

Economy Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 26 May 2022

Present:

Councillor Johns – in the Chair
Councillors Bell, Good, Moran, Noor, Raikes, I Robinson and Taylor

Also present:

Councillor Craig, Leader
Councillor White, Executive Member for Housing and Employment
Councillor Hacking, Executive Member for Skills, Employment and Leisure

ESC/19/18 Minutes

In moving the minutes, the Chair paid tribute to his predecessor Councillor H. Priest. He thanked her for her dedication and commitment to the work of the Committee during her time as Chair. He further welcomed the new members of the Committee.

Decision

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2022 were approved as a correct record.

ESC/19/19 Economy COVID-19 Sit Rep Report

The Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director, Growth and Development, which provided a further update of the current situation in the city in relation to COVID-19 and an update on the work progressing in Manchester in relation to areas within the remit of the Committee.

In response to a comment from a Member regarding the announcements from central government and the support to relieve the increased cost of living, the Leader advised that Manchester Council had always responded quickly to ensure that any support that was made available was directed to residents and local businesses. She stated that further funding was required from Government to make up the funding that had been removed over a number of years and the Council would continue to lobby the Treasury for additional funding to support local residents.

The Director of Inclusive Economy stated that information on the various sources of advice and support services were available on the Council's website.

Decision

The Committee notes the report.

ESC/19/20 Economy Dashboard

The Committee considered a report of the Head of Performance, Research & Intelligence that presented the economy dashboard, a document that contains a range of data and intelligence covering key aspects of Manchester's economy. The Leader proposed that the information that was contained within the COVID sit rep item would be incorporated into the Dashboard as part of the wider reporting. The Committee endorsed this proposal.

Decision

The Committee note the report and agree that the data and information provided in the COVID sit rep would be reported via the Economy Dashboard.

ESC/19/21 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Committee noted that it would be discussing the work programme for the forthcoming municipal year in further detail in a private session following the meeting, and that an updated work programme reflecting this discussion would be circulated as normal in the papers for the next meeting.

Decision

The Committee note the report and agree the work programme, noting the above comments.