

Dear Members

Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee

A meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee will be held in the **Craddock Room, Civic Centre, Riverside Stafford** on **Tuesday 4 July 2023 at 6.30pm** to deal with the business as set out on the agenda.

Please note that this meeting will be recorded.

Members are reminded that contact officers are shown at the top of each report and members are welcome to raise questions etc in advance of the meeting with the appropriate officer.



Head of Law and Governance

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

4 JULY 2023

Chair - Councillor F Beatty

AGENDA

- 1 Minutes of 7 March 2023 as previously published on the Council's website.
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Public Question Time - Nil
- 4 Councillor Session - Nil
- 5 Members' Items - Nil
- 6 Called In Items - Nil

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Membership

Chair - Councillor F Beatty

J A Barron	D M McNaughton
F Beatty	M Phillips
B M Cross	J S Powell
P C Edgeller	J P Read
A R McNaughton	D P Rouxel

Agenda Item 7(a)

Committee:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	4 July 2023
Report of:	Head of Law and Governance
Contact Officer:	Ian Curran
Telephone Number:	01785 619220
Ward Interest:	Nil
Report Track:	Economic Development and Planning 04/07/2023 (Only)
Key Decision:	N/A

Work Programme – Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The first stage in achieving a Member-led Overview and Scrutiny process is to develop a Work Programme for the Members of the Committee to own.
- 3.2 Accordingly, an up-to-date copy of the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme is provided for Members to consider or amend as appropriate.

4 Relationship to Corporate Business Objectives

- 4.1 This report is most closely associated with the following Corporate Business Objective 1:-

To deliver sustainable economic and housing growth to provide income and jobs.

5 Report Detail

5.1 Members will recall that one of the fundamental philosophies behind the creation of Overview and Scrutiny is that the process should be Member-led and the first stage in achieving this is to develop a Work Programme that is:-

- Owned by all Members of the Scrutiny Committee
- Flexible to allow the Committee to react to urgent items
- Contain aspects of both Overview and Scrutiny

5.2 Therefore, at each scheduled meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee, an up-to-date copy of the Work Programme will be provided for Members to consider or amend as appropriate.

5.3 The Work Programme includes provision for the Committee to scrutinise appropriate items delivered through the Council's Service Delivery Plan up to twelve months in advance, whilst maintaining the flexibility to respond to any issues that may arise.

5.4 Accordingly, attached at **APPENDIX** is the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's current Work Programme to consider or amend as appropriate.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

Nil

6.2 Legal

Nil

6.3 Human Resources

Nil

6.4 Human Rights Act

Nil

6.5 Data Protection

Nil

6.6 Risk Management

Nil

6.7 Community Impact Assessment Recommendations

Impact on Public Sector Equality Duty:

The Borough Council considers the effect of its actions on all sections of our community and has addressed all of the following Equality Strands in the production of this report, as appropriate:-

Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Wider Community Impact:

Detailed above.

7 Previous Consideration

Nil

8 Background Papers

File available in Law and Administration.

APPENDIX

Committee: Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny
Committee

Date of Meeting: 4 July 2023

Thursday 24 August 2023 at 6.30pm

Minutes of Last Meeting: Tuesday 4 July 2023

Officer Items by: Wednesday 9 August 2023

Call-in Deadline: Tuesday 15 August 2023

Member/Public Items by: Monday 14 August 2023

Agenda Despatch on: Wednesday 16 August 2023

Officer Reports: **Projects Update**
Head of Economic Development and Planning

Performance Update
Head of Transformation and Assurance

Work Programme
Head of Law and Governance

Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 6.30pm

Minutes of Last Meeting: Thursday 24 August 2023

Officer Items by: Monday 30 October 2023

Call-in Deadline: Tuesday 17 October 2023

Member/Public Items by: Thursday 2 November 2023

Agenda Despatch on: Monday 6 November 2023

Officer Reports: **Projects Update**
Head of Economic Development and Planning

Fees and Charges Review 2024
Deputy Chief Executive - Finance

Final Accounts 2022/23

Deputy Chief Executive - Finance

Performance Update

Head of Transformation and Assurance

Work Programme

Head of Law and Governance

Thursday 11 January 2024 at 6.30pm

Minutes of Last Meeting: Tuesday 14 November 2023

Officer Items by: Tuesday 19 December 2023

Call-in Deadline: Tuesday 19 December 2023

Member/Public Items by: Thursday 21 December 2022

Agenda Despatch on: Wednesday 3 January 2024

Officer Reports:

