

Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee

17 June 2015

Report of Assistant Director Governance and ICT

Scrutiny Arrangements Around Make it York

Summary

1. This report provides members of the Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee (EDTPSC) with information on the role of this Committee in scrutinising Make it York (MiY), given that the Make it York Shareholder Committee holds a scrutiny responsibility for the organisation.

Background

2. In early November 2013, the former Cabinet agreed to pursue the development of a new agency to deliver the marketing, tourism, cultural and business development agendas for the city of York with the aims:
 - To deliver greater inward investment, and thus market share, for York in its key growth sectors, including those sub-sectors in which the city has a strength of assets, particularly life science-related industries, high-tech industries and business services;
 - To increase the value of the visitor economy through promoting innovation and higher quality in the existing offer and encouraging high value visitor economy investment;
 - To achieve a stronger coordination and promotion of the city's profile and cultural offering underpinning that profile.
3. This new organisation – Make it York – and Commissioning Agreement went live in April 2015.

4. In late March 2015 the former Economic & City Development Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ECDOSC) held an additional committee meeting to discuss the Commissioning Agreement for Make it York prior to the organisation going live.
5. Members questioned whether the ECDOSC remit might change due to the Shareholder Committee's role in scrutinising Make it York. The Shareholder Committee Chair was happy to take on the role of scrutiny of Make it York, but felt there could be a significant overlap with the work of scrutiny committees.
6. The Committee resolved "That a report be produced for the June meeting detailing the continuing role of the Economic and City Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee in scrutinising Make it York, taking into account the role of the Shareholder Committee" in order to clarify the roles of the Scrutiny Committee and the Make it York Shareholder Committee.

Make it York – Respective Roles

7. The Executive

Takes important decisions concerning the company including:

- The appointment and dismissal of Directors
- Undertaking borrowing and loans
- Allocating funding to the company
- Agreeing the service level agreement with the company
- Making any changes to the nature of the company

8. Shareholder Committee

- Influences the Make it York board of directors on the direction of travel of Make it York
- Scrutinises the performance and operation of Make it York
- Influences the appointment of directors including pay packages
- Makes recommendations to the Make it York board on operation of the company where appropriate
- Communicates the practical application of the Council's priorities to the Board and how the Company is able to contribute to them being attained

- Reports to the Executive on the above issues where appropriate

9. Economic Development & Transport Policy & Scrutiny Committee.

Like all scrutiny boards EDTPSC may:

- Review any issue that it considers appropriate: Topics may be in the areas in which Make it York operates and focus on the strategic outcomes that Make it York is pursuing in those areas. Where EDTPSC selects a subject area to scrutinise that is in the remit of MiY then MiY will provide representation.
- Identify aspects of the Council's operation and delivery of services, and/or those of the Council's statutory partners, suitable for efficiency reviews. EDTPSC may wish to do this by:
 - Scrutinising the Company's annual business plan including capital and revenue plans which are approved by the shareholders.
 - Scrutinise how control of the Company is exercised on a strategic basis to complement the Council's objectives.
 - Seeking reassurance that the 20% Teckal threshold is maintained.

Options & Analysis

10. This report is provided for information only.

Council Plan

11. The delivery of Make it York relates to the Creating Jobs and Growing the Economy priority in the Council Plan 2011-2015.

Implications and Risks

12. There are no implications or risks associated with this report.

Recommendation

13. That the Committee note the contents of this report.

Reason: To inform the Committee of the respective roles of the Executive, the Shareholder Committee and EDTPSC in relation to Make it York.

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Report Approved

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All

Wards Affected:

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