
REPORT TO:	Environmental & Development Services	AGENDA ITEM: 12
DATE OF MEETING:	2 October 2014	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	Chief Executive	OPEN
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SUBJECT:	DERBYSHIRE ECONOMIC STRATEGY STATEMENT	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS03, EDS10 & EDS11

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- Endorse the Derbyshire Economic Partnership's 'Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement'.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To outline the Derbyshire Economic Partnership's (DEP) 'Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement' (DESS), which sets out the economic vision for the County.

3.0 Detail

Background

3.1 The DESS has been developed through the Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DEP) with the objective of defining what Derbyshire needs to secure economic prosperity and setting out what the County can do to promote and deliver growth.

3.2 To this end, the DESS represents a clear statement of intent for all economic stakeholders in Derbyshire and aims to serve a number of functions:

- Provides a key framework for all economic partners in the public, private and third sectors to work collectively.
- Sets out the economic baseline on which the need and opportunities for investment and growth are evidenced and built.

- Pursues growth and prosperity through attracting investment/funding by setting out clear objectives and priorities.
 - Presents a dynamic narrative of Derbyshire to support wider discussions and decisions.
- 3.3 Producing the DESS should ensure Derbyshire is well positioned to influence and secure funding from 'D2N2' – the Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The clear objectives and priorities set out in the DESS are directly aligned to D2N2's Strategic Economic Plan, emphasising what Derbyshire has to offer the region in terms of economic growth.
- 3.4 In July 2013, the DEP Board endorsed a draft strategy outline, developed by partners and led by Derbyshire County Council. The completed DESS was subsequently endorsed by the DEP Board on 23 May 2014 and adopted by Derbyshire County Council at its Cabinet meeting on 17 June 2014. Following DEP Board endorsement, all local authority partners have been requested to approve the DESS through their individual governance arrangements.

