

**Open Report on behalf of the Executive Director for Environment & Economy**

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| Report to: | <b>Economic Scrutiny Committee</b>                                   |
| Date:      | <b>12 April 2016</b>   |
| Subject:   | <b>Agreement of Strategic Economic Plan for Greater Lincolnshire</b> |

**Summary:**

Economic Scrutiny Committee Members provided a number of helpful comments and discussion points at the previous Committee meeting, which have informed the updated version of the Strategic Economic Plan circulated (which shows a number of tracked changes made). A summary of the main updates since the last meeting is provided below.

**Actions Required:**

It is recommended that Economic Scrutiny Committee supports the Strategic Economic Plan and asks Councillor M J Hill MBE to sign the document in order to show Lincolnshire County Council's support for the Strategic Economic Plan.

## **1. Background**

The Strategic Economic Plan has been refined in response to comments from Economic Scrutiny Committee and from other partners. This was a planned part of the consultation exercise, and it has the benefit of enhancing the document and of improving engagement with the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP).

Members of the Economic Scrutiny Committee confirmed that they would want to use the Strategic Economic Plan as their economic development strategy.

A marked up version of the Strategic Economic Plan is attached to this report, showing where amendments have been made in response to the comments of Lincolnshire County Council's Economic Scrutiny Committee members.

The final version of the SEP will be signed by leaders of the councils within greater Lincolnshire.

Specific amendments are as follows:

### **Jobs targets**

Further wording has been revised and included at page 9, to highlight that the outputs quoted relate to specific investments which the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) will support over the Plan. There will be wider growth of the local economy which will be delivered through other activity and interventions, which the LEP will help to accelerate.

### **Training Needs**

Discussion at the previous Committee centred on the LEP ensuring that businesses are able to access and buy in provision locally. More detail sits in at a sector plan level, which the lead officer for the Employment and Skills Board will present at a future Scrutiny Committee.

### **Governance**

This section has been updated to reflect the current governance structures. This highlights that the current arrangements will evolve, e.g. through devolution and emergence of a combined authority model for Greater Lincolnshire.

### **Health and Care**

Specific officer feedback has been provided to Cllr L Wooten in relation to the context of the Health and Care priorities.

### **Links to the South East**

Comments received through Cllr B Adams have been further supported by correspondence from the Chief Executive at South Kesteven District Council. Where specific text changes have been proposed which relate to the strategic context, these have been incorporated in the updated draft. Additional reference has been made to South Kesteven District Council's draft economic development strategy, to ensure that references to the A1, East Coast Mainline and Cambridge / Peterborough are consistent across both documents.

### **Transport**

Additional references have been made to the A1 and East Coast Main Line. Members noted at the previous meeting that the inclusion of improvements to the A52 are seen as important to strengthen the role of Grantham (and the south of the County) as an important gateway to the LEP area.

### **Spalding Rail Freight Hub**

Reference to the project is already included under the "we wills" on page 35 and the context for future intervention towards rail freight is provided within the agri-food, logistics and transport sections.

## **2. Conclusion**

In summary, the Strategic Economic Plan is a critical document for shaping and leading economic growth.

**3. Consultation**

**a) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

n/a

**4. Appendices**

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| These are listed below and attached at the back of the report. |  |
| Appendix A   | Strategic Economic Plan for Greater Lincolnshire |

**5. Background Papers**

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Andy Gutherson, who can be contacted on 01522 554827 or [andy.gutherson@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:andy.gutherson@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

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