

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the **Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham** on **Tuesday 26 March 2019** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor A Batey (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors E Adam, J Atkinson, M Clarke, R Crute, S Dunn, D Hall, J Higgins, P Howell, S Iveson and E Scott

Co-opted Members:

Mrs R Morris

Also Present:

Councillor J Clare

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T Henderson, J Maitland, R Manchester, R Ormerod, A Patterson, P Sexton, M Wilson and Mr G Binney.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held 25 February 2019 were agreed as a correct record. The Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Diane Close noted that in respect of some additional information as requested by Members, this would be circulated within the next week.

The minutes of the Special Meeting held 11 March 2019 were agreed as a correct record, subject to clarification from Mrs R Morris in respect to her comment to read "50 percent of schools requiring improvement or inadequate" and a correction on page 7 to read "GVA per filled job", not "per skilled job".

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

There were no items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties.

6 Media Relations

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer referred Members to the recent prominent articles and news stories relating to the remit of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes).

The articles included: the Bishop Auckland Food Festival workshop line up; planning permission approved for Lidl, KFC, Starbucks and Home Bargains at Peterlee; 150 new jobs being created at ResQ at Seaham; and Heather Mills' brand "VBites" vegan foods to move into the former Walkers Crisps site at Peterlee, creating up to 300 jobs.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

7 Visit County Durham - Development and Marketing Activity

The Chairman introduced the Marketing and Communications Manager, Visit County Durham, Sarah Johnson who was in attendance to provide the Committee with an update report in relation to Visit County Durham (VCD) and their development and marketing activity (for copy see file of minutes).

The Marketing and Communications Manager explained that, as the previous target had been achieved three years early, the target for the value of the visitor economy has been revised, and now set as £1 Billion by the end of 2020. It was noted that this growth would achieve the following impacts: job creation; successful businesses; sustainable businesses; improved visitor offer; better tourism facilities; viable communities; developed offer for visitors and residents; an offer that has adapted to market trends. She explained that there were 850 core tourism businesses and 500 secondary visitor economy businesses. It was noted there was tailored training, on elements such as social media, astro-tourism, weddings and industry events that included conferences and networking. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted that the partnership approach encouraged collaborative working for the benefit of the destination and businesses.

The Committee noted the number of partners in our county and region, including transport and other Local Authorities.

It was explained that there was a number of partnership example activities, including: Celebrating Durham campaign, featuring activity including East Coast Rail Network and London Underground advertising; LNER and the redesign of the Durham Station walkway; and Port of Tyne, two meetings with Strategic Partners, noting that top destinations for cruise ship passengers were, Alnwick Castle, Durham Cathedral, North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and The Bowes Museum/Barnard Castle.

The Marketing and Communications Manager noted that in terms of destination development and national partnerships there was the Discover England Fund, a £40 million programme announced by Government in 2016 to deliver world class products. It was explained that VCD was a partner in three large scale bids: England's Historic Cities – England Originals £1.6 million; the Manchester Gateway Project - £1.5 million; and The Explorer's Road (A1) - £1.4 million.

Members were referred to a view of the website and noted several partner organisations and initiatives, such as the Northern Saints Trails and the International Dark-Sky Association. Members were asked to note business support toolkits, for example for walking visitors or cycling visitors.

The Marketing and Communications Manager explained in terms of destination marketing, VCD worked with strategic partners and tourism businesses, with there being two major annual campaigns: Spring – heritage/history; and Autumn – outdoor activity. Members noted the main aims were to: raise the national profile and appeal of the County; encourage overnight stays, stay longer and spend more; raise shoulder season occupancy; and raise awareness of distinctive Durham experiences. The Committee noted Anita Rani, television presenter and regular on the Countryfile programme, had been involved in promoting the outdoor activity element for 2017/18. Members learned of the activities in relation to "This is History", links to the BBC and articles in the Times newspaper. Members noted travel blogs and the #Durham19 campaign which celebrates the county's current Year of Culture, which covers significant events including Lumiere, Cricket World Cup and the reopening of Auckland Castle. It was explained that VCD had worked with the Evening Standard, Newcastle Chronicle and the Northern Echo as regards articles and spreads within their publications and an Events Guide for 2019, the first of three editions now available.

