

**EXTRACT of DRAFT MINUTES of a meeting of the COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the Remote meeting using Microsoft Teams on WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2020**

Present: Councillor D Harrison (Chairman)

Councillors B Harrison-Rushton, C C Benfield, A J Bridgen, T Eynon, G Hoult, K Merrie MBE, D E J Tebbutt, M B Wyatt and M D Hay (Substitute for Councillor J Geary)

Portfolio Holders: Councillors R Ashman, R D Bayliss and T Gillard

Officers: Mr J Arnold, Mrs T Bingham, M D'Oyly-Watkins, Mr T Delaney, Mr C Elston, Mrs A Harper, Mr C Lambert, Walford, Mrs R Wallace and Miss E Warhurst

**12. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor M Wyatt declared a pecuniary interest in item 7 – Local Lockdown Grant Fund: Discretionary Funding, and a non-pecuniary interest in item 8 – North West Leicestershire District Council Economy Recovery Plan as a local business owner.

**18. NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE ECONOMY RECOVERY PLAN**

The Business Focus Team Manager introduced the report and gave a presentation to Members.

The Business and Regeneration Portfolio Holder addressed the Committee and spoke in support.

Members welcomed the report and work undertaken. A discussion ensued and a number of points within the report were clarified by the Business Focus Team Manager. The following comments were made:

- The concept of developing a Member ambassadorial role to ensure members were engaged and actively involved in supporting local businesses was very much welcomed.
- In relation to Outcome 4.4 of the plan to support start-up businesses with the use of virtual workshops, concerns were raised on the value of such workshops as success rates were generally measured on attendance rates rather than actual outcomes.
- The proposed establishment of a Coalville town centre management function was welcomed.
- The proposal to rollout a 'Wheels to Work' scheme was welcomed; it was felt that this would really help those people that were struggling with transport to work in the current economic climate.
- In relation to the performance metrics within the plan, it was felt that the data did not provide information on the quality of the jobs, which therefore did not give a full picture on the possible drop in local quality of life and local economy. A measurement of quality would be helpful going forward.
- A suggestion was made to contact the Springboard Centre as part of consultation in relation to new business start-ups as this was an established organisation with many contacts.

Chairman's initials

- Concerns were raised regarding no progress being made with the supporting of local businesses in readiness for the UK's exit from the European Union, considering that the date was fast approaching.

It was moved by Councillor K Merrie, seconded by Councillor T Eynon and by affirmation of the meeting

RESOLVED THAT:

Comments made by the Committee be reported to Cabinet when it considers the item on 10 November.

Chairman's initials