



Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date Thursday 27 June 2019
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2 - County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

**Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend.
Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's
agreement.**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the meeting held 26 March 2019 (Pages 3 - 16)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties, if any
6. Media Relations
7. County Durham Economic Partnership - Overview of Activity:
(Pages 17 - 38)
 - (i) Joint Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships
and the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services.
 - (ii) Presentation by Professor Brian Tanner, Chairman, County
Durham Economic Partnership.
8. Quarter Four 2018/19 Performance Management Report:
(Pages 39 - 60)
Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships – Strategy
Team Leader, Transformation and Partnerships.

9. Refresh of the Work Programme: (Pages 61 - 70)
Report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships – Overview and Scrutiny Officer.
10. Minutes from the County Durham Economic Partnership meeting held on 26 April 2019 (Pages 71 - 76)
11. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Lynch
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
19 June 2019

To: **The Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

Councillor M Clarke (Chair)
Councillor R Manchester (Vice-Chair)

Councillors E Adam, J Atkinson, A Batey, R Crute, S Dunn, D Hall, T Henderson, J Higgins, P Howell, S Iveson, L Maddison, J Maitland, R Ormerod, E Scott, P Sexton, W Stelling, T Tucker, M Wilkes and M Wilson

Co-opted Members:

Mr G Binney and Mrs R Morris

Contact: Martin Tindle Tel: 03000 269 713

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.

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**Economy and Enterprise Overview and
Scrutiny Committee**

27 June 2019

County Durham Economic Partnership



**Joint report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and
Partnership and Ian Thompson, Corporate Director of Regeneration
and Local Services**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information in advance of the discussion with Brian Tanner, Chair of the County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP). The discussion will focus on vision and partnership priorities, measures of success, influencing partnership activity to make a difference and continued economic challenges.

Executive summary

- 2 Members will be aware that the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee has on an annual basis invited the Chair of the County Durham Economic Partnership to attend the June meeting of the committee when the future work programme is being discussed.
- 3 This discussion between members and the Chair of the CDEP in the past has resulted in Members identifying further areas for inclusion in the committee's work programme as well as contributing to areas for focused scrutiny review.
- 4 The independent Chair of the CDEP, Brian Tanner, will provide the Committee with a presentation which will focus on:
 - Vision & partnership priorities
 - Measures of success
 - Partnership approach

- Challenges Ahead

A copy of the presentation is attached as appendix 2.

Recommendations

- 5 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the information provided during the discussion and reflect upon any additional areas arising from the presentation for inclusion in the committee's work programme for 2019 - 2020.

Background

- 6 The work programme of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee focuses on the priority areas identified within the context of the Council Plan, Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions, the Sustainable Community Strategy, partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in government legislation.
- 7 In addition, the Committee invites on an annual basis the Chair or Vice-Chair of the County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP) to discuss with members of the committee the priorities of the partnership, activity undertaken and challenges to be faced within County Durham. This discussion has previously provided the ideal opportunity for collaboration, identifying areas of future focus for the Partnership and the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 8 The work programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee is being refreshed for 2019 – 2020 and a report focusing on the committee's future work programme features later on the agenda for the meeting on 27 June 2019. In view of this, the Chair of the CDEP has been invited to attend the meeting on the 27 June 2019 to provide an opportunity for him to comment on the work programme, identify any additional areas for possible inclusion and contribute to any future review activity.

Conclusions

- 9 Overview and Scrutiny members will be aware of: key areas of focus for the partnership; measures of success including detail of County Durham's performance; the partnership approach used and what the CDEP is doing; what is being delivered and key challenges ahead.

- 10 It is intended that the committee will continue to invite on an annual basis the Chair of the CDEP to discuss the work of the CDEP and the committee's future work programme.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact:	Stephen Gwilym	Tel: 03000 268 140
	Diane Close	Tel: 03000 268 141

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable

County Durham Economic Partnership

June 27 2019

Brian Tanner

CDEP Chair



County Durham
Economic Partnership

Vision

- A County of enhanced prosperity and well-being.
- A modern and dynamic County characterised by excellent quality of place, competitive businesses, a highly skilled labour market and high levels of economic activity
- Sustainable places that people want to visit and in which to live, work and invest

Top Priority

to improve employment rate

Participating in drafting “Vision 2035”

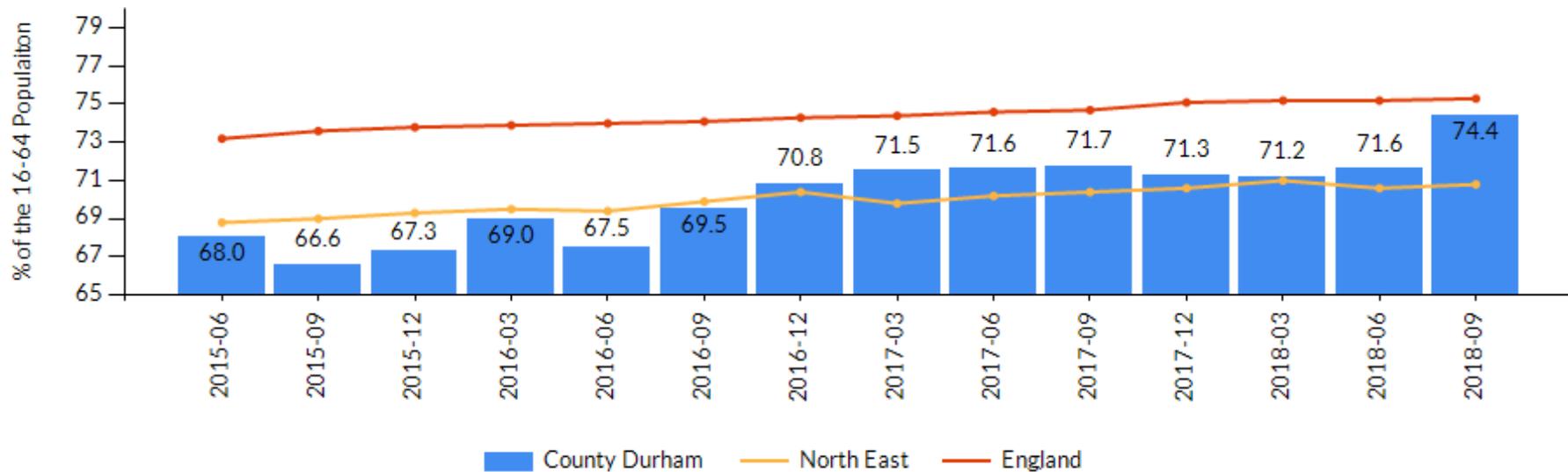


Our Measures of Success

Measure	Target by 2030	Current Performance	National Performance	Date	Status
Employment Rate (working age (16-64) population)	73%	74.4%	75.3%	Dec 2018	
Gross Value Added per head (% of regional value)	87%	83.1% 84.5% 2016	(60.9%) (64.3% 2016)	Dec 2017	
Number of Businesses (Net numbers of additional business enterprises)	4,300	2,240 (105 less than 2017)		July 2018	
Household Disposable Income (% of regional value)	103%	97.7% £15,445 2017 £15,221 2016	(79%) £19,514 2017	May 2019	
Employment Deprived Index Deprivation (Reduce numbers of LSOAs in top 20% employment deprived)	from 174 to 64	150		Nov 2015	

Employment rate

Change in the employment rate in County Durham (16 to 64 population)

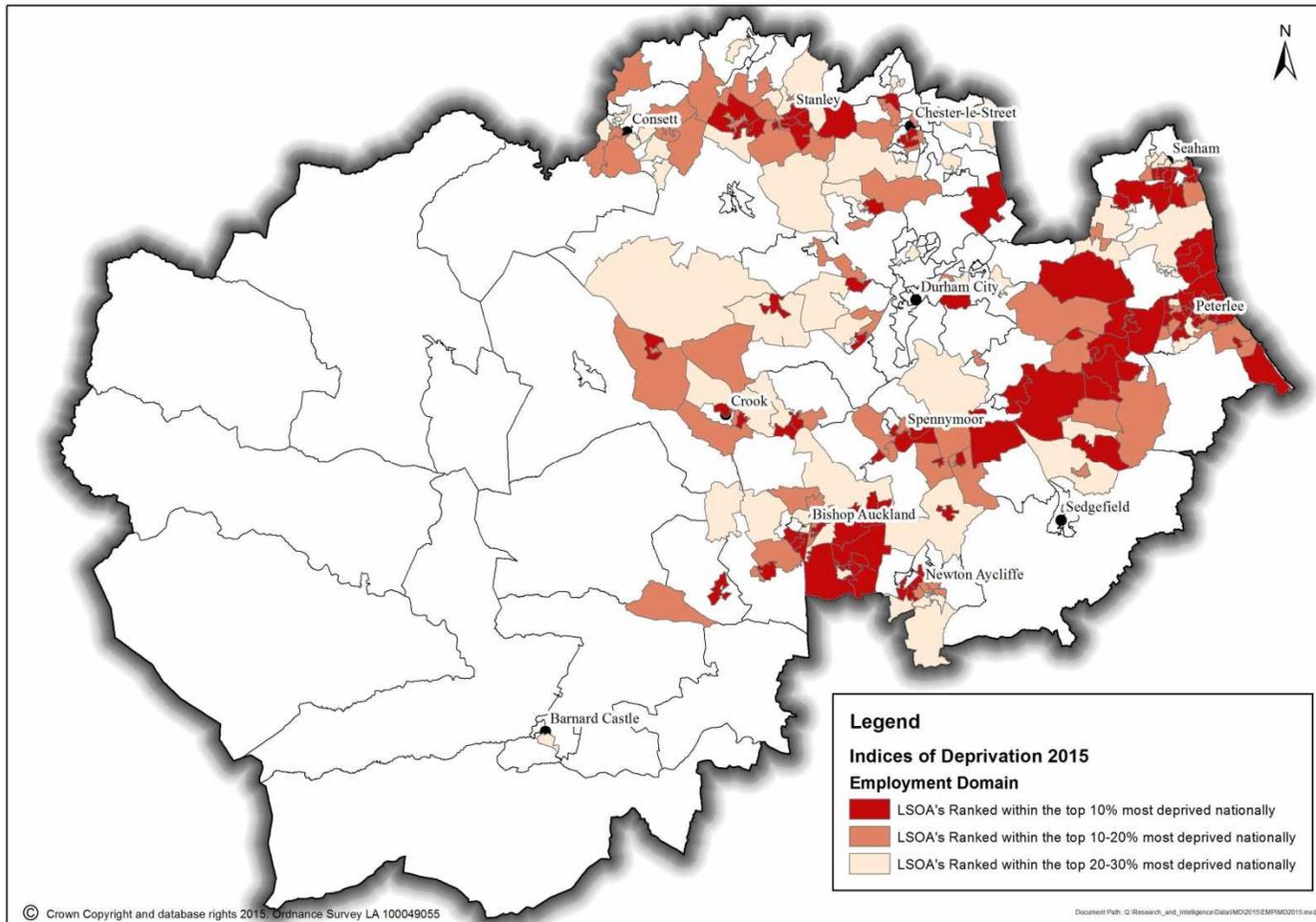


Good news
Need to focus on “better jobs”



