

## **Economy Scrutiny Committee**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on 2 September 2015**

#### **Present:**

Councillor Richards – in the Chair

Councillors Amesbury, Appleby, Bridges, Davies, Ellison, Farrell, Green, Hacking, Karney, Moore, Raikes, Razaq, Simcock, Smitheman, Strong and Peel

Councillor Richard Leese, Leader of the Council

Councillor Andrews, Executive Member for Adult Health and Wellbeing

Councillor Chappell, Executive Member for Environment

Dr Attila Vegh, CEO, University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust

Councillor Reid, member of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee for Manchester and Trafford

Councillor Wilson, Ward member for Didsbury East

#### **Apologies:**

Councillors Siddiqui and Shilton Godwin

#### **ESC/15/42**

#### **Minutes**

#### **Decision**

To approve the minutes of the meeting on 22 July 2015 as a correct record.

#### **ESC/15/43**

#### **UHSM and the development of a Medipark in Wythenshawe**

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director of Development which provided a brief overview of the framework for the development of a Medipark, as part of the Greater Manchester Enterprise Zone. The Medipark is being developed at and adjacent to the University Hospital of South Manchester (UHSM) site at Wythenshawe. The report provided an initial view on the impact of the Healthier Together decision not to create the fourth Greater Manchester specialist hospital at UHSM, on the development of the Medipark. The Strategic Director of Development introduced the report across its main themes.

The Committee welcomed Dr Attila Vegh who was in attendance from University Hospital of South Manchester (UHSM). A member who was a ward member for Higher Blackley advised he had recently attended a briefing regarding plans for North Manchester General Hospital following the Healthier Together decision. He suggested that due to the impact on the local economy this be added to the Committee work programme to which the Committee agreed.

A member noted that Healthier Together did not consider economic impact as part of its decision making process and questioned whether this was right. Dr Attila Vegh advised that the Healthier Together decision would only affect a small proportion of current patients at UHSM. He stressed that the Medipark development was a strategic long term initiative and he was assured that support would continue for this regardless of the Healthier Together decision.

The Chair questioned what the Council was doing to support local residents to develop their skills and access employment opportunities. The Strategic Director for Development assured members that discussions were ongoing within the Enterprise Zone. He advised that Manchester Airport was leading on this and had developed an Enterprise and Skills Strategy which would be rolled out throughout the Enterprise Zone including Medipark and UHSM. He advised further information would be available later in the year.

### **Decision**

To request a report on the economic impact of developments to North Manchester General Hospital following the Healthier Together decision

### **ESC/15/44            The Manchester Strategy**

The Committee received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Growth and Neighbourhoods) which set out the context for the revised Manchester Strategy which is currently subject to public consultation. This will replace the Manchester Partnership's existing Community Strategy, which comes to an end in 2015. The Strategy will provide the overarching framework and priorities for action by the City Council and partners from all sectors over the next 10 years. The Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research advised that a report on the draft Manchester Strategy was submitted to Finance Scrutiny prior to Executive. The draft strategy had been shaped by the Leaders Forum and following approval by Executive was now at the public consultation stage. She explained that an implementation plan was also being developed alongside the strategy. The Leader explained the strategy was for the city as a whole, and stressed the importance of building a consensus across stakeholders. He explained that the previous strategy was monitored by annual 'State of the City' reports and the intention was to continue this.

Members queried how the Leaders Forum was established, its composition, and how often this was reviewed. Members suggested that further representation was needed from sectors including manufacturing, tourism, trade unions, professional services, and credit unions. Members challenged the gender balance and queried whether there was an equitable distribution of representation city wide. A member questioned the inclusivity of the forum. The Leader advised that the forum was established at his invitation, but operated in a consensual way. The Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research said that membership included a broad spectrum of representatives from across the Manchester Partnership and that she would provide improved explanation of this in a future report. Members were told that 25% of the current membership was from the private sector and GMLEP represented business interests including manufacturing. The Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research explained that there was a representation from across the city and that discussion forums had also been used to engage a broader mix of people to discuss themes around the strategy including economic growth.

Members discussed the importance of communication in ensuring both the consultation and the strategy itself were meaningful. The Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research advised that she had worked closely with the Councils Communications Team and members of the Leaders Forum with experience

communicating with different groups across the city. Members were told that a range of tools to gather feedback had been developed both online and offline.

