is considered that the proposal would not be in the best financial interests of the Council.

- **Negotiate with FCC and a third sector/not for profit organisation to introduce a small-scale re-use facility on one or more of the HWRCs as a means of encouraging re-use and raising awareness of the opportunities for reuse of household bric a brac and other small items.**

A partnership has now been established between our HWRC Operator (FCC Environment) and our Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Contractor (Advantage Waste Brokers), together with a Social Enterprise Organisation (Refurnish) to deliver a BDR Reuse Project for suitable electrical items received at HWRCs across the BDR Partnership area. During the first week in January 2017, the segregation of electrical items suitable for reuse has commenced (when customers agree). Alongside this arrangement for electrical items some bicycles are also being recycled.

- **Explore with FCC the scope for introducing a charge for non-household waste at HWRCs during 2016/17 for the remainder of the contract period at all Rotherham HWRCs for all items of non-household waste that the Council may legitimately make a charge for. Evaluate the benefits to the Council as well as the likely impact on user satisfaction and any perverse consequences such as increases in fly tipping.**

Introducing a charge for non-household waste at HWRCs represents a major variation from the current contract specification for managing our HWRCs. Such a change can only be made with the full agreement of our current contractor and would require a review of the management arrangements and associated contract pricing structure. The optimum time to consider such an arrangement is when determining the specification for the new HWRC Management Contract due to commence in October 2018. The requirements for the new contract are currently being considered by the Council's Officers and the BDR Partnership.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

Not applicable with regards to this report

5. Consultation

Not applicable with regards to this report

6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

Not applicable with regards to this report

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

Not applicable with regards to this report

8. Legal Implications

Not applicable with regards to this report

9. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable with regards to this report.

10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

Not applicable with regards to this report

11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

Not Applicable with regards to this report.

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

None Identified

13. Risks and Mitigation

Not applicable with regards to this report

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Damien Wilson, Strategic Director, Regeneration and Environment

Approvals Obtained from:-

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