

Scrutiny Report



Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

Part 1

Date: 26 September 2019

Subject **Draft Economic Regeneration Strategy update**

Author Scrutiny Adviser

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject
Bev Owen	Strategic Director – Place
Kier Duffin	Head of Regeneration, Investment and Housing
Tracey Brooks	Development and Regeneration Manager

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked to consider;

1. The Draft Economic Regeneration Strategy Update and decide if it satisfies the Committee request of an updated document.
2. Whether the Committee wishes to provide a comment to the Cabinet Member on the updated Economic Regeneration Strategy.
3. Whether it wishes to continue to monitor the implementation of the updated strategy.

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 A review was undertaken by a Scrutiny Policy Review Group in April 2015 to consider a future Economic Development Strategy for Newport. The process was supported by officers from Regeneration Investment and Housing, and Overview and Scrutiny.

The final Strategy, renamed Newport's Economic Growth Strategy provided a ten-year vision for the Council, taking into account the needs of Newport in relation to both local and regional vision.

Previous Consideration of this item

2.2 At the OSMC meeting on the 21 June 2019 the Committee received a report monitoring the implementation of the Economic Regeneration Strategy. At this meeting the Committee made a number of comments and recommendations, outlined below;

*'The Committee **agreed** that the update needed to include additional information in future to enable the Committee to fully evaluate how effectively this strategy is being implemented:*

- *Commentary of the progress with the action plan and reference made to the action plan that had been included within the original strategy and how the actions contribute to the priorities.*
- *Clear high level data to link to the strategy and aims in the original document and figures to evidence of growth and direction of growth.*
- *An outline of what the key challenges are for the Council in this area and what actions the Council is taking to address them*
- *Commentary of the impact being made and some analysis of the data to establish progress. Key messaging picked NTE – significant problems – don't have the national operators / competition than other cities.*
- *Key projects not detailed in the report:*
 - **Convention centre.** *This presents a massive opportunity for the City and information should be included within the update. Future updates should cover on how have the Council is been making the most of these opportunities, how it is ensuring good value for money, and the impact for the city in developing these opportunities.*
 - **Impact of City Deal.** *Information on Newport's contribution, key projects and how they affect Newport.'*

At this meeting the Committee requested that these comments be presented to the Cabinet Member and included in the next submission to the Committee.

3. Information Submitted to the Committee

3.1 **Appendix 1** – Draft Economic Regeneration Strategy Update

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

Role of the Committee

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

Take into account the strategic direction proposed in the document and question Officers on the feasibility of the plan and the actions and aims included in the delivery plan.

- Focusing on the individual sections of the strategy and decide if the Officers have considered all strategic aspects, including monitoring of performance, risks and mitigations. The individual parts of the report include;
 - Newport Now,
 - Emerging Trends,
 - Future Actions.
- Assess and make comment on:
 - Officers understanding of the plan and its implementation;
 - The extent to which and underperformance could be addressed and associated risks are being mitigated;
 - The progress being made in terms of performance from the previous Economic Regeneration Strategy delivery plan;
- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the Strategy?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to provide comment and recommendations to the Cabinet Member?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?

Section B – Supporting Information

5. Links to Council Policies and Priorities

- The Draft Economic Regeneration Strategy Refresh presented to the Committee links with all of the Councils Wellbeing Objectives and Corporate Plan Commitments:

Well-being Objectives	Promote economic growth and regeneration whilst protecting the environment	Improve skills, educational outcomes & employment opportunities	Enable people to be healthy, independent & resilient	Build cohesive & sustainable communities
Corporate Plan Commitments	Thriving City	Aspirational People		Resilient Communities
Supporting Function	Modernised Council			

6. Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

5 Ways of Working	Types of Questions to consider:
<p>Long-term The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</p>	Are there any long term trends developing that could affect how this plan is implemented to how the actions are prioritised?
<p>Prevention Prevent problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	How are you ensuring that the needs of the service users monitored and are taken into account when developing the long term strategy?
<p>Integration Considering how public bodies' wellbeing objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</p>	How does the Council's implementation of the plan impact upon the services of other public bodies and their objectives?
<p>Collaboration Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the organisation itself).</p>	How are you using the knowledge / information / good practice of others to inform / influence the Council's work?
<p>Involvement The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.</p>	<p>How as a Council are we ensuring we are consistently seeking the views of those who are impacted through the implementation of the plan?</p> <p>While developing a long term strategy, how are you ensuring the diverse communities are involved in your decision making?</p>

7. Background Papers

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)

Report Completed: September 2019