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Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member For Economy And Strategic Planning
Date	16 March 2020
Present	Councillor Waller

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### **36. Declarations of Interest**

The Executive Member were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests that they might have in respect of the business on the agenda. None were declared.

### **37. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the last two Decision Sessions held on 6 and 20 January 2020, as well as, the minutes of the Joint Budget Decision Session held on 13 January 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Executive Member.

### **38. Public Participation**

It was reported that there had been five registrations to speak under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

Councillor Claire Douglas discussed items 4 and 5 of the agenda, she asked whether the Executive Member thought there should be worker representatives on the York Economic Partnership. She also noted the Shambles Market Working Group and the need for trust to be rebuilt between traders and Make It York, she requested that the Executive Member examine the makeup of the working group and voting rights to make sure that the working group worked effectively. She also asked that the working group have an independent chair appointed.

Kevin Tuohy (speaking with the permission of the Executive Member on behalf of Martin Spencer, who had registered to

speak but was then unable to attend the meeting) stated it had taken too long to set up the Shambles Market Working Group and that an independent chair should be appointed for the group. He raised several further proposals to improve the Shambles Market Working Group.

Kevin Tuohy noted that he supported the aim to keep the Shambles Market Working Group active and supported an independent chair be established for the Group. He asked that the purpose of the Working Group be established as he suggested that it was no longer working on its original agreed remit.

Rupert Harrison stated that he felt that market traders had been left in the dark about the future of the market and that Make it York should improve its reputation in the city by working with market traders and manage the market in line with the Market Charter.

Mr Mannion raised issues arising from the Christmas market and the adverse effect on city traders events were having due to lasting too long and taking up too much of Parliament Street. He noted the closures of shops across the city and asked the Council to consider what could be done to make the city a world class environment for businesses, residents, and visitors.

### **39. Shambles Market Working Group: Terms of Reference and Remit**

The Executive Member was joined by Officers and Sean Bullick Managing Director for Make It York (MIY), to consider a report that set out the terms of reference and remit for a working group, as well as, setting out recommendations on how best to develop Shambles Market as a community asset and as a destination.

Discussion took place around the objectives of the working group and the makeup of its representatives. It was agreed that further work was still required around instituting effective voting rights to ensure any strategy produced would have support from all groups represented in the working group. The possibility of an independent chair for the working group was also discussed, as well as, the contract arrangements between MIY and City of York Council.

Officers outlined multiple projects being undertaken to develop the city including My Castle Gateway and My City Centre. It was recommended that MIY and market traders consider the context of the market within the city as a whole during their meetings and feed into the My City Centre consultation.

Resolved:

- i. Note the terms of reference and remit for the working group.
- ii. That the Executive Member noted that the review of market regulations will be brought to a meeting of either, the Executive or the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning Decision Session.
- iii. That as part of the My City Centre project a dedicated session be organised to focus on the role of markets in York moving forward.
- iv. Receive a further report on the output from the working group at the end of its work.

Reason: To ensure that York's market continues to develop as a community asset and as a destination.

#### **40. York Economic Strategy Update**

The Executive Member considered an update on the York Economy Strategy. Ensuring an inclusive engagement process was discussed and it was noted that the engagement strategy in My Castle Gateways was a template for how engagement would be carried out. It was also agreed that a future update report brought to the Executive Member would identify an organisation that will review the inclusive growth outcomes from the Economy Strategy.

Discussion also took place around work being done with partners regarding the impact on the business sector by COVID-19, as well as, the approval of the allocation of £8,000 towards the costs of feasibility study into an technology accelerator in York to promote technology businesses.

Resolved:

- i. Note the progress made in developing our economic strategy and partnership and to add the need to

- include reference to the long term impact of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) on the economy of the city.
- ii. Approve the allocation of £8,000 towards the costs of a feasibility study to explore a tech-focussed accelerator for York, on the basis that at least two other funders contribute to those costs.
  - iii. Agree the proposed approach to responding to the WYCA Inclusive Growth framework consultation and delegate responsibility for finalising and submitting that response to the Assistant Director for Regeneration, Economic Growth, and Asset Management in further consultation with the Executive Member for Economy and Strategic Planning.

Reason: To support inclusive economic growth in York.

#### **41. City Centre Footfall Cameras and 'Place Data'**

The Executive Member considered a report on the long term solutions to the various issues surrounding current provision of footfall measuring in the City Centre. The importance of measuring footfall was discussed, as well as, the need to upgrade York's technology for measuring footfall, while also complying with the recommendations and guidance issued by both the information Commissioner's Office and the Surveillance Camera Commissioner to ensure residents that data is collected appropriately.

Resolved:

- i. Notes the difficulties caused by the unplanned switching off of some of the City Centre cameras, and the subsequent interruption in data provision, and the steps being taken to ensure that these difficulties are avoided in future.
- ii. Agrees that a long term partnership solution potentially offers greater opportunities for use of data intelligence, and that this should be further explored subject to the steps being taken to secure long term provision for the measuring of footfall in the city Centre that will comply with the recommendations and guidance issued by both the information Commissioner's Office and the Surveillance Camera Commissioner.

- iii. Agrees further examination of how place data can support evidence-led policy making that can be of benefit to the City.

Reason: To provide continuity of data and ongoing information about the health of our City Centre streets and to allow for the exploration of more advanced technologies to assist in future-proofing the strength of our high streets via evidence-led policy making.

CLlr A Waller, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 2.03 pm and finished at 3.13 pm].