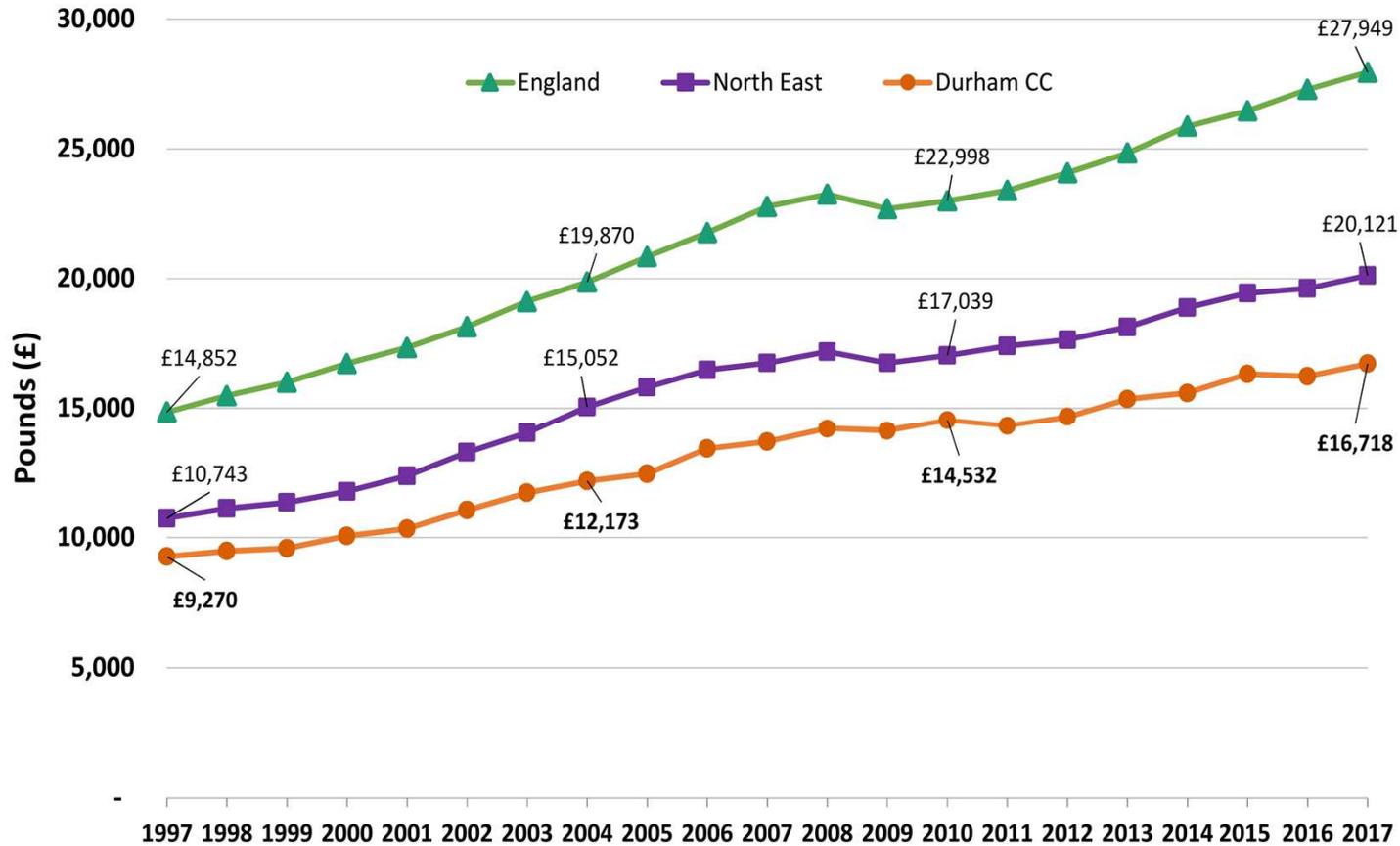
County Durham
Economic Partnership

Employment Deprivation



County Durham
Economic Partnership

GVA per head (£) Compared to Regional and National Targets



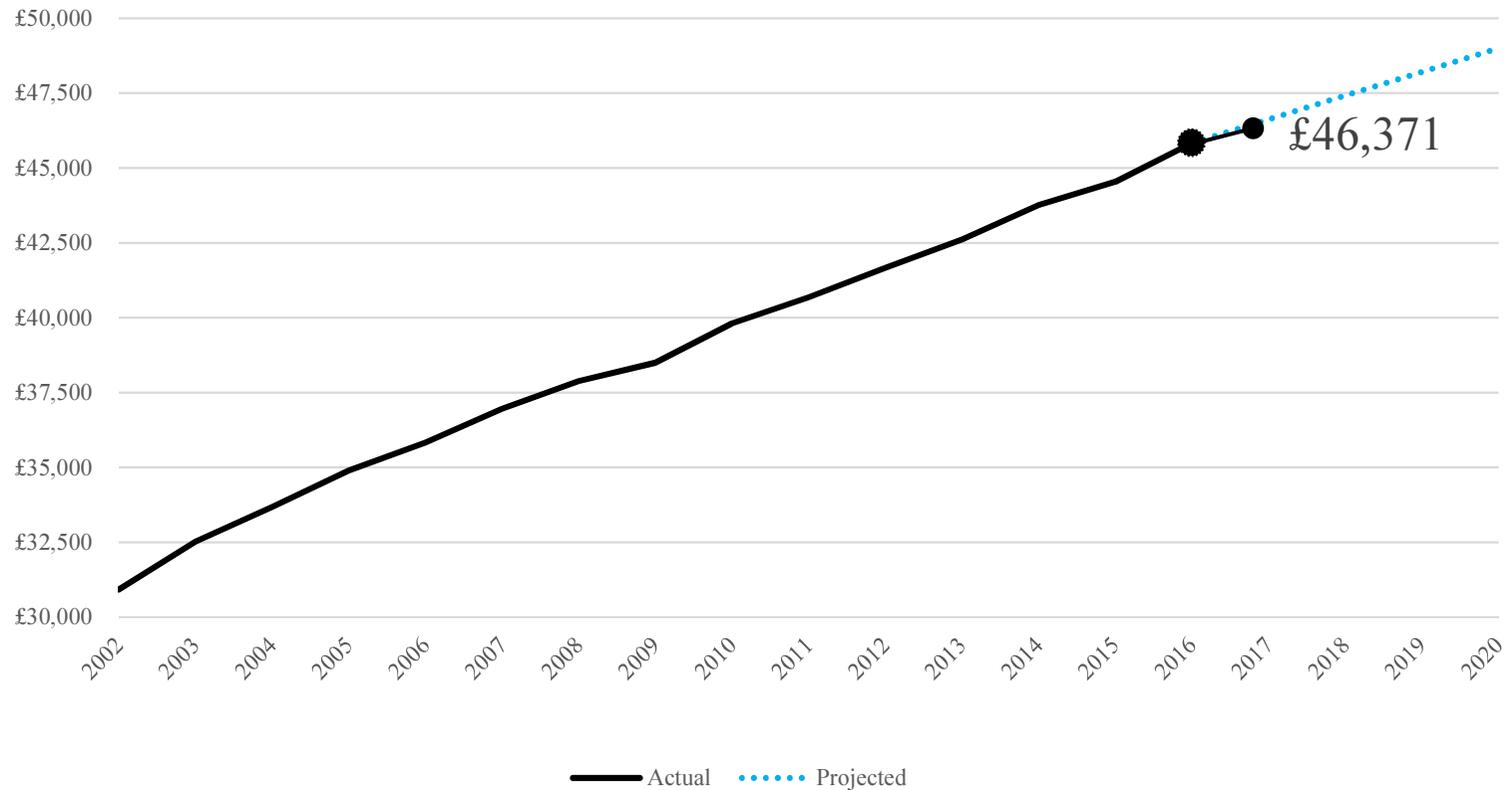
Gap widening
 Presently at 63% of UK average (c.f. target 68%)
 Lower value jobs



GVA Per Filled Job Trend

GVA Per Filled Job (Trend)