The Marketing and Communications Manager reminded Members of the upcoming Cricket World Cup, noting The Riverside at Chester-le-Street hosting three of the matches, noting a tour of the trophy taking place 6-8 April and the tournament taking place 30 May – 14 July, specifically in Durham, 28 June, 1 July and 3 July. It was noted that with a global audience estimated at around 1.5 Billion, this represented an excellent opportunity to showcase the County.

Councillors were asked to note that 2019 represented the 10-year anniversary of Lumiere, the largest light festival in the UK. It was added that around 240,000 visitors attended in 2017 and the 2019 event would feature highlights from the previous 10 years.

The Marketing and Communications Manager referred the Committee to destination performance data, noting the economic value, numbers of jobs and visitor numbers from 2016 and 2017.

The Chairman thanked the Marketing and Communications Manager and asked as regards VCD working with the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs), specifically the Chester-le-Street AAP in terms of the upcoming Cricket World Cup. The Marketing and Communications Manager explained that VCD were liaising with the Principal AAP Coordinator, Andrew Megginson and there have been meetings with the Cricket Club and local businesses.

The Chairman asked the Committee for their comments and questions.

Councillor R Crute noted the positive report and that VCD was bucking national trends. He was pleased to note the revised target of £1 billion adding that he felt that in order to move towards this, encouraging more overnight stays would be important. He noted hotel developments in Durham City, Bishop Auckland and Seaham and asked why in those locations. Councillor R Crute noted from previous experience that in some cases issues such as land assembly could be an issue and asked how we helped promote smaller hotels within our smaller towns and villages. The Marketing and Communications Manager explained that in terms of why the specific areas were chosen for the Accommodation Study, which was recently recommissioned, she had not led on the project and would obtain information for the committee. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted that all businesses could receive a record on the County's official tourism website, with the VCD Partnership Scheme being available to provide additional marketing and support benefits. Councillor R Crute noted a number of caravans at Crimdon and asked how such parks were promoted. Councillor E Scott noted the successes as mentioned, and asked regards encouraging overnight stays, citing an example of three holiday lets in Weardale, that were let via AirBnB or similar and were standing empty. The Marketing and Communications Manager explained that the VCD Development Team could offer advice and she would pass on the relevant details.

Councillor E Adam noted page 34 of the report set out the challenges and opportunities and asked as regards the lack of accommodation, the lack of overnight stays and asked if we worked with organisations such as The Caravan Club, various car clubs and large caravan parks. He added that the county had a large area that could be promoted in terms of walking and encouraging, at the least a long weekend stay to be able to enjoy the countryside within County Durham. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted of the two main annual themes, "Outdoors" looked to promote those types of stay.

She added that there was a prominent section within the “thisisdurham” website which featured all the relevant accommodation. She noted that VCD did work with partners as suggested and that the most recent campaigns had focussed on walking, cycling and the outdoors.

The Chairman asked about the use of church halls as accommodation. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted a recent trend of “Champing”, camping in churches, and noted this was an emerging national trend.

Councillor P Howell asked regards a statement on page 34 of the report, “strong neighbouring destination brands” and how we worked to encourage visitors to do both, visit those other locations and County Durham, to maximise numbers and encourage overnight stays. He added he agreed with other Members that the increase to the target to £1 billion was welcomed and asked what would be done to achieve this in terms of activities. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted that the figures were robust, and that work was undertaken in partnership, with activities such as The Explorers Road and England Originals involving a number of visitor destinations. She added that there was close collaboration in terms of other activities with nearby destinations an example being with Northumberland and Cumbria in terms of Dark Skies. It was explained that the #Durham19 initiative would also look to help reach the £1 billion target, and that capitalising on those key events to help push County Durham from being on people’s “wish list” to become an actual visit.

The Chairman added that she felt it was important to push the fact that a 20-mile journey in County Durham was a lot quicker than a 20-mile journey in London or other parts of the country, to encourage travel across our county. Councillor P Howell agreed, adding that travel times rather than distances could be used within promotions.

