

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
COMMITTEE

2 March 2023

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor Taylor (Chair) and
Councillors Dunn (substituting for Councillor Heath), M Mulgrew, Rhind
(substituting for Councillor Pegg), Singh and Southerd

Conservative Group

Councillors Brown, Ford, Haines, Patten (substituting for Councillor
Fitzpatrick), Smith (substituting for Councillor Lemmon) and Watson.

Non-Grouped

Councillor Wheelton

In attendance

Councillor Gee
Councillor Tilley

EDS/67

APOLOGIES

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from
Councillors Heath and Pegg (Labour Group), and Councillors Fitzpatrick
and Lemmon (Conservative Group).

EDS/68

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Committee was informed that no declarations had been made.

EDS/69

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public
had been received.

EDS/70

**QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL
PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the
Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

EDS/71 **CORPORATE PLAN 2020-24: PERFORMANCE REPORT (2022-2023 QUARTER 3 – (1 APRIL TO 31 DECEMBER))**

The report was presented to the Committee by the Strategic Director (Service Delivery) who outlined the key points within the report.

Members raised queries regarding planning applications. and the Green Homes project.

The Head of Planning and Strategic Housing informed the Committee that applications received in the current calendar year were being processed within statutory timelines. It was noted that the number backlog of applications had reduced and that a comprehensive report was to be presented to the Committee in April.

Councillor Haines sought clarity regarding the Green Homes project.

Head of Environmental Services informed the Committee that the government had extended the delivery of funding by 6 months and noted that there was an issue with take up but there were a number of applications recently received. The Committee was also informed that the Council had applied for a 2 year funding regarding homes upgrades.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee approved progress against performance targets set out in the Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024.

1.2 The Risk Register for the Committee's services was reviewed.

EDS/72 **SOUTH DERBYSHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGY**

The Chair addressed the Committee and thanked the Chief Executive and the Team for successfully bringing in new businesses and the improved prosperity for South Derbyshire.

The report was presented to the Committee by Head of Economic Development and Growth outlining the key points within the report. The Head of Economic Development and Growth highlighted the major investments in District, the Regeneration Route, Covid Business support Programme, the National Forest, the refurbishment of shop frontages and new visitors centre within Swadlincote and the new businesses start up support programme. The Committee was assured that the new strategy would continue in the same way bringing a more sustainable future for the South Derbyshire.

The Chief Executive addressed the Committee and stressed the importance of the strategy and that it would ensure that South Derbyshire was open for business for the foreseeable future.

Members raised queries regarding ecommerce and support for small and medium sized enterprises.

The Chief Executive informed the Committee that there was support from a business support adviser regarding the promotion of both online and in person business. It was further noted that pandemic had brought together small and medium sized businesses for support and explained that there more connectivity than ever before.

RESOLVED:

1.1 To endorse the South Derbyshire Economic Development and Growth Strategy 2023-27.

EDS/73 **THE DEPARTMENT FOR LEVELLING UP, HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES CONSULTATION ON THE REFORMS TO NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY**

The Planning Policy Team Leader presented the report to the Committee and outlined the salient points. It was noted that the Council's response included the need for the government to provided resources to enable delivery in hard to reach areas, that the burden for evidence should be removed and consideration the requirement for sustainable energy, affordable rents for affordable homes and how national development policies did not support local plans and policies.

The Chair informed the Committee that the Local Plan Working Group had reviewed the consultation and fed into the responses.

Members commended the report and recognised the amount of work that had been undertaken to put together the consultation responses.

RESOLVED:

1.1 Members approved the submission of a response to consultation in line with officer recommendations (detailed in Appendix 1).

EDS/74 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

1.1 The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

EDS/75

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

EXEMPT QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES STRUCTURE

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

MECHANIC SALARY AND FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT RELATING TO CONSERVATION ADVICE

The Committee approved the recommendations within the report.

The meeting terminated at 19:25 hours

COUNCILLOR TAYLOR

CHAIR