

Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee

23 July 2014

Report of the Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Update on implementation of recommendations from the previously completed External Funding Scrutiny Review.

Summary

1. This report provides Members with a further update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the previously completed External Funding Scrutiny Review (Annex A) including specific target measures and progress arising from the review.

Background

2. At a meeting of the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECDOSC) held in September 2012 Members received an initial briefing note on a potential scrutiny review that had been put forward by Councillor Semlyen. The basic premise for the suggested review was to unlock the potential of external funding for economic development and regeneration projects. The Committee agreed that this review should go ahead and set up a Task Group to carry out the review on their behalf.
3. In January 2013 the Task Group reported back on their initial findings and ECDOSC agreed a remit for the review together with a number of objectives. However, as work on the scrutiny review progressed, ECDOSC were asked to agree some minor changes to the objectives set, to allow the Task Group slightly more flexibility within their review. Work on the review then progressed based on the following aim and objectives:

Aim

To be more effective and systematic in securing external funding and investment for York

Key Objectives

- i) To assess how Leeds City Region are articulating investment priorities, including looking at the case of the LEP European Regional Development Funding Programme and broader funding priorities.
 - ii) To assess what resources are available to City of York Council (CYC) to effectively identify and successfully secure funding (resources in this instance including CYC staff, additional or temporary staff, partnership staff, ability to provide match funding, up-skilling and training)
 - iii) To develop a plan for presenting a strong case to attract funding for York's top investment priorities.
4. Over a series of meetings the Task Group gathered evidence for the review and in September 2013 ECDOSC considered the draft final report. The recommendations were approved by Cabinet on 5 November.
 5. When ECDOSC endorsed the recommendations in September 2013 Members requested an overview of the Economic Strategy and its targets be presented to a future meeting.
 6. The implementation of the review recommendations were considered by the Committee in January 2014 when it was noted that none of the recommendations of the review were fully implemented and members agreed that a further update report on the outstanding recommendations be considered at the Committee's meeting in July 2014.

Options

7. Members may decide to sign off any individual recommendations of the External Funding Scrutiny Review where implementation has been completed and can:
 - a. request further updates and the attendance of the relevant officers at a future meeting to clarify any outstanding recommendations relating to the above review or;
 - b. agree to receive no further updates on this review.

Council Plan

8. The work on the review and its arising recommendations support the 'Create jobs and grow the economy' element of the Council Plan 2011-15.

Implications

9. There are no known financial, human resources, equalities, legal or other implications associated with the recommendation made in this report.

Risk Management

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with this report.

Recommendation

11. Members are asked to note the contents of this report and sign off any recommendations in the External Funding Scrutiny Review which they consider to have been fully implemented.

Reason: To raise awareness of those recommendations which are still to be fully implemented.

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Report Approved



Date 7/7/2014

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Update information on External Funding Scrutiny Review

Abbreviations in this report and its annexes

CLLD - Community Led Local Development

CYC – City of York Council

ECDOOSC – Economic & City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee

LCR - Leeds City Region

LEP – Local Enterprise Partnership

REM - Regional Econometric Model

YEP - York Economic Partnership