2020 target = £49,000



84% of UK average

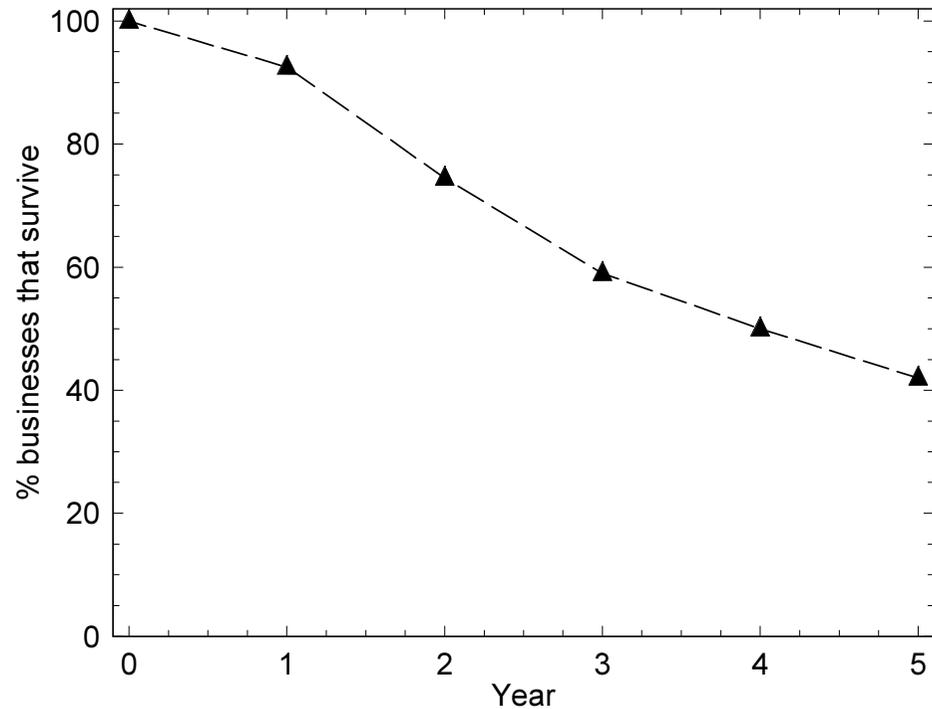


Business Survival

- Over past 5 years an average of 1700 new businesses created in the County each year (1610 in 2017)

but

- an average of 1300 businesses have failed each year (1510 in 2017)
- three year survival rates have steadily increased from **57.5%** in 2010 to **61.6%** in 2014 (survivals to the year 2017)



County Durham
Economic Partnership

Business Creation and Survival

38 businesses per 1000 population
(c.f. 57 UK average)

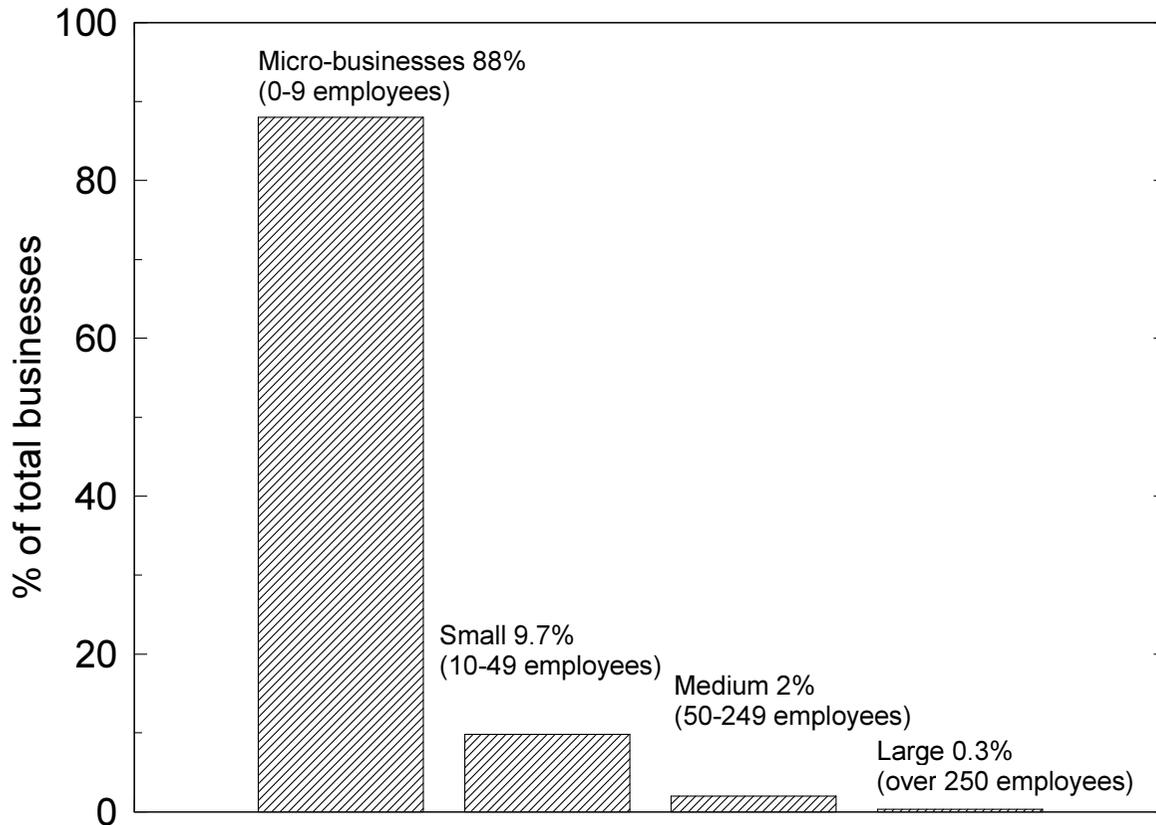
- Need to create more new businesses
- Need to increase survival rate
- Three year survival rates have steadily increased from **57.5%** in 2010 to **61.6%** in 2014 (survivals to the year 2017)

- Business Durham, Salvus House project
- Durham Business Opportunities Programme (ERDF), Enterprise Support in the North East (ERDF), North East Access to Finance (ERDF), Durham Finance, Business Energy Efficiency Project (BEEP)



Mental Health in Small Businesses

Most businesses in County Durham are micro-businesses



Raise awareness
Remove stigma
Owner-managers at risk

Working with Director of Public Health



CDEP Board Restructure

Portfolio approach aligned with National Industrial Strategy

- **6 Pillars**
 - Resources
 - Business Competiveness
 - Ideas & innovation
 - Infrastructure
 - Inclusive Growth
 - People
- **3 cross-cutting portfolios representing**
 - Public Sector
 - Voluntary Sector
 - Business



County Durham
Economic Partnership

Board will Collectively Add Value

by

- **Identifying**, and putting into context, opportunities
- **Informing** partners of these opportunities
- **Influencing** policy makers on the shaping of these opportunities
- **Coordinating** responses to the opportunities



County Durham
Economic Partnership

Challenges Ahead

Brexit

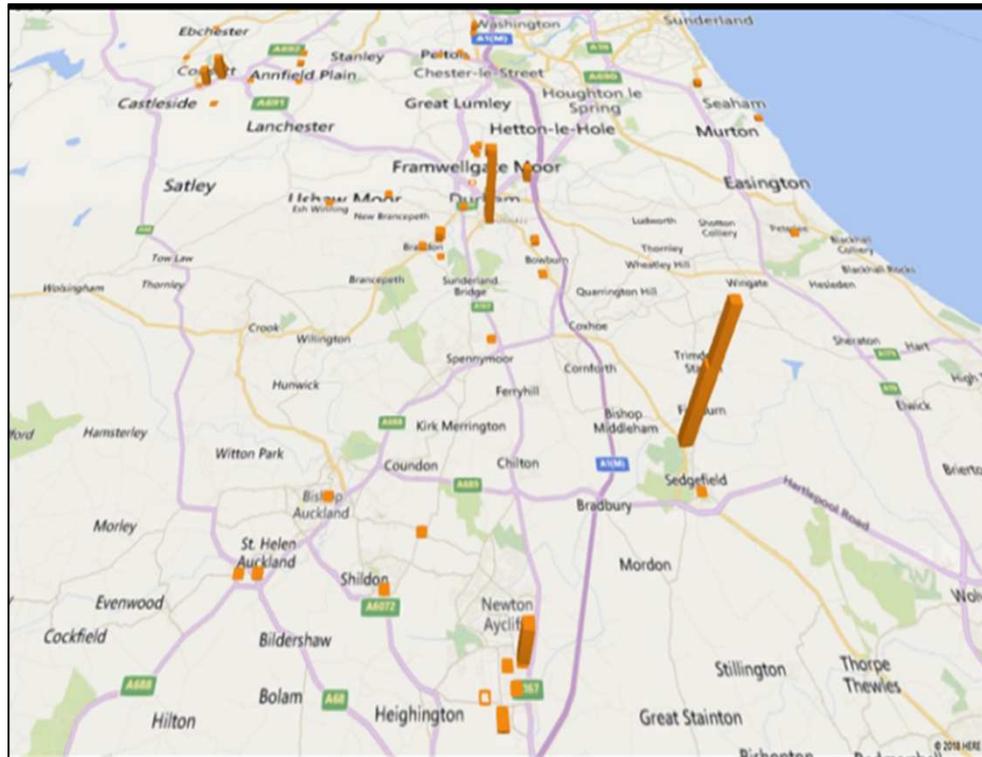
- Estimates show that a no-deal Brexit is likely to have a greater negative economic impact on the North East than any other parts of the UK
- Major impact long term
- Uncertainty having impact now

Low Level of R&D spend

- Businesses may not be equipped to face impact of artificial intelligence

Challenges Ahead

	Total (2017)	HEIs	Business	Spend per head
North East (pop 2.6M)	£707M	34%	55%	£272
East Midlands (pop 4.7M)	£1,938M	17.5%	78%	£412



**Innovate UK
Funding by
location**



UK Shared Prosperity Fund

- Growing regional inequality to urgently be addressed at a national level.
- A UK Shared Prosperity Fund which at least matches the €13 billion that UK regions would have received under the next EU programme.
- Appropriately devolved
- Reduced administrative burden for applicants
- Letter to Minister from Leaders of Less-Developed Regions (including Cllr Henig)
- **Consultation long overdue**

Partnership Approach

- **Continued growth-led policy framework** in line with North East Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan *More and Better Jobs*
- **Investment approach** – place based regeneration, human capital and business growth
- What we're doing through the CDEP:
 - Continuing to **understand** and tackle barriers to investment
 - Continuing to **respond** to change and effectively collaborate
 - **Promoting** Durham as an area to do business and playing to strengths



Continued Delivery

- **Place** based regeneration and growth
 - NetPark, Forrest Park, Aykley Heads, Integra 61
- **Business** investment and growth
- **People** skills and growth
 - DurhamWorks (ESF), Skills support for the Unemployed (ESF), DWP Support (ESF)



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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

27 June 2019

**Quarter Four 2018/19
Performance Management Report**



Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide.

