

Thursday, 24 October 2024

## **GROWTH SCRUTINY & IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee was held on Thursday, 24 October 2024 at the Civic Centre, Ridley Street, Redcar, Yorkshire, TS10 1TD.

**PRESENT** Councillor I Hart (Chair)  
Councillors C Jones (Vice-Chair), P Berry,  
C Cawley, S Crane, T Learoyd, M O'Donoghue,  
V Rider and D Taylor.

**OFFICIALS** L Anderson, B Archer, A Carter and S Fenwick.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Clark, W Davies, L Pallister and L White.

38 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

There were no declarations of interest.

39 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2024 AND NOTE THE ATTENDANCE MATRIX**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2024 be confirmed and the attendance matrix be noted.

40 **LOCAL PLAN**

The Assistant Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented the proposed Local Plan, which set out the visions and overall development strategy for the Council's area and how it would be achieved over the next 15 years. Members were advised that this report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion, the following comments were made:

- Members commented that we need to start planning as early as possible for the new Local Plan. Members were advised that a key critical component of a new Local Plan would be housing and that Officers were awaiting confirmation from Government that the proposed housing target would be 642 dwellings per year, which meant that nearly 10,000 new houses would need to be built in the Borough over the next 15 years;
- A Members commented that as elderly care was rising, could multi-generational homes be included in the Local Plan;

Thursday, 24 October 2024

- Over the last 12 years in the TS6 area, there had been 5 major housing developments, however, no playparks or new schools had been built. Officers advised that schools and playpark were not the Council's responsibility, however there would have been an option to negotiate a S106 agreement for this to be included;
- A Member commented that the playpark on the Kirkleatham Green development was inadequate. The Authority should start very early negotiations with developers on S106's to ensure that solar panel, playparks, schools etc were included in developments;
- A Member advised that there was a lack of pavements on the Kirkleatham Green development, in particular none lead onto the very busy Kirkleatham Lane where children cross the road to attend schools. This should have been included in the S106 agreement, instead of costing the Authority money at a later date to rectify the problems, and,
- A Member commented that the Authority was not effective/efficient enough on the benefits of the use S106s agreements.

**RESOLVED** that the information in the presentation be noted.

41

#### **HOUSING STRATEGY.**

The Assistant Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented the proposed Housing Strategy which set out an ambitious vision for housing in the Borough, identifying key actions and priorities that were required to meet those challenges facing the Council and residents in the coming years. Members were advised that this report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

As part of the ensuing discussion, the following comments were made:

- Does affordable housing have to be included? Officers advised that affordable housing does have to be included, and they have a different specification to make them affordable.
- Members asked if self-contained assisted living could be included in the strategy and a comment was made regarding the lack of bungalows being built in the Borough. Members were advised that one of the principles included in the strategy was meeting the needs of our ageing population and supporting people to live independently.

**RESOLVED** that the information in the presentation be noted.

Thursday, 24 October 2024

42 **GROWTH STRATEGY**

The Assistant Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment presented the proposed Growth Strategy which summarised the broad development and investment strategy for the Council which would have specific regard to the following “overarching” directing influences:

- Government policy guidance/ strategy (National);
- TVCA Local Growth Plan (Regional); and,
- The strategic development plan set out in the Local Plan.

Members were advised that this report was due to be considered by Cabinet on 29 October 2024.

**RESOLVED** that the information in the presentation be noted.

43 **OFSTED INSPECTION UPDATE**

The Assistant Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment gave an update on Adult Learning Services Ofsted Inspection.

Members were reminded that the Further Education Commissioner visited the service in April and June 2024 which resulted in positive feedback as reasonable progress was being made.

Members were advised that the service had made significant progress since the report, a Task and Finish Group with external people had been set up and was also making good progress. Ofsted would be returning for a further monitoring visit and to check on progress. A full inspection would also be undertaken, where all actions in the service aim to achieve at least a grade of “good”.

A Member suggested that a further report be submitted to this Committee after the full Ofsted report is produced.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the information in the report be noted.
2. That a further report be submitted to this Committee after the full Ofsted report is produced.

Thursday, 24 October 2024

44 **PLACE INVESTMENT TEAM PROGRESS UPDATE.**

The Head of Place Development and Investment provided an update on the current Place Investment Projects.

A Member requested a breakdown of the additional money that had been allocated to the Contractor for works at Bakehouse Square, Guisborough and the reasons why it had been allocated.

**RESOLVED** that:

1. The information in the report be noted
2. A breakdown of the additional money that had been allocated to the Contractor for works at Bakehouse Square, Guisborough and the reasons why it had been allocated be circulated to Members.

45 **TEESWORKS UPDATE**

The Assistant Director of Growth, Enterprise and Environment gave a presentation on Teeswork which updated Members on:

- Land Ownership;
- Teesworks Decision Making;
- Outcome of the Government Independent Review;
- Enhanced Business Areas; and,
- Known Development To Date

At the conclusion of the presentation the following comments were made:

- A Member requested a more information on the park and ride scheme from Seaford House, Redcar with timescales; and,
- When the planning application comes in can Officers request that a number of the jobs available be allocated to local people. Officers advised that it was not possible to dictate or enforce through planning who they will be employing.
- A Members expressed concern that lots of construction jobs will be created but not many higher paid jobs. Officers advised that Redcar and Cleveland College and Officers from this Council were offering help and guidance, however, some companies preferred to do their own training and recruitment.

**RESOLVED** that the information in the presentation be noted.

Thursday, 24 October 2024

46 **OUTSIDE BODIES UPDATE**

The Chair invited updates from Members who had attended meetings of Outside Bodies that were relevant to the Growth Scrutiny & Improvement Committee.

Councillor Gray circulated information from recent meeting of the Industrial Communities Alliance.

**RESOLVED** that the information in the report be noted.

47 **ACTION UPDATE**

The actions were discussed and the log updated:- **NOTED**

48 **WORK PROGRAMME 2024/25**

Members were presented with an update on the work programme topics to be considered over the current municipal year:- **NOTED**

49 **ANY ITEMS THE CHAIR CERTIFIES AS URGENT.**