Councillor J Atkinson noted in the south of the county there was the Stockton to Darlington Railway Project, and that this was an important gateway. He noted there was a lot of work yet to do in this regard however, asked if VCD were involved and explained that it would be important to be able to sustain through to the bicentennial of the railway in 2025. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted that the Managing Director, VCD, Michelle Gorman and the Destination Project Manager, VCD, Craig Wilson were involved, and it was acknowledged it was an important project.

Councillor D Hall asked how in terms of visitor experience we captured and measured our strengths and weaknesses, how VCD linked in with colleagues within the wider Regeneration and Local Services directorate in terms of supporting the visitor economy with specific projects, for example the marina at Seaham and the rail station to be built at Horden. The Marketing and Communications Manager noted the Visitor Experience survey, the next being 2019, asked regards visitor satisfaction and the information was shared with all relevant partners.

She added that within the County Council there was a Tourism Working Group, and this looked at wider issues such as public realm works and transport. It was added that there was the Durham Tourism Management Plan (DTMaP) 2016-2020, and this looked at those issues and the priorities for VCD and partners to deliver against, with the link to be shared with the Committee.

Councillor R Crute noted, in reference to the point made by Councillor J Atkinson, that the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee had noted the upcoming bicentenary of the Stockton to Darlington Railway.

Resolved:

- (i) That the report and presentation be noted.
- (ii) That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee includes, in its work programme for 2019/2020 a further progress report detailing the future performance of VCD in marketing the county as a tourism destination, together with examples of marketing undertaken.

8 Quarter Three: Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19

The Chairman introduced the Principal Accountant, Paul Raine to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter Three, 2018/19 Revenue and Capital Outturn (for copy see file of minutes).

The Principal Accountant reminded Members of the areas reported upon, the General Fund Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme for the Regeneration and Local Services Service.

The Principal Accountant referred Members to the information relating to Quarter Three 2018/19 with the service reporting a forecast underspend of approximately £1.277 million, against a revised budget of £57.724 million. Members noted the major variances were set out within the report and that the service grouping was on track to maintain spending within the cash limit and more details were contained within Appendix Two to the report.

As regards the Capital Programme, the Principal Accountant explained that the revised budget stood at £42.438 million, with a breakdown of the major capital projects given at Appendix Three to the report. Members noted the spend to date of £22.632 million and the Principal Accountant explained some projects would move forward to the 2019/20 budget, details to be provided to Members in due course.

The Chairman thanked the Principal Accountant and asked Members for their comments and questions.

Councillor P Howell noted in terms of the capital programme that he felt investment was better for residents and therefore any lag in the programme was a concern. He noted he wished for more details in terms of delays. In reference to the revenue budget, Councillor P Howell noted the year to date position was £15.017 million compared to a forecast outturn of £56.802 million and asked how this could be explained in order to help the public understand. He also asked as regards the variance in relation to employees, being £90,000 in Quarter Two and £700,000 for Quarter Three. Councillor P Howell noted reference to “posts not filled” and asked whether this was strategic in terms of savings, or a lack of good recruitment.

The Principal Accountant noted with reference to employees, the apparent jump was in part due to delays in appointments, and with part being in terms of medium term financial plan (MTFP) savings. Councillor P Howell asked if the process was managed. Councillor R Crute noted that information as regards officer posts was reported at the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, and the capital programme was monitored monthly and was on spend at the moment.

Mrs R Morris noted she had raised an issue of “early alerts” at a previous meeting and asked if this was an area to look at. The Principal Accountant explained that in terms of recruitment, there was the process to go through and in some cases, there could be a delay. Mrs R Morris noted she understood this, however, in cases where there were unfilled positions, perhaps there was a need for hard decisions in terms of whether posts needed to be filled, especially if it proves to be problematic to recruit to a post. The Principal Accountant noted that would be an issue for each Service to look at as they would still need to be able to deliver their functions.

Councillor J Atkinson noted on page 65 of the report an overspend of £248,000 in relation to Economic Development and asked for further information. The Principal Accountant explained that this related to Employment and Skills and part related to European Union Grant, he noted that outcome payments were less than anticipated and further information would be sought.