Projects Update

Head of Economic Development and Planning

**Economic Development and Planning Portfolio -
General Fund Revenue Budget 2023-24 to 2026-27
and Capital Programme 2023-24 - 2026-27**

Deputy Chief Executive - Finance

Work Programme

Head of Law and Governance

Tuesday 5 March 2024 at 6.30pm

Minutes of Last Meeting: Thursday 11 January 2024

Officer Items by: Monday 19 February 2024

Call-in Deadline: Tuesday 20 February 2024

Member/Public Items by: Thursday 22 February 2024

Agenda Despatch on: Monday 26 February 2024

Officer Reports:

Projects Update

Head of Economic Development and Planning

Performance Update

Head of Transformation and Assurance

Work Programme

Head of Law and Governance

Future Items:

- **Stafford Station Gateway**
Head of Economic Development and Planning

Agenda Item 7(b)

Committee:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny
Date of Meeting:	4 July 2023
Report of:	Head of Economic Development and Planning
Contact Officer:	Michelle Smith
Telephone Number:	01785 619335
Ward Interest:	Nil
Report Track:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny 04/07/23 (Only)
Key Decision:	N/A

Economic Growth Development and Regeneration Project Updates

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update Committee on progress across a number of key development and regeneration projects within Stafford and Stafford Borough.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 This report sets out the main updates that have occurred since Committee was last updated in March. Work continues across the full programme of projects even where individual projects are not contained within this update.

4 Relationship to Corporate Business Objectives

- 4.1 The development and regeneration programme currently underway in Stafford Borough supports delivery of all four Business Objectives in the Council's Corporate Business Plan 2021-2024. It also delivers against the five Growth Priorities in the Economic Growth Strategy for Stafford Borough 2020-2025.

5 Report Detail

- 5.1 Following a comprehensive update across all major projects at September Scrutiny it was agreed that for future Committee meetings there would be a standing item on this matter. The content of the report and updates will vary dependant on progress against individual project milestones.
- 5.2 Projects with significant progress updates within this report are as follows:

Future High Streets Fund

Further progress has been made with the commercial negotiations that support the transformation programme. Once this is concluded Members will receive a detailed update. The first two projects with scheduled on-site works have progressed as follows:

(a) Market Square Renovation

Prior to the new paving being installed contractors McPhillips (Wellington) started on site as scheduled in January 2023 removing the existing surfacing whilst maintaining access through the town centre and to the shops and businesses on the periphery of the Square. Associated works involving BT Openreach, Western Power and Royal Mail progressed in tandem.

Paving and kerbing work is now well underway with the realigned highway taking shape. Works are still on track for an Autumn completion.

(b) Station Approach

Works on this project include refurbishment to the station concourse, new street furniture, increased disabled parking road resurfacing and a new public short stay car park. Since Members were last updated in March the approvals processes for the refurbishment works with both Network Rail and Staffordshire County Council have progressed sufficiently to enable procurement to commence for on-site contractors. The closing date for tenders is 12 July and around 50 companies have already expressed interest in carrying out the work.

Meecebrook Garden Community

Members were advised in March of the complexity in engaging with Network Rail on the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for the proposed Meecebrook railway station. The announcement of the delays associated with the delivery of HS2 prompted Network Rail to recommend that the scope of the Business Case be amended to include assessment of the provision of rail infrastructure along an alternative route. This request has been accommodated at no additional cost but does impact on the timescale for

delivery of the final report. All elements of the draft business case will be completed during July.

In terms of the detailed masterplanning work that has been commissioned an early stage of that work relates to identifying and scoping any areas of technical evidence that are needed. This has been completed and technical support is being commissioned. This doesn't include the further transport evidence that is required as this will commence once funding has been secured.

Westbridge Park, Stone

The planning application for those works requiring consent was approved in March 2023, following referral to the Secretary of State due to an objection being received from Sport England. Works commenced on site in April and are due to be completed in November 2023.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

In December 2022 the Council's Investment Plan was approved by Government enabling the draw down of £4.6m funding to support business, regeneration and the rural economy in the Borough. In February 2023 Cabinet approved implementation of the Investment Plan. Since the update to Members in March the Our Beautiful Borough visitor promotional campaign has relaunched, and a rural business grants scheme is ready to launch once funding for 2023/4 has been received.

