

Chairman - Councillor F Beatty

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

B M Cross

B McKeown

A R McNaughton

D M McNaughton

J S Powell

D P Rouxel

Also present:-

Councillor J M Pert

Officers in attendance:-

M Smith	-	Economic Development and Regeneration Manager
M Turley	-	Programme Manager
A Yendole	-	Planning Policy Manager
C Hyde	-	Assistant Planner (Planning Policy)
J Allen	-	Democratic Services Officer

EDP24 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2025, as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record.

EDP25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor A M Loughran (Substituted by Councillor A R McNaughton).

EDP26 Infrastructure Funding Statement 2025

The Planning Policy Manager summarised the report which the Council are legally required to publish.

RESOLVED:- that

- (a) in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the contents of the report be noted
- (b) Members with queries regarding specific sites where open spaces have not been adopted to send details through via Democratic Services for an update

- (c) Planning Policy Manager to contact relevant Officers regarding the process of adopting open space and role of Management Companies for maintenance
- (d) To bring back to Scrutiny to discuss the earlier involvement of Ward Members and communities when deciding what the nature of open spaces will be and where it will be situated

EDP27 Stafford Town Centre Masterplan

Economic Development and Regeneration Manager and Programme Manager delivered a presentation regarding the Stafford Town Centre Masterplan, explaining the process and the stakeholders involved.

It was noted that the work being undertaken is on time and on target to be completed by the end of March.

Members noted that there is a degree of uncertainty regarding LGR, however consideration governance to enable delivery of the completed Masterplan is likely to be a suggested action set out in the masterplan.

Members were reminded that the work is not a design code. It was noted that the Conservation Officer is involved with the process.

RESOLVED:- that

- (a) in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the contents of the presentation be noted
- (b) links to examples of work already undertaken by the contractors to be sent to Members

EDP28 Q2 Performance Report

Economic Development and Regeneration Manager summarised the appendices reporting on the second quarter of the year.

RESOLVED:- that

- (a) in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the contents of the presentation be noted
- (b) Economic Development and Regeneration Manager to provide the timetable for the land acquisition to take place by

EDP29 Evening and Night Time Economy

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee requested that a Task and Finish Working Group commence in January looking at the evening and night time economy, and what could be done to improve it.

RESOLVED:- that

- (a) A Task and Finish Working Group be established to look at the evening and night time economy
- (b) The Task and Finish Working Group to be chaired by Councillor D P Rouxel

EDP30 Work Programme

Economic Development and Regeneration Manager presented the report.

Remove Rural Economy from 19 March.

Local Plan Update to be deferred post 19 March 2026 as currently awaiting further Government updates.

The Draft Business Report will be moved to the first meeting of the Municipal year.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with the powers delegated to the Committee the contents of the report be noted, subject to the amendments listed above.

CHAIR