

Chairman - Councillor W J Kemp

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

C A Baron	P A Leason
J A Barron	D McNaughton
A P Edgeller	M Phillips
A S Harp	M J Winnington
E G R Jones	

Also present:-

Cabinet Members:

Councillor F Beatty - Economic Development and Planning Portfolio
Councillor J M Pert - Community and Health Portfolio
Councillor C V Trowbridge - Leisure Portfolio

Councillors R P Cooke and A T A Godfrey.

Officers in attendance:-

Ms M Smith	-	Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager
Mr A Yendole	-	Strategic Planning and Placemaking Manager
Ms J McCloy	-	Chief Accountant
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer

EDP23 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 14 December 2021, as previously published on the Council's website, were submitted and signed.

EDP24 Apologies

Apologies for absence was received from Councillors B M Cross (Substitute Councillor A P Edgeller).

EDP25 Section 106 Agreements - Update

Considered the report of the Head of Development (**V3** 25/01/2022) that provide Members with an update on the Section 106 agreements process and securing developer contributions for key projects across Stafford Borough,

including key information from the Infrastructure Funding Statement published in December 2021. The paper also updated Members on work undertaken to ensure there was additional capacity in place within the Strategic Planning and Placemaking Team to enable the necessary professional input into the development of new leisure and environmental projects, with a particular focus on delivering smaller scale open space projects funded by s106 monies.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Cabinet Member (Economic Development and Planning Portfolio), the Cabinet Member (Community and Health Portfolio), the Cabinet Member (Leisure Portfolio) the Strategic Planning and Placemaking Manager and the Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager:-

- The relationship between Section 106 Agreements and the Council's Corporate Priorities
- Concern over the lack of health, education and transportation provision delivered by Section 106 Agreements
- Clarification that the delivery health, education and transportation provision was outside of the Council's control
- Confirmation that the Destination Parks delivered by Section 106 monies promoted health and wellbeing
- Clarification of the trigger points for section 106 monies, including the hierarchy, on site provision was preferable where possible and the importance of the Master Plan process
- An explanation of Section 106 recommendations and planning obligations as part of a Planning application
- Clarification that Section 106 payments were index linked
- An explanation of the monies for the allocated projects and the projects in the pipeline, with implementation in chronological order
- The need for further information about Borough Council's published Infrastructure Funding Statements.
- The need to include Ward Members in all discussions concerning Section 106 Agreements, both below and above £50,000
- Strategic Planning and Placemaking staffing levels and delivery
- An explanation of data inputting into the Exacom system
- An explanation of the delivery of Affordable Housing as part of a Section 106 Agreement
- Section 106 Agreement Hierarchy
- An assessment of Section 106 monies secured, spent, unspent and allocated
- Concern over the removal of secondary school funding as part of a Section 106 Agreement for education provision
- An explanation of the role that the Planning Committee plays in Section 106 obligations
- Clarification of the contribution towards the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation and the implications of biodiversity net gain requirements in the Environment Act 2021
- Clarification of Section 106 Agreements for play areas

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the report be noted.

EDP26 Quarter 3 Performance Reporting

The Committee considered the performance and financial management details for those areas within the remit of the Committee for the quarter 3 period up to 31 December 2021.

The Committee discussed the following aspects of the report with the Cabinet Member (Economic Development and Planning Portfolio), the Economic Growth and Strategic Projects Manager, the Strategic Planning and Placemaking Manager and the Deputy Chief Accountant:-

- LI1 - Number of existing businesses in commercial premises retained
- 1.3.1 - Delivery of the Stafford Town Centre Transformation Programme
- 1.4.1 - Develop Stafford as a hub of productivity to help businesses develop, grow and thrive
- 1.4.3 - Unlock economic opportunities in our rural areas
- 1.4.4 - Support the facilitation of lifelong learning to create a local workforce with specialist skills that can respond to growth ambitions
- Planning and Regeneration staffing variations
- Forward Planning (Strategic Planning and Placemaking) staffing variations and compensation payment
- Development Management agency costs
- Land Charges – Local Searches
- Off Street Parking variations
- Covid-19 financial compensation
- Gypsy and Traveller Site
- Stafford Town Centre Enhancements

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the performance and financial management data relating to areas of activity within this Committee's remit be noted.

EDP27 Work Programme - Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration (V2 25/01/2022), which presented the Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme for the forthcoming meetings up to February 2023.

The Committee considered forthcoming items in their Work Programme and agreed to exclude the press and public in order to continue with their discussions.

EDP28 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:- that pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting whilst the next following item of business be discussed, on the grounds that it includes the disclosure of exempt information of the type specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

Recording of the meeting was suspended at this time.

RESOLVED:- that in exercise of the powers delegated to the Committee, the Work Programme be approved.

CHAIR