- 5.3 Members were updated in March that an additional funding stream was awaiting Government decision. The current position is as follows:

Rural England Prosperity Fund

This strand of funding was announced on 3 September which is an additional element within the overarching UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The two year fund aims to support local business, communities and places in England's rural areas and a provisional funding allocation of £487,936 to Stafford Borough has been awarded. Draw down of the monies is dependent upon the Council preparing an Addendum (mini Investment Plan) to the UKSPF submission explaining how it would seek to use the monies to support rural business and communities in the borough. The addendum was submitted at the end of November 2022 and preparatory work undertaken but although notification of approval has been received we still await the funds.

- 5.4 As the projects and funding bids progress further updates will be shared with Members.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

N/A

6.2 Legal

Due to commercial confidentiality some aspects of regeneration projects cannot be discussed in detail at this stage.

6.3 Human Resources

N/A

6.4 Human Rights Act

N/A

6.5 Data Protection

N/A

6.7 Risk Management

N/A

6.8 Community Impact Assessment Recommendations

Impact on Public Sector Equality Duty:

N/A

Wider Community Impact:

N/A

7 Previous Consideration

Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee - 7 March 2023 –
Minute No EDP33/23

8 Background Papers

None.

Agenda Item 7(c)

Committee:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	4 July 2023
Report of:	Head of Economic Development and Planning
Contact Officer:	Dean Piper
Telephone Number:	01543 46 4223
Ward Interest:	Nil
Report Track:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee 04/07/2022 (Only)
Key Decision:	N/A

Quarter 4 and End of Year Performance Report for 2022-23

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise Members on the progress in delivering the Council's Corporate Business Objective 1 at the end of quarter 4 and the year-end position for 2022-23.
- 1.2 Corporate Objective 1 relates to the delivery of sustainable economic and housing growth to provide income and jobs.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the progress made during 2022-23 in the delivery of Corporate Business Objective 1 and the performance of related operational services as set out in **APPENDICES 1 AND 2**.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 The Corporate Business Plan 2021-24 sets out the Council's priorities and the key actions to deliver these.
- 3.2 Overall, 80% of the key actions relating to Corporate Business Objective 1 have been delivered or are on schedule to be completed.

Progress in delivering the objective is summarised in section 5 of the report and set out in detail in **APPENDIX 1**.

- 3.3 With regard to the operational performance of the key services of the Council, 100% of the targets have been exceeded or are on target. Further details can be found at 5.6 and in **APPENDIX 2**.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.4 The performance information allows Cabinet to monitor progress in delivery of the Council’s priorities and operational services.

4 Relationship to Corporate Business Objectives

- 4.1 The actions contribute individually to the Council’s priorities as set out in the Corporate Business Plan 2021-24

5 Report Detail

- 5.1 The Corporate Business Plan 2021-24 sets out the Council’s priorities and the key actions to deliver these.
- 5.2 The Delivery Plan set out in **APPENDIX 1** to this report summarise how the Council will achieve progress against its Corporate Business Objective 2. The plan establishes the actions and timetable for delivery and form the basis of the Council’s performance reporting framework. The appendix summarises performance in delivery of the actions at the end of 2022-23.
- 5.3 In addition to the Delivery Plans, performance is also reported against the delivery of key operational services; Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for these services are set out in **APPENDIX 2**.

Delivery Plans

- 5.4 A commentary on performance and a rating for each of the actions set out in the Delivery Plans is given in **APPENDIX 1**. A summary of progress, by rating, is given in the table below.

Table 1: Delivery Plans - Summary of Progress

Corporate Business Plan Priority	★ Action completed	✓ Work on Target	✗ Work behind schedule	Total Number of Actions
The Economy	1	11	3	15

5.5 At the end of 2022-23, of the 15 actions due for delivery:

- 7% of have been completed;
- 73% are on target to be completed;
- 20% have slipped slightly.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

5.6 The key operational performance indicators for Corporate Business Objective 2 are set out in **APPENDIX 2**. In summary:

Table 2: Key Performance Indicators - Summary of Progress

Corporate Business Plan Priority	★ Performance exceeds target	✔ Performance on target	✘ Performance below target	Total Number of KPIs
The Economy	5	1	0	6

- 83% indicators show performance above target;
- 17% indicators show performance on target; and
- 0% indicators show performance below target.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

The financial management of the Corporate Plan and the Delivery Plans is standard in accordance with Financial Regulations. All actions are budgeted for accordingly.

