

Leicester City Council Scrutiny Review

Economic Development at Local Level.

A review of the Economic Development, Transport and Tourism
Scrutiny Commission

16th October 2019

To be completed by the Member proposing the review

1.	Title of the proposed scrutiny review	Economic Development at Local Level.
2.	Proposed by	Cllr Sue Waddington, Chair
3.	Rationale	The Labour Party manifesto for the 2019 City Council elections said that “Labour would develop job creation, skills and investment plans for parts of Leicester which are economically excluded, including opportunities for local businesses and for young people to engage in positive activities.” This review will explore how these aims can be achieved at local levels.
4.	Purpose and aims of the review What question(s) do you want to answer and what do you want to achieve? (Outcomes?)	This review will seek to evaluate how these commitments are being met now and the measures that could be taken to increase economic participation at local levels, through overarching strategies and individual projects. It will identify and characterise what is meant by economic exclusion at a local level and make recommendations to address the key problems and build upon opportunities. Following the statistical exercise referred to in 7 below, two areas will be selected for in depth consideration.
5.	Links with corporate aims / priorities How does the review link to corporate aims and priorities?	<p>The Leicester to Work Economic Action Plan is underpinned by the objective of getting those most in need into training and into work. This review will provide an opportunity to support an updated plan based on the objectives of this review to explore the means of encouraging local economic development</p> <p>This review will seek to evaluate the success of existing strategies and investigate measures which might improve developing strategies and consider recommending individual projects.</p> <p>Other key strategies will include the LLEP Area Review (2017) and the review will seek to examine how well it meets the objectives outlined in this review.</p> <p>Other corporate aims which are relevant include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Poverty policies • Living wages policies • Procurement policies
6.	Scope Set out what is included in the scope of the review and what is not. For example, which services it does and does not cover.	Within the council the review would seek advice and information from within the Economic Regeneration and Adult Skills and Learning teams. The procurement department will also be asked to provide information and advice about how procurement strategies support the economic and social objectives of work creation.

		Neighbourhood and Youth services and Local schools, colleges and Universities would also be asked to give evidence
Develop a draft Project Plan to incorporate sections seven to twelve of this form		
7.	Methodology Describe the methods you will use to undertake the review. How will you undertake the review, what evidence will need to be gathered from members, officers and key stakeholders, including partners and external organisations and experts?	<p>Information will be gathered by a task group drawn from members of the Economic Development, Transport and Tourism Scrutiny Commission. Task group meetings will be confidential but normally the notes from the meeting will be published as part of the final report to the Commission.</p> <p>Council officers will be invited to provide written and/or oral evidence to this task group. Statistical evidence will be sought to provide information about levels of employment and economic activity, skills and qualification levels and crime rates in different neighbourhoods in the City. Information about existing opportunities in those areas will also be analysed, such as employment, training and apprenticeships; community facilities; public transport; youth and community provision etc. Following the collection of this evidence, two areas of the City will be selected for consideration.</p> <p>Outside bodies will be invited to provide written/oral evidence to the task group including funders and groups who are also addressing economic and social exclusion.</p> <p>Task Group members may wish to visit sites within the city as well as further afield to see examples of good practice in developing and implementing local economic initiatives.</p>
	Witnesses Set out who you want to gather evidence from and how you will plan to do this	<p>External witnesses will be invited to provide written and oral evidence to the Task Group. These might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public sector employers and Private sector employers including Local small employers • Local organisations including community based and youth organisations • Schools and Colleges • Trade Unions • Other Local Authorities who have developed 'localism' agendas. <p>The task group may hold evidence gathering sessions in one or more area in the City where there is evidence of economic exclusion.</p>
8.	Timescales How long is the review expected to take to complete?	<u>Five months</u>
	Proposed start date	November 2019
	Proposed completion date	April 2020

9.	<p>Resources / staffing requirements</p> <p>Scrutiny reviews are facilitated by Scrutiny Officers and it is important to estimate the amount of their time, in weeks, that will be required in order to manage the review Project Plan effectively.</p>	<p>An estimated 20 days of scrutiny policy officer time will be required to research information, contact and negotiate with outside bodies and prepare a final report.</p>
	<p>Do you anticipate any further resources will be required e.g. site visits or independent technical advice? If so, please provide details.</p>	<p>Yes. A small budget for the task group members to travel to Preston to see 'localism' in action is proposed. There may also be a need for 10 days of consultative work for an expert from one of the local Universities.</p>
10.	<p>Review recommendations and findings</p> <p>To whom will the recommendations be addressed? E.g. Executive / External Partner?</p>	<p>Recommendations will be addressed to the Executive</p>
11.	<p>Likely publicity arising from the review - Is this topic likely to be of high interest to the media? Please explain.</p>	<p>This issue is likely to generate media interest and coverage because of the nature of the topic and likely evidence presented to the Commission.</p>
12.	<p>Publicising the review and its findings and recommendations</p> <p>How will these be published / advertised?</p>	<p>In consultation with the media team. Member interviews may be required.</p>
13.	<p>How will this review add value to policy development or service improvement?</p>	<p>The research and recommendations will underpin council knowledge and evidential base across a number of policy areas, including work being done to develop a jobs and skills strategy.</p>
To be completed by the Executive Lead		
14.	<p>Executive Lead's Comments</p> <p>The Executive Lead is responsible for the portfolio, so it is important to seek and understand their views and ensure they are engaged in the process so that Scrutiny's recommendations can be taken on board where appropriate.</p>	<p>To meet this significant manifesto commitment, the council is developing A 5-year strategy for the development of jobs, skills and investment plans for our city with a special focus on economically excluded areas of the city. I believe, this work of the scrutiny commission has a focus on fact finding, evidence gathering and identifying what they consider best practise to be in this area of work. This will be a good example of collaborative working and will complement the work we are doing.</p> <p>Cllr Mustafa Malik, Assistant City Mayor for Jobs, Skills and Communities</p>

To be completed by the Divisional Lead Director

15.	Divisional Comments Scrutiny's role is to influence others to take action and it is important that Scrutiny Commissions seek and understand the views of the Divisional Director.	As an important manifesto commitment, work is already underway through officers to develop the plans referred to here and the intention is to end up with a clear document that has appropriate targets. The scrutiny review can prove very useful to this work, especially regarding fact finding, taking evidence and identifying best practise. To avoid duplication and to ensure complementary efforts a close working relationship will be needed between the scrutiny task force team and my officers.
16.	Are there any potential risks to undertaking this scrutiny review? E.g. are there any similar reviews being undertaken, on-going work or changes in policy which would supersede the need for this review?	No recognised risks at this point (other than the danger of duplication referred to above that needs to be mitigated).
17.	Are you able to assist with the proposed review? If not please explain why. In terms of agreement / supporting documentation / resource availability?	I and my officers will be actively supporting the review.
	Name	Mike Dalzell
	Role	Director of Tourism, Culture and Inward Investment
	Date	2 October 2019

To be completed by the Scrutiny Support Manager

18.	Will the proposed scrutiny review / timescales negatively impact on other work within the Scrutiny Team? (Conflicts with other work commitments)	The review will be supported by the Scrutiny Policy Officer and is expected to be able to be accommodated within the existing workload of the team.
	Do you have available staffing resources to facilitate this scrutiny review? If not, please provide details.	The review can be adequately supported by the Scrutiny Team as per my comments above.
	Name	Miranda Cannon (on behalf of Kal Sandhu)
	Date	<u>04/10/19</u>