



Derby City Council

**REGENERATION AND HOUSING SCRUTINY
REVIEW BOARD
20 March 2018**

ITEM 7

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place

Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy

SUMMARY

1.1 To update the Board on progress on the developing “Metro” Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To note progress on the Metro Strategy.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Scrutiny Board has requested an update on progress.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 Background

The Metro Strategy was officially launched in May 2017. It recognises that combined, the two city areas give scale with significance. By taking advantage of this, Derby and Nottingham would strengthen their position to establish the national presence and international reputation required to take advantage of future opportunities, such as Midlands Engine and foreign trade and investment, as well as being better able to respond to challenges such as Brexit and manage economic risk.

4.2 The Metro Strategy has five themes for action:

- a) **Metro Enterprise** – to promote Derby and Nottingham worldwide to attract new investment; support businesses to innovate, diversify and find new markets; increase productivity and strengthen supply chains
- b) **Metro Talent** – to enhance leadership, knowledge and creativity of skilled workers; nurture young people to be ready for work in the 21st century
- c) **Connected Metro** – to improve accessibility to the cities through shared development of our transport corridors, application of new transport technologies and better integration with rail and airport interchanges
- d) **Metro Living** – to provide a range of exciting and accessible opportunities for a modern urban lifestyle, befitting of a world-class urban area.
- e) **Efficient Metro** - Protecting and improving public services for all our Metropolitan citizens

4.3 A Challenge from partners

Over the summer of 2017 the Metro Advisory Group made up of private sector, university and private sector representatives challenged the ambition of the strategy. While supportive the Group felt that more could be achieved and that the strategy itself did not go far enough.

4.4 **The Metro Dynamics Economic Study**

It was difficult to quantify the economics of an undefined metro area because there had been no analysis based around the two cities working together. Thus Metro Dynamics Consultancy was commissioned to carry out an independent study, the results of which were published in November last year. It confirmed there was greater economic potential to be gained if organisations within a broader metro area, defined in the report, collaborated formally. The study suggested that many aspects of the area were already operating in this way.

4.5 **The 2018 Metro Summit**

To help the two Councils and their partners consider how to respond to the report it was agreed to hold a Summit in January 2018. To give wider stakeholders a chance to express their views on the findings and recommendations.

Members of the Scrutiny Board were invited to the Summit and a number took part listening to the main speakers and taking part in the thematic discussions on place, talent, infrastructure, enterprise and innovation.

4.3 **Metro Growth Board**

The announcement of a Metro Growth Board was made at the Summit by David Williams, Chair of the Metro Strategic Advisory Group. This will be a private sector led Board with the majority of members being either private or education sectors drawn from the Advisory Group. The two Council Leaders will also attend. The Board plan to identify a number of priority areas which will then form the foundation for a series of proposals for action over the coming year.

4.4 **Current Strategy and action plans**

Following the Metro Dynamics report and the Summit, action plans will be developed in line with the themes of the current strategy which will now include the expansion of the former 'Living' theme into a broader 'Place' heading to allow housing and place marketing to be considered under the Metro banner. These plans will be worked on over the next few months.

4.5 **Engaging other Local Authorities**

On 8 March Gedling Borough Council will consider a report endorsing the Metro Strategy and the Leader's involvement in the Metro Delivery Board. Conversations with other authorities are on-going.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer	
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Service Director(s) Other(s)	David Gartside, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Planning and Transportation
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Verna Bayliss 01332 643034 verna.bayliss@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 None.

Legal

2.1 None.

Personnel

3.1 None.

IT

4.1 None.

Equalities Impact

5.1 None.

Health and Safety

6.1 None.

Environmental Sustainability

7.1 None.

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None.

Risk Management

9.1 None.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 The Metro Strategy also supports the Council's Delivering Differently programme and should add value by increasing opportunities for efficiency and effective use of our collective resources.