

Chairman - Councillor R P Cooke

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

Councillors:

C A Baron

B M Cross

M E Jennings

E G R Jones

W J Kemp

J K Price

R M Sutherland

C V Trowbridge

Cabinet Member:-

Councillor J M Pert - Community Portfolio

Officers in attendance:-

Miss M Smith - Strategic Business Manager - Development

Mr R Gatensbury - Economic Development Manager

Mrs A Kendall - Deputy Chief Accountant

Mr R Simpson - Customer Services Group Manager

Mr A Bailey - Scrutiny Officer

EDP27 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 11 December 2018, having been published in Digest No 250, were submitted and signed.

EDP28 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L B Bakker-Collier, J A Barron (Substitute E G R Jones) and F Beatty (Economic Development and Planning Portfolio).

EDP29 Strategic Infrastructure and Growth

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Development that advised Members of how infrastructure requirements to support economic growth and investment were identified and delivered and provided updates of infrastructure projects taking place in the Borough.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Economic Development Manager, the Strategic Business Manager - Development and the Customer Services Group Manager:-

- Concern over the lack of highway and health infrastructure for some of the major developments proposed in the Borough
- The need for the necessary infrastructure to support electric vehicles
- The need to provide the requisite infrastructure in both rural and urban areas
- An update on the progress of the Western Access Route
- Enhancement of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation
- The need to pursue flooding hot spots with Staffordshire County Council
- Clarification of the Gigabit Broadband Voucher scheme

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be noted.

EDP30 **Performance Report**

The Committee considered the performance and financial management details for those areas within the remit of the Committee for the quarter 3 period up to 31 December 2018.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Economic Development Manager, the Customer Services Group Manager, the Strategic Business Manager - Development and the Deputy Chief Accountant:-

- 1.1.3 - Improve and maintain performance of planning and local economy teams from April 2018 for 3 years - clarification of the excellent performance against the nationally prescribed targets
- 1.1.4 - Unlock sites for housing development to commence April 2018 for 3 years - clarification of the provision of a self-build register
- 1.1.5 - Production of a built sports facility strategy in line with the local plan review - clarification that the brief also included swimming provision
- 1.4.1 - Develop the Town Centre Development Programme - clarification of the future for the former Magistrates Court building in Stafford
- 1.4.2 - Enhance the parking offer in Stafford and Stone - An explanation of the consultation exercise that would inform the new parking strategy
- 1.4.3 - Monitoring provision and management of high profile events run by Freedom Leisure as part of the Leisure and Cultural Partnership project for example the Stafford Half Marathon and the Christmas Lights - The need for the co-ordination of future pantomimes at the Gatehouse Theatre
- 1.4.4 - Maximise the opportunities of the restored Victoria Park for events in the Town Centre - Clarification of when work on the scheme could commence
- 1.4.6 - Ensure that Town Centres are clean, tidy and attractive - congratulations on the high percentage of "Excellent" figures

- 1.4.7 - Provision of new, accessible and safe taxi ranks - concern that the new taxi rank in Clark Street was not being used
- 1.8.1 - Deliver agreed programme of development - An outline of the progress of the Charnley Road Scheme
- LI3 - % of Section 106 Agreements completed prior to determination deadline - congratulations on the excellent progress in this area
- LI8 - % of additional visits to Stafford Town Centre measured on footfall counters - clarification of the location of footfall counters
- LI11 and LI13 - Number of new businesses located in Stafford, Stone and rural areas - An explanation that this target related to the number of new business start ups
- An explanation that the higher than anticipated income and reduced costs had resulted in a more favourable net budget position of the quarter
- An explanation of the slippages to the Pearl Brook Path Improvements and Land at Fairway Capital Programme schemes

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the performance and financial management data relating to areas of activity within this Committee's remit be noted.

EPD31 **Work Programme - Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee**

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration, which presented the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme (V1 06/02/2019) for forthcoming meetings up to February 2020.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme (V1 06/02/2019) be noted, subject to the amendments made at the meeting.

CHAIRMAN