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework for the Altogether Wealthier priority theme.

Performance Report for quarter three, 2018/19

- 2 The performance report for quarter four, 2018/19 is attached at Appendix 2. It is structured around a set of key questions aligned to the Altogether Wealthier priority theme and includes the key performance messages from data available this quarter along with visual summaries and data tables for each key question.

Future Performance Reporting

- 3 As our current vision, which forms the basis of this performance report, is over nine years old and many of the original aims have been achieved, we are developing a new set of proposed ambitions that better reflect the needs and opportunities of County Durham. This new vision will be launched in the autumn and the format and content of this performance report will be modified to align to the new ambitions.

Executive summary

- 4 Overall, the medium-term employment rate remains positive as inward investment into the county continues (£17 million during 2018/19) and the tourism and cultural sector continues to grow and contribute more to our local economy (now £870 million annually). However, the widening gap between ourselves and the national rate in household earnings for full-time employees is a cause for concern (a gap that currently stands at £3,536 per year), as is the employment gap between those with a

disability and those without. We are addressing our concerns through continued engagement and support to businesses across the county, accessing additional funding to drive further economic improvement and building on current tourism and cultural activity through our '2019 Year of Culture'.

Risk Management

- 5 Effective risk management is a vital component of the council's agenda. The council's risk management process sits alongside our change programme and is incorporated into all significant change and improvement projects.

There are no key risks in delivering the objectives of this theme.

Recommendation

- 6 That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the overall position and direction of travel in relation to quarter four performance, and the actions being taken to address areas of underperformance.

Contact: Jenny Haworth

Tel: 03000 268071

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable.

Finance

Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Equality measures are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Human Rights

Not applicable.

Crime and Disorder

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Staffing

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

Accommodation

Not applicable.

Risk

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly performance management report.

Procurement

Not applicable.

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Altogether better



Durham County Council Performance Management Report

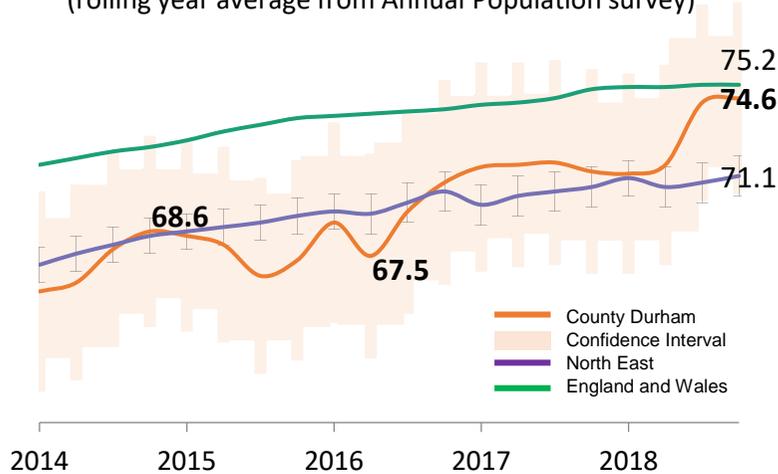
Quarter Four, 2018/19



1 Do residents have good job prospects?

Page 44

% of working age population (aged 16-64) in employment
(rolling year average from Annual Population survey)



County Durham

National

Median gross weekly full-time pay

£490 (2017)
£503 (2018)
↑ 2.7%

£552 (2017)
£571 (2018)
↑ 3.4%

Additional information about the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings is available [here](#)

Work and Health Programme

- For those prevented from working due to a health condition
- throughout 2018,
 - **947** referrals received
 - **617** people engaged

North Durham Assist and South Employability Mentoring

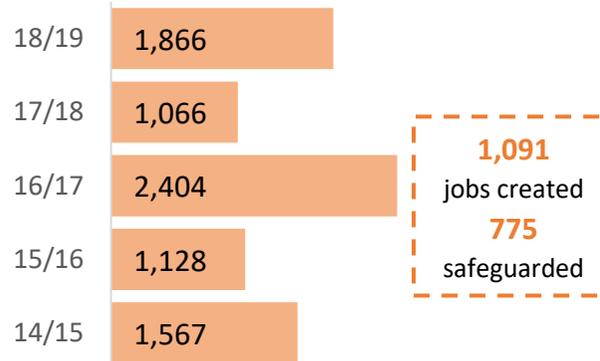
- Services to help people aged 25+ into employment / start their own business
- **82** registered
- **18** supported into employment

Key employment rate stats:

(Jan-Dec 2018)

	County Durham	National
Male	79%	79.9%
Female	70.4%	70.6%
Private sector	76%	78.9%
Part-time	24.7%	24.8%
Without a disability	83.4%	80.8%
With Equality Act core or work limiting disability	49.6%	53.8%

Business Durham jobs created or safeguarded



Wheels to Work (W2W)

- Moped loan scheme to help people into employment, education or training that would otherwise be inaccessible due to poor transport connections or out-of-hour work
- Since 2016 launch, **89** people helped,
 - **74** into employment
 - **12** into apprenticeships
 - **3** into education

Durham Advance

- DurhamWorks youth employment initiative supporting unemployed 18-24 year olds to access appropriate employment, education and training opportunities
- **227** registered
- **45** supported into employment

Additional employment rate information available [here](#)

Altogether Wealthier

- 1 The priority theme of Altogether Wealthier is structured around the following five key questions:
 - (a) Do residents have good job prospects?
 - (b) Is County Durham a good place to do business?
 - (c) Do residents have access to decent and affordable housing?
 - (d) Is it easy to travel around the county?
 - (e) How well do tourism and cultural events contribute to our local economy?

Do residents have good job prospects?

- 2 Creating highly skilled employment locations and better jobs continue to be a key priority. During 2018/19, we approved a detailed phased development plan of the Aykley Heads strategic employment site, which has the potential to attract up to 6,000 new jobs. In addition, Business Durham is continuing to help create jobs by securing inward investment projects.
- 3 At quarter two, the employment rate increased sharply by 2.8 percentage points. Since then, it has remained relatively static at 74.6% which is above the 73% target in the Regeneration Statement. However, we remain conscious that as the rate is an estimate from a sample survey it is possible that this increase is due to random sample variation, although the increase does remain within the estimated confidence intervals (+/- 2.8%). We will be closely monitoring the data over the coming months.
- 4 We remain concerned by the employment gap across County Durham between those with an Equality Act core or work limiting disability and those without a disability. Although the gap increased from 37 percentage points in 2014 to 46.6 percentage points in 2016, it has now fallen to 29.4 points, while the national gap has remained stable at around 27 points.
- 5 Households with low incomes also remain a cause for concern, as although median gross weekly household earnings for employees across County Durham has increased, the gap between full-time employees across County Durham and the national average has widened.

Finance Durham 2018/19 (FD):

£4.3m investment in business

11 investment deals through FD fund

£2.75 million committed for 2019/20

County Durham

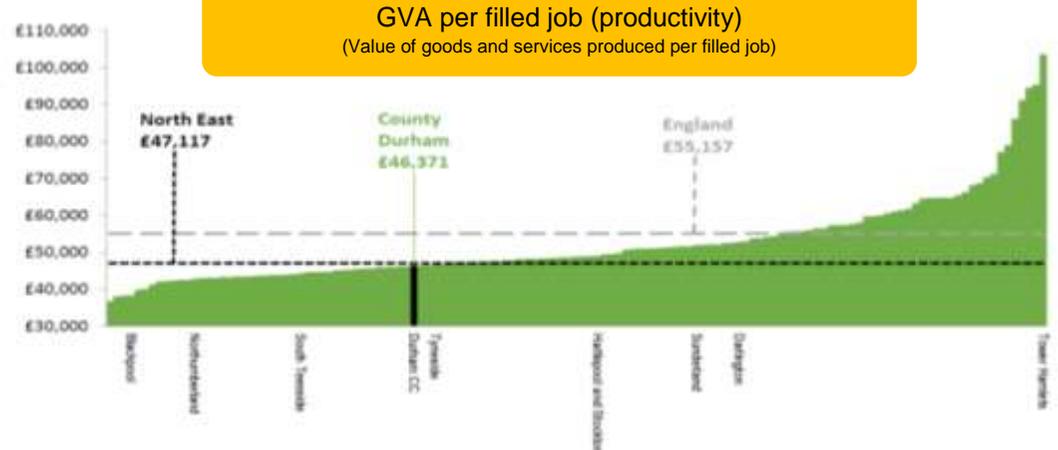
National

GVA per filled job

£39,311 (2009)
£46,371 (2017)
↑ 18%

£46,276 (2009)
£55,157 (2017)
↑ 19%

An explanation of how GVA per filled job is calculated can be found [here](#)



% of businesses surviving in first 5 years:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Durham	92.4	74.1	59.4	50.6	42.6
North East	92.2	75.6	60.4	51.2	43.6
England	91.2	73.8	59.2	50.3	43.1

Business Durham Activity		compared 2017/18
6	inward investments secured	↓ -6
£17m	value of inward investments	
£8.1m	value of new contracts secured	
84%	Business Durham floor space occupied	↑ +0.9pp
1,866	jobs created (1,091) or safeguarded (775)	↑ +75%
£54.8	GVA from jobs created/safeguarded (million)	↑ -12%

County Durham Plan

Consultation on the pre-submission draft closed 8 March 2019.

Approximately **2,800** comments received.

Plan to be submitted to Planning Inspectorate in June, with Examination in Public expected later in the year.