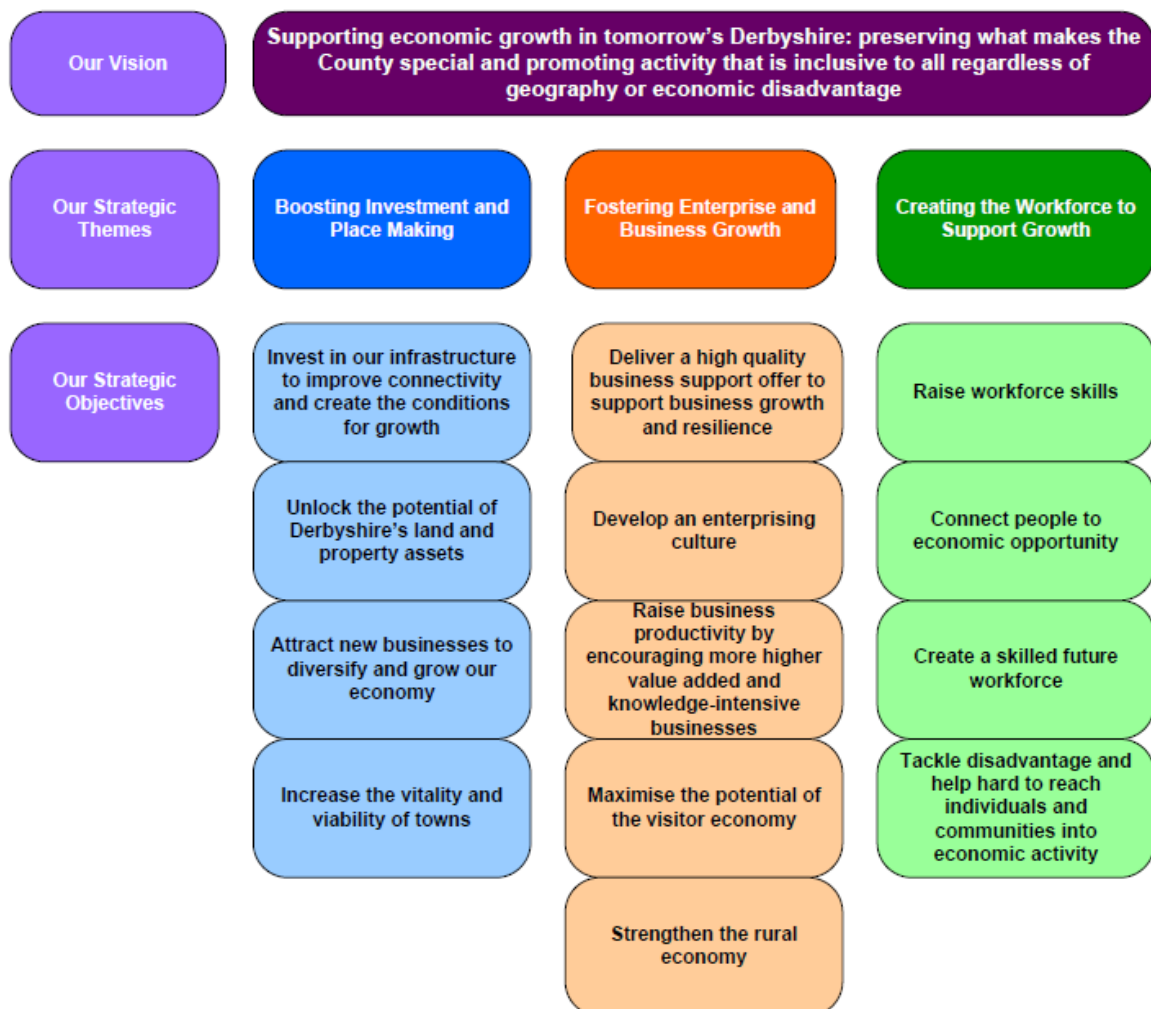
Strategy Development and Consultation

- 3.5 The DESS has been developed through two distinct project phases with the objective of ensuring all economic partners and stakeholders have had the opportunity to input and shape the final strategy.
- 3.6 The first phase of the project focused on a comprehensive scoping and background analysis which included an assessment of all relevant strategies both local, sub-nationally and nationally, statistical analysis of the Derbyshire economy (complementing the Local Economic Assessment review), and scoping interviews with local authorities and economic stakeholders. The outcome of the first phase was the development of a draft economic framework and option appraisal. The initial findings were presented to the DEP Board in February 2014 and received positive feedback from partners.
- 3.7 The second phase of the project focused on refining the proposals and priorities alongside the completion of the broader D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan and related infrastructure/investment planning work. This phase included stakeholder workshops to test options and shape the proposed vision, priorities and objectives. Following the workshops, a final draft version of the Strategy was published for wider public consultation, including publication on the DEP website and subsequent press release to attract wider stakeholder input.

Overview of Strategy

3.8 The DESS sets out an analysis of the County’s key strengths, assets, challenges and opportunities together with a framework for growth based upon a vision and strategic priorities (See Annex A). In summary, the DESS focuses upon:

- Boosting investment and place-making; particularly in relation to digital connectivity and infrastructure investment, unlocking development potential, attracting inward investment and increasing the vitality of towns.
- Fostering enterprise and business growth; particularly in relation to entrepreneurship, productivity and both the visitor and rural economy.
- Creating the workforce to support growth; particularly in relation to skills, increasing the range and connectivity of opportunities and tackling disadvantage.



Next Steps

- 3.9 The Strategy is not a delivery plan in its own right but outlines a framework for delivery and action that is capable of being used flexibly to respond to emerging opportunities and changes in regional and national programmes and priorities.
- 3.10 Implementation and further development of the DESS will be monitored regularly by the DEP Board, feeding into the D2N2 LEP through the D2 Derby & Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity. As the Joint Committee develops, determination of the required implementation programmes will form part of its role.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement contributes directly to the Corporate Plan's vision to 'make South Derbyshire a better place to work, live and visit' and to the theme of 'Sustainable Growth & Opportunity – strengthening South Derbyshire's economic position within a 'clean' and 'sustainable' environment.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement contributes directly to the South Derbyshire Partnership's Sustainable Community Strategy vision of 'a dynamic South Derbyshire, able to seize opportunities to develop successful communities, whilst respecting and enhancing the varied character of our fast growing district'. 'Sustainable Development' is highlighted as a key theme, with the aim of achieving 'sustainable existing and new communities that meet the population's needs and aspirations.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Derbyshire Economic Partnership's Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement should be a key tool in promoting economic development in South Derbyshire, aiming to 'Support economic growth in tomorrow's Derbyshire: preserving what makes the County special and promoting activity that is inclusive to all regardless of geography or economic disadvantage'.

8.0 Background Papers

NA

Derbyshire Economic Strategy Statement

http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have_your_say/consultation_search/Consultation_search_index/derbyshire_economic_strategy_statement.asp