6.2 Legal

None

6.3 Human Resources

None

6.4 Human Rights Act

None

6.5 Data Protection

None

6.6 Risk Management

None

6.7 Community Impact Assessment Recommendations

Impact on Public Sector Equality Duty:

None

Wider Community Impact:

None

7 Previous Consideration (Part)

Cabinet – 8 June 2023 – Minute No CAB6/23

8 Background Papers

Corporate Plan 2021-24

Priority 1 - The Economy

Delivery Plan - Progress Report for 2022-23 Year End

KEY	Description	Number of Actions
	Action completed	1
	Work on Target	11
	Work behind schedule	3

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
Assess the economic implications for the Borough over the medium and long term				
1.1.1	Review and assess all key programmes and major projects	From April 2021 and then on-going		Details of the projects being delivered are referred to in the actions that follow. Where project milestones have been delayed due to considerations outside of our control alternative delivery options are being progressed
To facilitate the delivery of 500 new homes in the Borough per year including 210 affordable homes				
1.2.1	Complete five year land supply statement	On-going		Five year housing land supply statement completed and published.

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
1.2.2	Work with Registered Providers, Developers and Homes England to deliver 210 affordable homes per year	On-going		42 affordable homes were delivered in Q4. This is slightly lower than anticipated due to delivery on one particular site slipping into next financial year. This year has seen only 92 affordable homes delivered, against the target of 210. This is partly low because of the target being exceeded last year. Work is ongoing with Registered Providers to bring forward sites of 100% affordable housing. There are a number of such schemes progressing. When development as a whole starts to slow down, this will inevitably impact on the delivery of affordable housing, therefore delivery performance can be beyond the control of the local authority.
1.2.3	Improve and maintain performance of development management	On-going		Development Management performance is subject to a national league table which is published on a rolling 2 year snapshot. As at 31/03/23 performance is as follows: 83% Major applications processed on time (an increase from 79.5% in Q3; national target 60%); 77% of non-Major applications processed on time (a decrease from 83.9% in Q3; national target is 70%). For Quarter 4 (01/01/23-31/03/23) performance was as follows: Major applications processed on time 88.9% (a decrease from 90% in Q3) and non-major applications processed on time 74.2% (an increase from 72.5% in Q3. Validation backlogs remain around 2-3 weeks. Additional agency resource has been brought in to help progress planning applications and the number on hand has reduced over the quarter. However caseloads remain high and the difficulty in securing and retaining good temporary agency staff remains an issue.
1.2.4	Improve and maintain performance of local land charges	On-going		5% of searches received in this period were completed within the 10 day target. Of those over 10 days the longest was 24 days which is an improvement from the last 2 quarters. This is due to the continuing issue whereby the County Council are taking an extended period of time to respond due to staffing issues and also staff absence. We are advising customers of the situation.

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
Deliver key projects and infrastructure proposals that will promote economic growth and investment for the Borough				
1.3.1	Delivery of the Stafford Town Centre Transformation Programme	31/03/2024		Work on the Market Square refurbishment commenced January 2023 with procurement due to commence on Station Approach during May 2023 (having experienced delays with external approval process). It is anticipated that a contractor will be appointed by autumn 2023. Discussions are ongoing with third party landowners on the larger projects and where milestones have been delayed alternative delivery options are being progressed.
1.3.2	Delivery of the Stafford Station Gateway	From June 2021 and then on-going		The Strategic Regeneration Framework was approved by SBC Council on 24th Jan 2023. The Levelling Up Fund round 2 bid for land assembly etc. was not successful in the announcements made in Jan 2023. Alternative funding options are currently being investigated. SBC is currently working with Avanti, LCR and SCC to look at some feasibility work on station access improvements.
1.3.3	Supporting the development of Meecebrook Garden Community	On-going		Local Plan Regulation consultation representation considered and technical support sought to address appropriately completed. New Governance arrangements introduced to Programme Board to enable programme to move forward post regulation 18 to support allocation at Regulation 19. A key workstream element continued to be land assembly - working to cement relationships with four major landowners and two business owners, this has been completed and includes first joint landowner meeting. Rail SOBC via commission with SLC moving forward, includes engagement with Network Rail. Masterplan consultants reviewing existing technical evidence. Draft Planning Strategy ready to go through governance structure. Health Impact Assessment moving at pace and benefiting from stakeholder engagement. Transport Data Collection report received. Officer Homes England support secured, deliverability paper and land assembly paper received to enable progress to be measured and recommendations to be agreed to terms of next steps relating to viability to be presented to Programme Board.