Councillor E Adam noted that within Appendix Three there was reference to renewable energy and asked for further information. The Principal Accountant noted the overspend at the moment was £20,000 and further information would be set out at the year end. Councillor E Adam noted information as regards which scheme had overspends would be useful.

Councillor S Dunn noted on page 67 there was reference to “blacksmiths” within the Strategic Transport information. The Principal Accountant noted that this was in reference to fleet management and would be noted accordingly in future. Councillor J Atkinson referred to page 67 and traffic income and asked for further information. The Principal Accountant noted that if there was development in an area, there could be requirements from the Highways Section in terms of improvements such as traffic signals.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Quarter Three 2018/19 Performance Management Report

The Chairman thanked the Strategy Team Leader, Gemma Wilkinson who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter Three, 2018/19 Performance Management Report (for copy see file of minutes).

The Strategy Team Leader reminded Members of the different types of indicators reported, Tracker indicators and Target indicators and the performance reporting arrangements for 2018/19 were via a number of key performance questions (K PQs), aligned to the “Altogether” framework of six priority themes. It was added that currently there was a review in terms of the County Durham Vision and this would be reflected in future performance reporting.

Councillors noted the five area of focus for “Altogether Wealthier” were: do residents have good job prospects; is County Durham a good place to do business; do residents have access to decent and affordable housing; is it easy to travel around the County; and how well do tourism and culture events contribute to our local economy. Members noted infographics relating to performance under each of those areas.

In relation to “do residents have good job prospects” it was noted that there were some positives, with the employment rate for the working age population having increased. It was added that the sample size was small, and the increase was within confidence intervals and therefore this would be clearer from the next set of data in April. The Strategy Team Leader referred Members to a breakdown of the employment statistics set out within the infographic, highlighting the largest gap against national figures related to the employment rate for those with an Equality Act core or work limiting disability. Members noted information relating to several employment support programmes, including the Wheels to Work (W2W) scheme, with work ongoing to look to extend this beyond the current end date of June 2019.

The Chairman noted the involvement of the AAPs in this scheme across five areas and the intention to roll out countywide.

The Strategy Team Leader noted in terms of County Durham a good place to do business there had been an increase in the Gross Valued Added (GVA) per filled job, at a rate greater than the national rate.

It was added that the GVA per filled job figure for the county however was still less than regional and England figures.

Councillors noted the activities of Business Durham included: over 300 jobs at the former Walkers site at Peterlee; £17 million of inward investment value; £6 million of ERDF grant approved; and ongoing activities such as the Future Business Magnates (FBM), Powered by People and Incubator Event at the end of Quarter Three.

It was explained that in relation to access to decent and affordable housing there had been a slight decrease in figures, however, there had been an expectation of an increase due in part to the new duty in relation to the Homelessness Reduction Act. Members noted the work in terms of housing delivery and completion of properties and work of the Chapter Homes and Council Partners in delivering housing to the market.

The Strategy Team Leader explained in terms of it being easy to travel around the County, the progress and projected figures relating to Horden Rail Station and as regards the Council's Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2019-29, having been approved by Cabinet.

The Strategy Team Leader noted the previous presentation and how this related to how well tourism and cultural event contribute to our local economy. She explained as regards the major refurbishment of Binchester Roman Fort, cycling events in the County, as well as the Brass and Book Festivals that had taken place in 2018. Members noted the high return upon investment those activities generated.

The Chairman thanked the Strategy Team Leader and asked Members for their comments and questions on the performance report.

Councillor J Atkinson asked as regards employment, noting in his Division there was large trading estates and asked what work was undertaken to help young people to be ready for work, to ensure they can sustain in the job and not being a cost to local employers. He added that there were issues in terms of both being fit for work and being employable. The Strategy Team Leader noted schemes under the DurhamWorks programme, some of which helped to get young people employment ready. She added that DurhamWorks would look to support young people into employment where appropriate.