Members discussed the importance of clear, consistent and achievable targets. In response to a query the Leader explained the reasons why it was necessary to use a mix of statistics and percentages. He assured members that clear targets, delivery plans and review mechanisms would be introduced.

Members discussed the impact of budget cuts and other potential barriers to achieving targets set by the strategy. The ward member for Didsbury East challenged the strategy's resilience. The Leader noted that budget cuts would impact across all stakeholders and would undoubtedly affect the practicalities of implementation. However, he stressed that they shouldn't affect our level of ambition as a city.

Members stressed the importance of health, the private rented sector, education and debt. The Leader advised that greater detail may be found elsewhere, for example the Residential Growth Strategy would provide detail around the private rented sector and devolution would facilitate the prioritisation of health issues. He agreed to review the targets around debt. The Strategic Director of Development advised that the Residential Growth Strategy would be brought to the Committees meeting on 30 September prior to submission to Executive. The Leader advised that he envisaged a small number of high level Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) to be included in the strategy's final delivery plan underpinned by a larger number of more specific KPI's.

### **Decision**

1. To request a further update at an appropriate time. To include the outcomes of the consultation exercise and the targets once developed
2. To note that a report on the Residential Growth Strategy will be received at the Committees meeting on 30 September prior to submission to Executive.

### **ESC/15/45 Impact on Manchester's economy of spatial planning: the Manchester Local Plan and Greater Manchester Spatial Framework**

The Committee received a report of the Head of Policy, Partnerships and Research entitled 'Impact on Manchester's economy of spatial planning: the Manchester Local Plan and Greater Manchester Spatial Framework'. The purpose of the report is to update the Economy Scrutiny Committee on the review of Manchester's spatial planning policies, including the Manchester Core Strategy, and the preparation of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF); and, to consider the impact of these on the economy. The Planning Strategy Manager introduced the report across its main themes. He stressed the importance of managing growth effectively and sustainably.

A member welcomed that the Executive were considering the merits of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and queried the timetable for this. The Leader advised that there was not a strict timetable, and as we entered a period of growth the importance of capturing value from increased land value; in particular to re-invest

to support economic growth. He explained that the CIL was not the only way to support this and advised that the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) had also made a submission to government in respect of the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR). The Chair related a question from a member of the public around whether private health building would be included in CIL. The Leader advised that it could be, but that there were also other options such as asking developers to use Section 106 agreements. A member stressed the importance of working with neighbouring local authorities, particularly in respect of transport. The Leader advised that this would improve in 2017 following devolution.

**Decision:**

To note the report

**ESC/15/46 Tax Avoidance Task and Finish Group**

The Committee received a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which provided the draft terms of reference and work programme for the Tax Avoidance Task and Finish Group; which the Committee were asked to approve.

The Chair explained that a motion regarding this was submitted to Full Council by Councillors Moore and Wilson. Councillor Wilson explained the rationale for this and encouraged members to join the group.

**Decision**

1. To agree the Terms of Reference and draft Work Programme of the Tax Avoidance Task and Finish Group
2. To agree the current membership, and to extend invitation for membership beyond the Economy Scrutiny Committee

**ESC/15/46 Overview Report**

The Committee considered a report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which provided a summary of the key decisions due to be taken that are relevant to its remit, an update on actions taken as a result of recommendations and the current work programme.

A member welcomed the inclusion of the Economic Dashboard and requested this be included as a separate report item at a future meeting to enable discussion and queries. The Chair agreed advising since it was now produced quarterly this should not be too onerous.

A member asked whether the report on Talent Match could be included at the November meeting. He noted Digital Skills and Strategy was not yet scheduled and was particularly interested in the roll out of broadband to businesses and residents and the progress made to date. The Chair agreed to consider this when reviewing the work programme.

A member asked about 'Rent to Own' which was being included in a report on District Centres and noted a motion was passed at Council regarding this. The Chair said further action could be discussed once the District Centre report was received.

A member advised that a 'Traders Map' had been produced for Chorlton, and circulated this amongst members.

**Decision**

To note the report and agree the work programme subject to the above addition.