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
1.3.4	Stone Leisure: Westbridge Park	On-going		UKSPF fund approved £245k for Car Parks works to be undertaken as part of main works contract. Preparatory works undertaken on Contract preparation and 3rd LOI for stage 4 designs issued. 15.3.23 Planning Committee recommended approval subject to Secretary of State call in 31.3.23. Secretary of State informed us of the decision not to call in application.
Work in partnership to generate economic and sustainable growth for the long-term prosperity of our residents, visitors and businesses				
1.4.1	Develop Stafford as a hub of productivity to help businesses develop, grow and thrive	On-going		Q4 data shows a record number of new Stafford Borough based businesses were registered at companies house. There is a good mix of sectors across retail, hospitality, tourism, professional services along with engineering, logistics and technology companies. The Borough is currently home to 5325 Enterprises and 6,335 local units.
1.4.2	Promote our visitor economy to demonstrate the offer in the Borough	On-going		Our creative agency has now developed the visitor economy artwork to include leaflets, posters, banners, a new website, social media posts and are beginning the delivery process. We will be working closely with stakeholders across the Borough to encourage collaboration and joint marketing events to promote the area. The new website will be a "one stop shop" for visitors to explore the Borough and uncover all that we have to offer. Tourism, hospitality, leisure and retailers are listed along with events, videos, drone footage, new photography and town trails. Users of the website will be able to create their own itinerary based on their area of interest and the website will be very similar to an app that is readable on most devices. Dynamic links to venues own websites will ensure that the information is up to date. In addition there will be a whole host of social media activity.

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
1.4.3	Unlock economic opportunities in our rural areas	On-going		We have received notification that are REPF addendum has been approved which will provide a further £480k of funding for our communities and tourism hospitality venues in our rural areas. Currently we are developing the processes for applications. We anticipate this fund to go live on 1st June 2023 and to run for 2 years. Rural specialist consultants have now been selected and the chosen firm will be engaging with us in May to scope out the feasibility study for a rural hub in Stafford. Our rural commercial property vacancies remain at an all time low of 3% and we have seen an increase in enquiries from businesses looking for light industrial workshops. The Borough is still a favoured location due to our transportation links and also cost per square meter compared to other development areas across the West Midlands.
1.4.4	Support the facilitation of lifelong learning to create a local workforce with specialist skills that can respond to growth ambitions	On-going		The Borough is still seeing a high number of vacancies, Pets At Home are continuing to recruit for 260 positions and we supported them recently with showcasing the Borough to existing staff from Northampton and new employees. The Borough is one of 29 partners in the Employment and Skills Task Group. The group has led on a countywide response in the implementation and delivery of the variety of Plan for Jobs initiatives, such as Kickstart, Restart, Job-Entry Training Support, Sector-based Work Academies (SWAPs) and the Way to Work campaign.
Develop a new Local Plan that reflects our Corporate ambitions for growth				
1.5.1	Revise and refresh the Local Plan	October 2024 Adoption of the Local Plan		New Local Plan Preferred Option consultation took place in October to December 2022 alongside full range of evidence based studies. 541 consultation responses published in February 2023, with officer assessment of key issues on-going. Council response submitted in March 2023 to latest Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) proposals, with further consultations now being considered. On-going assessment for implications on subsequent stages of the Local Plan 2020-2040.

Ref	Key Deliverable	End Date	Q4 Rating	Q4 Commentary/Action
1.5.2	Embed high quality design into Planning Policy to ensure that Stafford is an attractive place that people want to live in, promoting healthy lifestyles and supporting future investment	October 2024 Adoption of the Local Plan		Policy approach published through Local Plan preferred options alongside site assessment evidence base. Government's proposals through NPPF for local design codes and green infrastructure strategy being considered.