Councillor D Hall asked as regards public transport, it not appearing to have been mentioned within question four "how easy was it to travel around the County" and asked as regards Indicators 18, 19 and 20 relating to percentage of A, B and C, and unclassified roads where maintenance was recommended, who decides where maintenance is required and how is it decided, and what was Members' involvement. The Strategy Team Leader explained that there was passenger transport information that could be included for Members information. She added that in terms of roads maintenance this was a new indicator and noted surveys of the road network were conducted and she would seek details for Members as regards this.

Councillor E Adam noted that there had been an item at a recent Special Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee relating to road condition surveys and added that Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Members had been invited to the meeting.

Councillor S Dunn noted statistics on pages 76 of the report relating to employment rate and asked how many of those within the 74.4 percent employment rate were in full-time employment. He added that, in order to have a true picture, it was necessary to understand this and how many people were working multiple part-time jobs, asking whether the 74.4 percent could be artificially high. He noted that the trend for GVA from 2009 to 2017, an increase, though noted the gap between the County and national figures had increased and asked if this was a reflection of the numbers of people struggling on a number of lower paid part-time jobs. He asked if that question was put within surveys, whether individuals worked full-time or a number of part-time positions. The Strategy Team Leader noted that within the County there was a split of 28 percent part-time employment and 72 percent full-time. She added she would look into how this was arrived at, and whether multiple part-time jobs were recorded. Councillor S Dunn noted in his Divisions that 60% of people worked part-time, that being between 16 and 37 hours per week, he noted that the definition of "part-time" was important in being able to understand the actual picture, with in general a full-time position being more economically stable.

Councillor R Crute noted that he felt that it was clear there was an element in terms of the employment figures being somewhat artificial and that by looking at the GVA figures you could see that the increased employment rate was not feeding through to leave households with more disposable income. He added that he felt the number of empty properties being brought back into use being below target should have been indicated in red to denote this. Officers noted they would look into the latter point.

Councillor E Adam noted the issues raised by Councillors S Dunn and R Crute and agreed that looking at the 28/72 split in part-time to full-time employment did not seem to match with the GVA figures reported. He noted the work of VCD as regards the numbers of jobs created, however, felt that many of those would be part-time or lower paid. He asked whether the part-time employment percentage had increased over the last quarter or 12 months. The Strategy Team Leader noted she would look to find out as regards the percentage of part-time employment quarter to quarter.

Councillor P Howell complimented the Strategy Team Leader on the report style, noting it was very clear and helpful. He too noted the issues raised by Councillor S Dunn and felt it was important to be able to have that information to be able to understand the situation, were two or three part-time jobs reported as full-time equivalent, was it an issue of how the data was presented.

Councillor S Dunn noted the points raised by fellow Councillors were correct and highlighted the additional information available via the link within the report was useful and the point made by Councillor E Adam was important in being able to understand a return on investment, noting the successes in terms of our tourism activities and Durham University. He added that those had a seasonal aspect and therefore there should perhaps be a focus on alternatives outside of main holiday seasons and term-time.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Refresh of the Work Programme

The Chairman asked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer to speak to Members in relation to the Council Plan 2016-2019 – Refresh of the Work Programme (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that the report highlighted work that had been undertaken by the Committee within the past year and also looked forward to seeking suggestions from Members to be included within the Committee's work programme for the forthcoming year. Members were reminded that the aims and objectives were aligned to those of the Council Plan and associated plans, as well as the Altogether Wealthier priority theme. It was explained that the work programme for 2019/20 would need to include further progress updates on a number of items considered in 2018/19, systematic reviews of recommendations in previous scrutiny review reports, focused scrutiny meetings and additional areas of overview activity.

It was explained that two areas had been identified for inclusion in the Committee's future draft Work Programme: strategic sites within the County; and Masterplans, noting the latter being at a second-round stage. Members noted this linked to the review undertaken by the Committee in respect of retail support in the County and the Town and Villages Centres report as presented at Cabinet.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer reminded Members that the work programme may have to be tweaked as a result of the new County Vision and that Members would have a further opportunity to comment on the Work Programme at the June meeting.

The Chairman thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer and noted a very busy work programme for the Committee and thanked Members for their work in respect of the Review Group looking at Retail Support.