Is County Durham a good place to do business?

- 6 During 2018/19, six inward investment projects, valued at more than £17 million, came to fruition. These projects included luxury house builder Duchy Homes which created eight jobs with more envisaged, VBites, which purchased the former Walkers crisp factory at Peterlee and intends to create 300 jobs, and a plastic recycling plant for Biffa in Seaham.
- 7 Business Durham engaged with almost 1,000 businesses throughout the financial year, through the business park communities, the Durham 2sday networking event, Digital Drive County Durham Programme, Durham Business Opportunities Programme and North East Satellite Applications Catapult.
- 8 The Durham Business Opportunities Programme engages businesses that don't typically take up business support and connects them to development opportunities.
- 9 'Finance Durham' helps small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) struggling to access finance necessary for business and economic growth. During 2018/19, investment deals were completed with, for example: Dyer Engineering, based at Annfield Plain, received £750,000, Parsons Containers, based at Sedgefield, received £500,000 and G20 Water Technology received £200,000 to help increase its Research and Development facilities at its laboratory at NETPark.
- 10 During quarter three, in advance of a showcasing event for engineering and manufacturing companies (EMCON 2018), we supported 21 small and micro businesses which were exhibiting for the first time. Business Durham also launched its 'Powered by People' campaign, which helps businesses, influential developers, employers and partners promote the county and drive growth, as well as the annual Future Business Magnates competition, which involves pupils from local schools developing a product or service made using skills found within the county.
- 11 Bespoke broadband and connectivity services supplied by us is supporting our ambition to transform Aykley Heads into a leading business park. Incoming, high profile organisations are already running their services over DCC supplied fibre infrastructure, and there is potential to expand to meet future needs. We are also supporting developments in the city centre, business centres and industrial parks across the region including NETPark.
- 12 During 2018/19, we successfully bid for funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). This has enabled us to allocate grants of up to 40% to businesses investing at least £100,000 in capital equipment or new premises to support their growth, and grants up to £10,000 to businesses, trading for less than 12 months, through the 'Durham City Incubator', an initiative with Durham University and New College Durham.

- 13 December saw the return of 'free after 3pm' for all council owned parking. The initiative, now in its sixth year, encourages people to shop locally and support local businesses during the festive period. In addition, to support 'Small Business Saturday' on 1 December, all council owned parking was free after 10am.
- 14 During 2018/19, we supported 24 businesses through the Target Business Improvement (TBI) programme, which is fewer than in previous years. The decline in businesses supported is due to various reasons including a shift toward business advice and support, a reliance upon participation of the business, the need for 30% match funding contribution from the business and the size of the individual investments as one scheme may utilise the bulk of available funding. During quarter two, Luciano's Italian Restaurant in Peterlee secured £1 million private sector investment in conjunction with a target business improvement grant, creating 16 full-time equivalent jobs and resulting in the complete refurbishment of the Oaklands pub.
- 15 During quarter four, we submitted four expressions of interest to the Government's recently launched the 'Future High Street Fund'¹, which aims to renew and reshape town centres. The areas are Chester-le-Street, Bishop Auckland, Seaham and Spennymoor. A progress update will be provided in future reports.

Do residents have access to decent and affordable housing?

- 16 Consultation on both the Housing Strategy and Homelessness Strategy closed on 8 March 2019. Comments and feedback are being considered and the final strategies will be submitted to Cabinet for approval in July.
- 17 We continue to work on a business case to widen selective licensing across the county. If approved, this will require private landlords to obtain a licence for each of their properties. Licensing should lead to improved housing standards, reliable longer-term tenancies, fewer empty properties, reduced anti-social behaviour and reduced homelessness.
- 18 The Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA), introduced during 2018/19, introduced new duties to prevent and relieve homelessness, extended the period of 'threatened with homelessness' to 56 days and placed a 'duty to refer' obligation on certain public bodies, such as the NHS or the police.
- 19 Because of the 'duty to refer', we expected more households to access Housing Solutions during quarters three and four. However, this was fewer than anticipated (129 clients during quarter four, which is 48% more than quarter three) so we have enhanced our communications to ensure public bodies are aware of and adhering to the duty, in particular prisons, Department of Work and Pensions and hospitals.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/675-million-fund-to-transform-high-streets-and-town-centres-opens-to-communities>

3. Do residents have access to decent and affordable housing?

Decent and affordable housing (Apr 18-Mar 19)	
1,913	properties improved, adapted or brought back into use
12,264	households accessed Housing Solutions (↓ 8.5% compared to 17/18)
1,007	households helped to stay in their homes
1,036	households helped to move to alternative accommodation

Number of households supported under Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA)



517
Prevention

15.1 Average days spent in temporary accommodation (2018/19)

↑ **3.1** days from 17/18

357 Relief
(within 56 days)

17 Main Duty
(to secure accommodation)

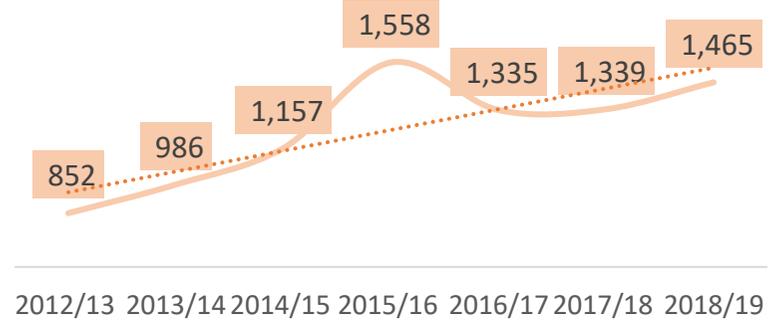
For more information about our duties under the HRA click [here](#)

External Wall Insulation project

In partnership with Durham University **£2.5 million ERDF** funding to improve **220** fuel poor homes with innovative external wall insulation

- It will:
 - save **5,040** tonnes of carbon
 - improve thermal efficiency
 - reduce energy costs for a typical household by **25% (£300 per year)**

Net homes completed



473
affordable homes delivered (2017/18)

- **240** rental units
- **74** shared ownership
- **159** affordable rent and development management properties

No. of empty homes brought back into use following LA intervention



Unless stated all data is Apr 18-Mar 19, compared to Apr 17-Mar 18

- 20 As part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative bid, we have been awarded £700,000 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG). The bid was made sub-regionally by all north east local authorities, with Durham leading the project. The money will be used to help those sleeping rough and struggling with mental health and substance misuse issues and will help fund two regional co-ordinators, a mental health worker, two prison workers and two substance misuse workers. A bid was also made for a Rapid Rehousing programme and we await confirmation of success which, if successful, would include supporting rough sleepers into long term accommodation and the formation of selected 'hubs' in the north east to temporarily house rough sleepers, where required. Changing Lives were successful in the tender process to provide support to homeless singles and families via a new Assessment Centre and various move-on properties in County Durham. A potential Local Lettings Agency that will work with prisons and probations service to house offenders more effectively is being discussed.

Is it easy to travel around the county?

- 21 Results from the 2018 National Highways and Transport Survey (NHT) indicate that satisfaction in relation to highways continues to exceed² national levels.
- 22 During 2018/19, the government committed extra funding of £420 million for local highways authorities to tackle pothole and bridge repairs, and £150 million to improve local traffic hotspots, such as roundabouts. We are using our allocation to resurface unclassified roads.
- 23 We also approved a Strategic Cycling and Walking Delivery plan for 2019-2029, which sets out our goal to help more people experience the benefits of cycling and walking.
- 24 The planning application for Horden Rail Station was approved and car park construction work will commence at the end of May 2019. Construction of the station will begin in September 2019 and will be operational by May 2020.
- 25 During February and March, we carried out public consultation to seek views of the proposed new bus station for Durham City. The current proposal being considered is to replace the existing station in North Road with a more modern, welcoming facility. Further consultation is planned for the end of the year prior to submitting a planning application in early 2020, with work expected to take place between April 2020 and July 2021.

² NHT Survey, performance is significantly better if performance is 4% or more above average and significantly worse if performance is 4% or more below average.

4. Is it easy to travel around the county?

Local passenger journeys on the bus network (compared to 2016/17)



Deerness Bridge

- **£1.5 million** project to replace the bridge
- work completed August 2018

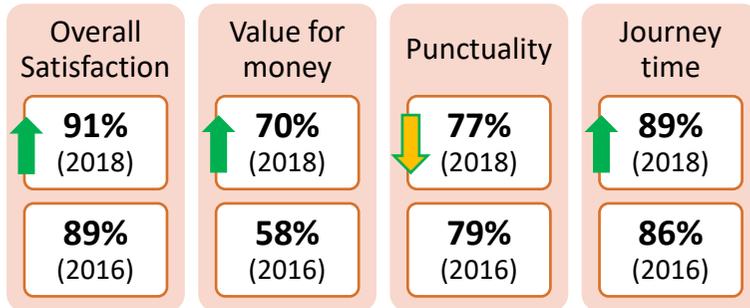
Horden Train Station

- **£10 million** invested
- **70,000** passengers expected each year
- creation of **139** car park spaces & new bus stops

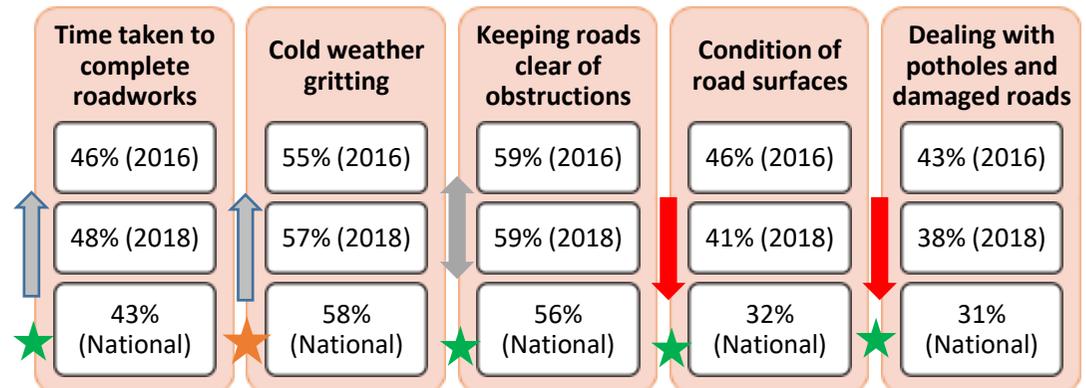
Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan 2019-2029

- **Key actions include:**
 - requiring new developments and roads to include cycling and pedestrian routes
 - completing construction of the Great North Cycleway
 - constructing Cycling Super Routes linking key settlements within 5 miles of Durham City
 - Implementing practices that enforce safety and attractiveness of cycling/walking

Transport focus bus passenger survey – autumn 2018 (compared to same period 2016)



National Highways and Transport Survey: Satisfaction with...



