

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**ECONOMY, SKILLS & TRANSPORT O&S COMMITTEE –**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**10.30AM hours on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018, Committee Room 6, Council House – Action  
Notes**

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**Present:**

Councillor Tahir Ali (Chair)

Councillors John Clancy, Phil Davis, Fred Grindrod, Karen McCarthy, Simon Morrall,  
Julien Pritchard and Ken Wood

**Also Present:**

Philip Andrews, Head of Asset Management, Birmingham Property Services

Lloyd Broad, Head of European Affairs and Interim Head of Employment

Richard Cowell, Assistant Director, Development

Doug Lee, Development Planning Manager

Baseema Begum, Research & Policy Officer

Rose Kiely, Group Overview & Scrutiny Manager

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**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chairman advised the meeting to note that members of the press/public may record and take photographs.

**2. APOLOGIES**

None received.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **4. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMY AND SKILLS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2018/19**

(See document No. 1)

Members discussed a number of areas of interest to include onto the future work programme. A number of suggestions were made including:

- The economic and social impact of the Commonwealth Games Village and the legacy for residents.
- High Street retail issues. What are the opportunities and is there a strategy to deal with some of the issues that are coming out?
- Inclusive growth including addressing new developments and identifying land for housing and creation of jobs. A series of key strategic documents are being developed. These will be shared with the Committee and included in the work programme (Urban Centres Framework Consultation, Local Centres, Economic Strategy).
- Local centres – addressing areas that lack regeneration.
- Encouraging companies to relocate to Birmingham and address the skills issues of the local residents to ensure that they are able to embrace opportunities.
- The economic impact of Brexit on businesses in the city (including motor/creative and the supply chain) and the wider West Midlands region and the role of the City Council and partners. Schedule regular updates for the Committee as matters progress via the Brexit Advisory Group.
- Focussing on new businesses and start-ups especially the digital economy including vocational opportunities for young people to get involved. What are the transition process from study to employment.
- Creative industries within the Digbeth area.
- HS2 opportunities for young people. Promotion of jobs and related careers in schools.
- That National College for High Speed Rail. Understanding how many local people are accessing courses /how many schools have visited the College/how many have been invited. Visit to be arranged for the Committee.
- Land availability – housing need and jobs. The City Council’s Land and Property Strategy is due to be presented to Cabinet in the autumn and can be scheduled onto the Committee’s work programme for noting.
- Partnerships with neighbouring Local Authorities on growth and skills issues and sharing of investment.
- Overview of Adult Education and the impact on skills and employment needs of the city. A review is currently on-going on education and skills to better align with budgets and aims.
- An update on the Women’s Enterprise Hub in Sparkbrook.
- Looking at the support for Small and Medium Enterprises of which there are approximately 33,000 in the city that can be supported to help grow employment.
- The role of the Greater Birmingham and Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Combined Authority.

**5. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL-IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

None.

**6. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**7. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Agreed.

**RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting finished at 1134 hours.