She reminded Members of the need to retain some capacity within the work programme going forward in terms of ongoing issues such as the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS), CDP, Masterplans and Brexit.

Councillor R Crute noted the uncertainty as regards issues such as Brexit and reminded Members of the new County Vision which would be reported upon in June around the time the Committee would set its Work Programme. He added the main issues would be the Vision, the Strategic Economic Plan, the LIS and how the Shared Prosperity Fund would replace EU Funding, and the skills activity in the county. He agreed with the Chairman in terms of having a degree of flexibility within the Work Programme in order to be able to meet the demands of issues that may arise.

Councillor M Clarke agreed with colleagues and noted interest in visiting the strategic sites within the county and to be mindful of capacity in setting the Work Programme.

Councillor S Dunn noted he felt, as did some other Members, that slightly longer Committee meetings were preferable to a number of additional special meetings. The Chairman noted that some issues raised within meetings that linked directly to a Member's Division could be taken up with Officers outside of the meeting afterward, freeing up time for debate.

Councillor P Howell noted he agreed with Councillor S Dunn in terms of longer meetings being preferable to a number of additional special meetings, and he agreed with Councillor R Crute in terms of having capacity for any issues that may become apparent over the year.

The Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Stephen Gwilym noted the comments as regards special meetings, however, he noted that in some cases they were required where there were statutory deadlines in terms of responses to consultations, such as the Housing Strategy and CDP. He added that additional scheduled meetings had been included within the diary of meetings. Councillor R Crute recognised the hard work of Overview and Scrutiny Members and praised their commitment, noting that the relevance of meetings was the most important factor and reiterated the need for some flexibility to be able to react to issues as they arise.

Councillor D Hall noted the regular updates as set out within the Work Programme and asked if there could be other updates on relevant topics such as: government funding; housing; social rent; and empty homes. He added that he shared the queries raised previously as regards employment and noted that information as regards skills was also important in being able to see the wider context in that respect. Councillor E Scott noted that some issue, such as housing, could benefit from being looked at elsewhere. The Chairman noted the links of housing to economy and jobs and felt it was a natural fit for the Committee.

Councillor R Crute noted that some issues that had been visited by the Committee a number of times were approaching a natural end, and there would be upcoming national and regional issues the Committee would need to react to. He noted housing as an area of concern, with Selective Licensing hopefully being a way to address issues, however, as the evidence base was being gathered he felt this was a topic for inclusion in the Work Programme for 2020 and beyond. Councillor E Scott emphasised she had meant that as housing was such an important issue it warranted particular attention by Members.

Councillors all noted the importance of debate and allowing time for this. The Chairman noted that Overview and Scrutiny Officer worked with presenting Officers in terms of ensuring focussed presentations to allow adequate time for debate within meetings.

Mrs R Morris noted she felt there were certain reoccurring themes: low productivity; and young people not being able to get into meaningful employment. Mrs R Morris explained that she felt that skills were vitally important, especially in areas such as the health sector where shortfall had been identified. She noted that she felt that a focus on skills was important and added that in many cases less information but more explanation on issues was more beneficial.

Councillor P Howell noted the concerns of fellow Members and asked that if there was a volume of work was there scope for sub-groups to look at specific areas. He added there was perhaps opportunity for afternoon meetings following main Committee meetings.

The Chairman noted that, as colleagues would be aware, the Council diary of meetings was very busy, with a number of other meetings such as Planning and Licensing that took up Members' time as well as their work within their Divisions.

Councillor R Crute noted that workloads across all Scrutiny Committees was an issue that would need to be monitored and that being aligned to the thematic groups and priorities of the County Durham Partnership was essential. He added that work should not be duplicated across Committees, though some issues could be cross-cutting and require link up accordingly. Councillor E Adam gave examples where the issues within the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee linked to issues of EU Funding and Brexit, cross-cutting with the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Resolved:

- (i) That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the proposed Work Programme in relation to the current Council Plan 2016-2019 Altogether Wealthier theme.
- (ii) That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee, at its meeting in June 2019, receive a further report detailing the Committee's Work Programme for 2019/20.