Delay on locally managed 'A' roads	Average delay (seconds per vehicle per mile)	
	2015	2018
County Durham	21.2 (2015)	23.3 (2018)
England	44.6 (2015)	47.3 (2018)

↑ 2.1 spvpm (County Durham)
↑ 2.7 spvpm (England)

(calculated across complete 24-hour period, including weekdays, weekends, bank holidays etc.)

- 26 We will undertake civil enforcement of bus lanes using a column mounted camera, taking over responsibility from Durham Constabulary during the summer 2019. Enforcing bus lanes by camera will encourage greater compliance to the restriction which in turn will improve bus journey times, increase service reliability and encourage sustainable transport.

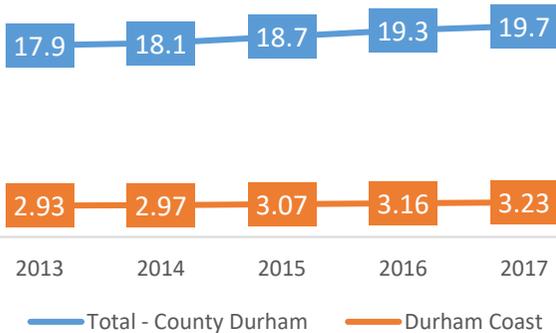
How well do tourism and cultural events contribute to our local economy?

- 27 Tourism and cultural events contributed almost £870 million³ to the county's economy in 2017, exceeding the 2014 benchmark of £752 million by almost £120 million (+15%) and meeting the 2020 target of £863 million ahead of schedule.
- 28 Key future activity to build on this success includes opening Auckland Castle to the public, following restoration work, at the end of 2019 (its walled garden and glass house will follow in 2020) and the 2019 Year of Culture, in conjunction with partners, which will showcase our programme of arts and sporting activities taking place over the next 12 months.
- 29 Established events such as Lumiere, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2019, BRASS, Bishop Auckland Food Festival, Fire and Ice Festival and Kynren, will be held alongside new activities and celebrations such as the Cricket World Cup, Durham Running Festival, Seaham Food Festival and Norman Cornish Centenary Exhibitions.
- 30 In addition, a series of cultural activities and exchanges will mark the 50th anniversary of Durham's twinning with the German city of Tübingen, and the Auckland Project's Spanish Gallery and Faith Gallery will open in Bishop Auckland.
- 31 We are encouraging organisers of community events to join in by using the hashtag #Durham19.
- 32 We are continuing to apply for funding to enhance our environment and encourage visitors. If successful, £1.6 million of Heritage Lottery Funding will help restore Seaham's historic character, bring vacant properties into use, upgrade paving and public spaces, and develop a historic/cultural quarter at the seafront end of Church Street. We have also submitted a bid for £1.5 million from the Coastal Communities Fund for a Crimdon Coastal Hub comprising of a café, public toilets, and a community, educational and volunteer space. Updates will be provided throughout 2019/20.

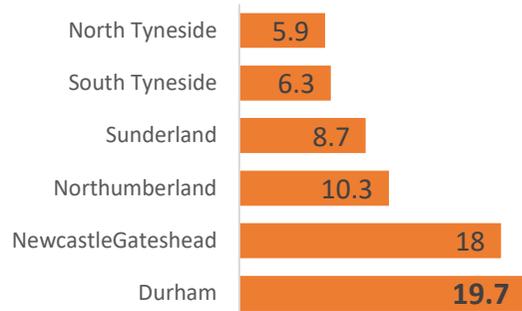
³ [Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor \(STEAM\)](#)

5. How well do tourism and cultural events contribute to our local economy?

Number of visitors (million)



Visitor Numbers 2017³ (million)



Overall Visitor Expenditure 2017³

(£) millions



Generated by the visitor economy

£866.71m

(↑4.9%)

Employed in tourism

11,682

(↑ 4.7%)

93% satisfaction with visitor information network (2018/19)

↑ 2pp compared to 2017/18

Durham City Town Hall
5,258 visitors
(Dec 18-Mar 19)

Vélo North

- closed road cycling event will take place September 2019
- offers a choice of 50 or 100 mile routes
- event will also feature diverse programme of community events and activities aimed at encouraging people to take up cycling and lead a healthier more active lifestyle.

2018 Tour Series (May 2018)

- 10,000 visitors
- £326,471 gross expenditure impact
- £158,036 net visitor expenditure



Brass Festival (July 2018)

- 23,757 visitors
- £492,383 net visitor spend
- £873,732 total net economic impact
- £115,000 DCC investment
- 760% ROI



Durham Book Festival (October 2018)

- 7,983 visitors
- £104,868 net visitor spend
- £548,256 total net economic impact
- £75,000 DCC investment
- 731% DCC ROI



North Pennines Stargazing Festival (Oct-Nov 2018)

- £118,748 estimated economic benefit
- 1,512 attendees (↑ 50% from 2017)
- £8.50 ROI for every £1 spent



Bishop Auckland Food Festival (April 2019)

- Almost 30,000 visitors
- More than 150 traders



Unless stated all data is 2017 compared to 2016

- 33 In conjunction with our partners, we organised a series of high profile equality awareness events during 2018/19. These events included Durham Pride (May 2018), Holocaust Memorial events (January 2019) and International Women's Day event (March 2019).
- 34 The Pride event, which promoted community cohesion and actively demonstrated support for our LGBT+ community, was attended by more than 15,000 people.
- 35 With Eva Clarke, who is a holocaust survivor, as a guest speaker, Holocaust Memorial Day highlighted the importance of tackling prejudice and hate. 200 students from nine schools attended the event at Durham Cathedral and approximately 400 people attended community events in Bishop Auckland, where there is the large Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) population.
- 36 Three inspirational women, Sue Snowdon, the Lord Lieutenant of County Durham, Rachel Mackenzie, World Thai-boxing champion and Kate Fox, poet and comedian, shared the stage of the free event at Bishop Auckland Town Hall, on International Women's Day. The event aimed at encouraging and inspiring girls and women across the county. Local schools put on theatre and dance performances and the event coincided with the 'No Man's Land' exhibition which provided an insight into the bravery of women during WW1 by uncovering their stories.

Key Performance Indicators – Data Tables

There are two types of performance indicators throughout this document:

- (a) Key target indicators – targets are set as improvements can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
- (b) Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set as they are long-term and/or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners.

A guide is available which provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2017/18 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet or can be requested from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

KEY TO SYMBOLS

	Direction of travel	Benchmarking	Performance against target
GREEN	Same or better than comparable period	Same or better than comparable group	Meeting or exceeding target
AMBER	Worse than comparable period (within 2% tolerance)	Worse than comparable group (within 2% tolerance)	Performance within 2% of target
RED	Worse than comparable period (greater than 2%)	Worse than comparable group (greater than 2%)	Performance >2% behind target

National Benchmarking

We compare our performance to all English authorities. The number of authorities varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils, for example educational attainment is compared to county and unitary councils however waste disposal is compared to district and unitary councils.

North East Benchmarking

The North East figure is the average performance from the authorities within the North East region, i.e. County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-On-Tees, South Tyneside, Sunderland. The number of authorities also varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils.

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at performance@durham.gov.uk

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
1 Do residents have good job prospects?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
1	% of working age population in employment	74.6	2018	Tracker	71.3	75.2	71.1			Yes
				N/a	GREEN	AMBER	GREEN			
2	Per capita household disposable income (£)	15,221	2016	Tracker	15,496	19,878	15,595			No
				N/a	AMBER	RED	RED			
3	Number of gross jobs created or safeguarded as a result of Business Durham activity	3,866	2018/19	Tracker	1,066					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
4	% of 16 to 17 year olds in an apprenticeship	7.9	as at Feb 2019	Tracker	9.2	5.4	7.2	6.9		Yes
				N/a	AMBER	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN		

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
2. Is County Durham a good place to do business?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
5	Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita in County Durham (£)	16,718	2017	Tracker	16,513	27,430	20,121			No
				N/a	GREEN	RED	RED			
6	Number of registered businesses in County Durham	17,150	2018	Tracker	17,120					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
7	Value (£M) of new contracts secured	8.1	2018/19	Tracker	New indicator					Yes
				N/a	N/a					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
2. Is County Durham a good place to do business?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
8	Value (£M) of GVA growth from jobs created	113.5	2018/19	10	31.3					Yes
				GREEN	GREEN					
9	Number of Inward Investments secured	6	2018/19	Tracker	12					Yes
				N/a	RED					
10	% of Business Durham business floor space that is occupied	84.0	Jan-Mar 2019	Tracker	83.1					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
3. Do residents have access to decent and affordable housing?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
11	Number of properties improved, adapted or brought back into use	1,913	2018/19	Tracker	New indicator					Yes
				N/a	N/a					
12	Number of empty properties brought back into use as a result of local authority intervention	186	2018/19	150	198					Yes
				GREEN	RED					
13	Number of net homes completed	1,465	2018/19	Tracker	1,339					Yes
				N/a	GREEN					
4	Number of affordable homes delivered	473	2017/18	200	322					No
				GREEN	GREEN					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
Do residents have access to decent and affordable housing?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
15	Number of households accessing the Housing Solutions Service	12,264	2018/19	Tracker	13,397					Yes
				N/a	N/a					
16	Number of households helped to stay in their home	1,007	2018/19	Tracker	New indicator					Yes
				N/a	N/a					
17	Number of households helped to move to alternative accommodation	1,036	2018/19	Tracker	New indicator					Yes
				N/a	N/a					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER
4. Is it easy to travel around the county?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
18	% of A roads where maintenance is recommended	3	2017/18	Tracker	3	3			2016/17	No
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN				
19	% of B and C roads where maintenance is recommended	4	2017/18	Tracker	3	6			2016/17	No
				N/a	AMBER	GREEN				
20	% of unclassified roads where maintenance is recommended	21	2017/18	Tracker	20	17			2016/17	No
				N/a	AMBER	RED				
21	Highways maintenance backlog (£millions)	187.6	2017	Tracker	191.7					No
				N/a	GREEN					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER

4. Is it easy to travel around the county?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
22	Bridge Stock Condition – Principal Roads	80.0	2017	Tracker	83.8					No
				N/a	RED					
23	Bridge Stock Condition – Non-Principal Roads	81.0	2017	Tracker	83.7					No
				N/a	RED					

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER

5. How well do tourism and cultural events contribute to our local economy?

Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
24	Number of visitors to County Durham (million)	19.71	2017	Tracker	19.3					No
				N/a	GREEN					
25	Number of jobs supported by the visitor economy	11,682	2017	Tracker	11,158					No
				N/a	GREEN					
26	Amount (£ million) generated by the visitor economy	866.71	2017	Tracker	806					No

Other additional relevant indicators

TOGETHER BETTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE										
1. Are children, young people and families in receipt of universal services appropriately supported?										
Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
28	Average point score per A level entry of state-funded school students	33.4	2017/18 (academic year)	Tracker	31.9	32.4	32.5			Yes
				N/a	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN			
30	% of 16 to 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	4.7	Dec 18-Feb 19	Tracker	4.6	2.6	4.2			Yes
				N/a	AMBER	RED	RED			
4. Are we being a good corporate parent to Looked After Children?										
Ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to						Data updated this quarter
				Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different	
65	% of care leavers aged 17-18 in education, employment or training (EET)	64	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	82.3	64	66	64		Yes
				N/a	RED	GREEN	RED	GREEN	2017/18	
66	% of care leavers aged 19-21 in education, employment or training (EET)	54	as at 31 Mar 19	Tracker	59.3	51	52	58		Yes
				N/a	RED	GREEN	GREEN	RED	2017/18	

**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**

27 June 2019

**Refresh of the Economy and
Enterprise OSC Work
Programme 2019 - 2020**



**Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and
Partnerships**

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to provide for members consideration an updated work programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee for 2019 – 2020.

Executive summary

- 2 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed at its meeting on 26 March 2019 to refresh its work programme for 2019 - 2020.
- 3 At that meeting members identified a number of areas for further progress reports together with some new areas for inclusion in the committee's work programme for 2019 – 2020.
- 4 In accordance with the discussion at the March meeting, a work programme for 2019-2020 has been prepared and is attached as Appendix 2. The work programme is flexible to enable additional items to be accommodated during the year.

Recommendations

- 5 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to:
 - a) Discuss and agree the new work programme 2019 – 2020 as detailed at appendix two.
 - b) Identify a topic for in depth scrutiny review.

Background

- 6 At the meeting on the 26 March 2019, the committee considered the actions identified within the Council Plan 2016-2019 for the Altogether Wealthier priority theme and agreed to refresh its work programme to include a number of these actions. In addition, topics have also been identified that are in-line with the Council Plan, Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy, partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in government legislation.

Detail

- 7 In accordance with this decision, a work programme for 2019 – 2020 has been prepared and is attached at appendix two. The work programme is very comprehensive including areas for further progress reports and new areas identified by members of the committee which are relevant to the remit of the committee. The work programme is also flexible providing an opportunity for topics to be added throughout the year.
- 8 Members are encouraged to identify areas for focused scrutiny investigation (in depth and light touch reviews) however it is for the committee to determine as to whether a topic for focused review is identified when considering their future work programme.

Conclusion

- 9 The work programme identifies areas of work that fall within the remit of Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee. However, it is flexible to allow for topics to be added if the committee determines throughout the year.

Background papers

- Council Plan 2016 – 2019
- Refresh of work programme report to Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 26 March 2019

Contact:	Stephen Gwilym	Tel: 03000 268140
	Diane Close	Tel: 03000 268141

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Not applicable

Finance

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

Not applicable

Human Rights

Not applicable

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable

Staffing

Not applicable

Accommodation

Not applicable

Risk

Not applicable

Procurement

Not applicable

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O/S Review		When	Who	Outcome	Comment
<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2019 TO 2020 Economy and Enterprise OSC</p> <p>Lead Officer: Stephen Gwilym</p> <p>Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Diane Close</p> <p>IPG Contact: Andy Palmer</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>O/S Review - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan</p> <p>Scrutiny/Working Group – In depth Review</p> <p>Overview/progress – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review</p> <p>Performance – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets</p>					
Retail Support provided by DCC	E&E OSC 7 November 2019 Further update to special meeting in March/April 2020 TBC	Graham Wood, Chris Myers Wendy Benson (ReaL)	Members will receive detail of progress made in relation to the key findings and recommendations contained in the Scrutiny review report, the Town and Village Centres report and the resulting future approach to masterplans.	Members will be aware of the progress made by DCC and key partners in relation to the key findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Retail Support review report, the Town and Village Centres report and the future approach to masterplans.	
<p>Overview/Progress</p>					
Transport activity	E&E OSC 24 September 2020 (Invite ESC OSC members)	Adrian White/Andy Leadbeater (ReaL)	Members will receive detail of transport activity at a regional and local level.	Members will be aware of transport activity undertaken at a regional and local level.	

EU and Regional funding	E&E OSC 10 January 2020	Heather Orton/Claire Williams (ReaL)	Members will receive information on various regional and EU funding received in the county together with detail of various projects.	The committee will have received detail of progress made in relation to both regional and EU funded projects together with detail of any future funding available from Government.
Strategic sites (Plus, Visits – details TBC)	E&E OSC 10 January 2020	Ray Brewis/Tony Forster/ Peter Mc Dowell (ReaL)	Members will receive an overview of strategic sites in the county which will be linked with visits providing an opportunity for members to see the results of investment in those sites.	Members will know the various strategic sites in the county, investment in the sites, how the sites are marketed and future opportunities and challenges.
County Durham Plan	E&E OSC Date (TBC)	Mike Allum/ Michelle Robinson (ReaL)	Overview and Scrutiny members have previously fed into the Preferred Options consultation. Members will receive an update on the process including timescales.	Members will be aware of the process for the remaining stages of the CDP.
Local Industrial Strategy	E&E OSC 24 September 2019	Glenn Martin/ Claire Holt (ReaL)	Members will be provided with detail of the process and progress of the Local Industrial Strategy.	The committee will have received detail of the process and the further development of the Local Industrial Strategy.
County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP)	E&E OSC 27 June 2019	Brian Tanner/ Andy Bailey (Chair CDEP)	Members will be provided with detail of the priorities of the CDEP together with future challenges and opportunities identified for the county.	Members will have detail of the priorities of the CDEP, future opportunities and challenges to be faced within County Durham. This will assist the committee to identify areas of focus within its future work programme.
DurhamWorks Programme (YEI Programme)	E&E OSC 26 March 2020 (Invite C&YPs OSC members).	Linda Bailey /Helen Radcliffe (C&YP)	Members continue to monitor the progress and performance of the programme.	Members will have the opportunity to monitor the performance of the programme.

Digital Durham Programme	E&E OSC 10 January 2020	Alan Patrickson/ Steve Hodgson (Resources)	Members will receive detail of progress in relation to Digital Durham Programme how it has supported businesses in the county and detail of any other projects/funding available for connectivity across the county.	Members will be aware of the development and delivery of the Digital Durham Programme and how it is supporting business in the county together with detail of any additional projects/funding for connectivity in the county.
Business Durham	E&E OSC 7 November 2019	Brian Archer (ReaL)	Members will be aware of the work undertaken by Business Durham in supporting the business community in County Durham.	Members will have the opportunity to question and comment on the business support activity provided by Business Durham to the business community. The committee will also be made aware of any opportunities and challenges.
Visit County Durham (VCD)	E&E OSC 7 November 2019	Michelle Gorman/ Sarah Johnson (ReaL)	Members will receive detail of the activity undertaken by VCD to promote the County as a visitor destination.	Members will be aware of the activity undertaken by VCD to promote the County as a visitor destination and will have the opportunity to comment on the performance of VCD.
Employment in the county	Special E&E OSC 6 December 2019	Michael Fleming/ John Mitchell/ Gemma Wilkinson/ Glenn Martin (TaP) (ReaL)	The committee has previously asked for a focused meeting looking at employment in the county. Members will receive a breakdown of employment statistics for the county including detail of F/T and P/T employment, sectors of employment, wages etc.	The committee will have received a breakdown of the relevant employment statistics and will have had the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions.