Priority 1 - The Economy

Performance Indicators for 2022-23 - Year End Report

Description	Symbol	Number of KPIs
Performance exceeds target	★	5
Performance on target	✓	1
Performance below target	✗	0

No	Indicator	Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	Q3 Actual	Q4 Actual	Year End Actual	Year End Rating
LI1	Number of existing businesses in commercial premises retained	40	10	11	11	27	59	★
LI2	Number of new start-ups in commercial premises, shared space or domestic properties	40	107	193	152	193	645	★
LI3	Building Control-Applications registered and acknowledged within 3 days of valid receipt	90%	89%	81%	99%	98%	90%	✓
LI4	Building Control-Full plans applications with initial full assessment within 15 days of valid receipt	70%	79%	76%	86%	96%	82%	★

No	Indicator	Target	Q1 Actual	Q2 Actual	Q3 Actual	Q4 Actual	Year End Actual	Year End Rating
LI5	Building Control-Site visits completed on day requested	99%	99%	99%	100%	100%	100%	★
LI6	Building Control-Customers satisfied or very satisfied with the service	85%	91%	100%	80%	67%	88%	★

Agenda Item 7(d)

Committee:	Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	4 July 2023
Report of:	Head of Law and Governance
Contact Officer:	Ian Curran
Telephone Number:	01785 619 220
Ward Interest:	Nil
Report Track:	Economic Development and Planning 4/07/2023 (Only)
Key Decision:	N/A

Business Planning Report

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To review the programme of business considered by the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee in 2022/23 with a view to the report being submitted to the Council.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee approve this report as its Annual Report to the Council.

3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 During the past Municipal Year, the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee considered a wide variety of issues that has helped to embrace its continuing role to ensure that the Council delivers sustainable economic and housing growth to provide income and jobs.
- 3.2 The Committee controls its own Work Programme which is already populated with a range of issues for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

4 Relationship to Corporate Business Objectives

- 4.1 This report is most closely associated with the following Corporate Business Objective 1:-

To deliver sustainable economic and housing growth to provide income and jobs.

5 Report Detail

- 5.1 During the 2022/23 Municipal Year, the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee has considered a wide variety of issues that supported the Council's Business Objective of delivering sustainable economic and housing growth to provide income and jobs.
- 5.2 In order to achieve this, the Committee have received regular updates concerning the Economic Growth and Regeneration Projects throughout the Borough.
- 5.3 The Committee have considered a Called-in item referred for further scrutiny relating to an Update of the Sport Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy Evidence Base
- 5.4 The Committee have considered the following Members' items:-
- Opening of the New Business Centre at the Shire Hall
 - Stafford and Stone High Street
- 5.5 The Committee have considered a Councillor Session item relating to Section 106 Agreements.
- 5.6 The Committee have considered the following item that was referred to it directly from the Cabinet:-
- Fees and Charges Review 2023
- 5.7 Other items that the Committee considered included the following:-
- Section 106 Agreements Update
 - New Local Plan - Preferred Options Report
 - Rural Economy Update
 - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio - General Fund Revenue Budget 2022/2023 - 2025/2026 and Capital Programme 2022/2023 - 2025/2026
- 5.8 The Committee continues to control its own Work Programme and regularly makes appropriate adjustments.
- 5.9 Under its Terms of Reference, the Committee has received regular reports that monitored both operational and financial performance.
- 5.10 The Work Programme is populated with a variety of issues for the forthcoming Municipal Year.

- 5.11 It is intended that this report, with the addition of any appropriate information concerning the current meeting, be taken to the next available meeting of the Council as the report back from this Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Article 6, Paragraph 6.3 of the Constitution whereby the Committee is required to report annually to the Council on its workings and future Work Programme.

6 Implications

6.1 Financial

Nil

6.2 Legal

Nil

6.3 Human Resources

Nil

6.4 Human Rights Act

Nil

6.5 Data Protection

Nil

6.7 Risk Management

Nil

6.8 Community Impact Assessment Recommendations

Impact on Public Sector Equality Duty:

The Borough Council considers the effect of its actions on all sections of our community and has addressed all of the following Equality Strands in the production of this report, as appropriate:-

Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

Wider Community Impact:

Detailed above.

V1 18/01/23 14:20

7 Previous Consideration

Nil

8 Background Papers

File available in Law and Administration.