NELEP - Local Industrial Strategy and Skills Advisory Panel	E&E OSC 21 February 2020 TBC	Richard Baker/ Michelle Rainbow (NELEP)	Members will receive an update on the work of the NELEP including detail of progress of the Local Industrial Strategy and the work and responsibilities of the Skills Advisory Panel.	Members have previously received an overview of the work of the NELEP and will receive an update on current work, areas of focus, progress of the Local Industrial Strategy and the responsibilities of the Skills Advisory Panel.
Business, Enterprise and Skills Group (CDEP)	E&E OSC 21 February 2020 TBC	Sue Parkinson (CDEP)	The committee will receive detail of the work undertaken by the group and how it will link to the Skills Advisory Panel.	Members will be aware of the work undertaken by the group to promote and support Business, Enterprise and skills in the county. In addition, detail will be provided of how the group will link to the Skills Advisory panel of the NELEP.
Town and Village Centres Report	Special E&E OSC March/April TBC	Graham Wood (ReaL)	Members will receive detail of progress made in relation to the key findings identified in the report.	Members will be aware of the work undertaken by DCC to improve our town centres.
Housing - Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Homelessness Strategy	E&E OSC Special housing meeting Jan 2020 TBC (Invite all O&S members).	Marie Smith (ReaL)	The committee has previously provided comments on the Homelessness Strategy and members will receive an update on the further development of the strategy following the consultation.	Members will have received a summary of the main comments received via the consultation, detail of how the strategy has been developed to respond to these comments and how the strategy will proceed.
Housing Strategy	E&E OSC Special housing meeting Jan 2020 TBC (Invite all O&S members).	Graeme Smith (ReaL)	Members have commented on the Housing Strategy and will be provided with detail of feedback from the consultation and further development of the strategy.	Members will be aware of the further development of the Housing Strategy.

Private Rented Housing Sector and Empty Homes	E&E OSC Special housing meeting Jan 2020 TBC (Invite all O&S members).	Shirley Janes/ Joanne Waller (ReaL)	Members will receive detail of various initiatives being undertaken with the private rented sector in County Durham, including schemes and projects to bring empty homes back into use.	The committee will be aware of various initiatives undertaken with the private rented housing sector in the county and schemes to bring empty homes back into use including the 'Tackling Empty Properties Initiative'.
Selective Licensing	E&E OSC 24 September (update) Special meeting Nov TBC Special housing meeting Jan 2020 TBC (Invite all O&S members).	Lynn Hall (ReaL)	Members will receive an update on Selective Licensing in Sept followed by an opportunity to feed into the consultation in November and then a further update at the special meeting in January.	Members will be updated on the proposed Selective Licensing Scheme to be introduced in County Durham and will have the opportunity to feed into the consultation process.
Social Housing Providers	E&E OSC Special housing meeting January 2020 TBC (Invite all O&S members).	Lynn Hall (ReaL)	Members will be aware of arrangements in the county for engagement by DCC with social housing providers.	Members will be aware of the mechanisms used by DCC to engage with social housing providers in the county.
Performance Report	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Quarter 4 Quarter 1 Quarter 2 Quarter 3	27 June 2019. 24 Sept 2019 10 Jan 2020 26 March 2020	TBC	Members using performance management information to inform the work programme and possible review activity.	Summary information to Members.
Budget Report	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Quarter 4 Quarter 1 Quarter 2 Quarter 3	24 Sept 2019 24 Sept 2019 10 Jan 2020 26 March 2020	Paul Raine (ReaL - Finance)	Detail of budget	Summary information to Members.

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MINUTES

Meeting	County Durham Economic Partnership Board
Date of Meeting	Friday 26 th April 2019
Time	13.00 – 15.00
Venue	Conference Room 2 53-54, County Hall

Attendees:

Brian Tanner (BT)	Chair
Sue Parkinson (SP)	Resources
Brian Archer (BA)	Business Competitiveness
Bill Fullen (BF)	Inclusive Growth
Dawn Fairlamb (DF)	People
Jon Gluyas (JG)	Ideas and Innovation
Ian Thompspon (IT)	Without Portfolio
Jo Laverick (JL)	VCS
Simon Hanson (SH)	Business
Andy Bailey (ACB)	Partnerships, Durham County Council
Angela Brown (AB)	Partnerships, Durham County Council

Speakers

Cllr Batey (Cllr AB)	Durham County Council
Diane Close (DC)	Durham County Council
Catherine Johns (CJ)	Business Durham

1. Welcome

BT thanked everyone for attending today. He introduced Andy Bailey to the Board, ACB is the new Team Leader for the Partnership Team.
 DF and JL were also introduced to the Board as a new Board members.
 BT mentioned that this was BF first meeting as a Board member. Cllr Batey, Diane Close and Catherine Johns were all welcomed

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes from the meeting in January were circulated in advance of the meeting and were agreed as a true and accurate record

Matters Arising:

- BT spoke to Dawn Fairlamb in relation to asking her to be portfolio rep
- SP spoke to Michelle Rainbow who will be alternate to DF
- All Board members have now prepared plan on page as requested. It is thought there may need to be a Task and Finish group to discuss these and see what can be done. ACB suggested this could be done electronically.
- BT informed the Board that he had written to Tarryn on behalf of the CDEP to thank him for his support over the years.
- The Insights event took place in March – ACB has circulated information for this

3. Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee Support provided to the retail sector by Durham County Council – Presented by Diane Close and Cllr Alison Batey

Cllr AB discussed the report which had been circulated to the Board from Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Review of support provided to retail sector by Durham County Council. The purpose of the report was to present the key findings and recommendations of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Review Group report focusing on the support provided by DCC to the retail sector.

It was an intense investigation over a short period of time which helped to develop the full report. Cllr AB thanked IT and SH for supporting this. She also thanked the Board for allowing her to attend today and being able to share the key findings. It was felt by scrutiny members as good timing as the County Durham Plan is at the next stage.

The review group held 11 meetings and internet shopping has impacted. Therefore, town centres are having to evolve. With the work carried out by James and Bryn in the Planning Team we will hold an event in June to discuss a mapping tool to help with improving communication events in town centres.

Cllr AB asked Board members to note the key findings in the report

DC mentioned the key findings dovetail with a service grouping piece of work and will monitor the progress and the first update will be available in next 6 months.

IT mentioned that two pots of funding had been announced.

- 1) Town Centres High Street Fund – have put in four bids for the county but not heard if it has been successful yet, the bid is for £5-15m
- 2) Stronger Town Fund – this was announced as £105m for North East. Guidance is not available yet.

Cllr AB said a lot of things that have been identified are quick wins so working more with AAPs should see some quick results.

It was mentioned that skills and training at micro level and self-employed level have a skills deficit and there needs to be an understanding of changes to town centres.
Recommendations around business rates need to support that and relief should be available without having to apply for it

It was suggested that there is already training available and New College holds skills support for the workforce funds. We need to be making sure that what is out there already is available which is why we work in Partnership. There needs to be a conversation between DF and Colleen Peters around this and SP mentioned she will help DF with this if she can.

Action: DF to speak to Colleen Peters

4. Business Durham Strategic Plan – Catherine Johns

CJ gave an update on the Business Durham Strategic Plan. Business Durham has focused on what it can do that affects business growth. CJ will share information with the Board.

The Strategy will not replace other plans, but we need a robust evidence base. CJ mentioned she has sketched out table of contents and vision as to why we are doing what we are doing. “What is Durham” will be our narrative

Economic status and benchmarking data can be shared - Stuart Armstrong is looking at data to see how we compare with other regions.

Opportunities for growth - context statement still in development.

Next stage - what do next - Looking at grand challenges in Industrial Strategy - Healthy aging, clean growth, intelligent mobility

Looking at current support provision e.g. Mine water energy
Need to look at the outputs and KPIs and what are longer term outcomes.

BA felt it important that the challenges be properly addressed, and we need to be sufficiently aligned to make of funding when available. We need to have an evidence base but it is quite narrow at the moment. Proposed Governance arrangements with themes make for much more powerful lobbying

It was felt we need to be focusing on grand challenges and how that part maps into county Durham.

It was asked how we were going to do it. We need to be very clear what the vision is in order to know where we want to be. We need to be clear what we think our priorities should be for the County’s economy.

BA - Suggested a workshop looking at where we are

BT – Suggestion to hold workshop - unless we get things joined up won’t move forward.

CJ - Would like cultural partnership involved

Action: Workshop to be held to make sure we are all joined up moving forward

5. Youth Aspirations Event – Dawn Fairlamb

DF reported on the Young people's Aspirations and Ambitions Seminar at Bishop Auckland Town Hall on 29th March. Around 78 people attended and Paul Butler, Bishop of Durham opened the event. The event focused on differences between aspiration and ambition

In relation to the next steps, DF highlighted that the issues in County Durham include:

- Highest levels of drug misuse in the region
- Deprivation
- Success stories often communicate negative messages
- Transition from Primary to Secondary schools – not all young people meet the levels
Although funding is a big issue, it is not clear what we would do with money if we got it

DF felt that we need to identify things we can do to enable us to tackle some of the issues.

BT suggested that he and DF should speak to Glenn Robinson from the Partnership team to make sure this doesn't get lost off the agenda.

Action: BT and DF to meet with Glenn Robinson

6. Brexit Planning and Funding – Sue Parkinson

SP gave an update

She stated that the present position for EU funding commitment is that the Government will fund programmes to 2022 in the event of "No-deal Brexit". The Government has promised a subsequent Shared Prosperity Fund. This was announced 18 months ago but no criteria have yet emerged. The Cllr Hennig has joined leaders of other LEAs in writing to the Minister urging him to put proposals out for consultation as a matter of urgency. We need to be careful how SPF impacts on us.

The Industrial Strategy for NELEP area is being developed and SP mentioned that she is on the group, which is led by NELEP and is charged with looking at the economic evidence base to underpin the LIS. In addition, MHCLG have established an Evaluation Sub Group of the National Committee, part of the national governance arrangements for European funds, which is specifically charged with national evaluation of the current ESIF funds, and SP represents the Transitional Regions of England on this group.

There is a Stronger Towns fund. We need be looking at partnership agreements and at the leadership and management of programmes. A great example of Partnership working is the Durham Works Programme which supports Young People aged 16-24 to develop existing skills, identifying new ones and helping them into a range of training and job opportunities. It has £29.4m dedicated to employment funding. 5789 people have been employed so far through this programme and work is with 1000 employers in different industries.

The National Evaluation Panel is working with DWP Market Strategy, Head of YEI who is evaluating the programme and has agreed to host an event with the LEP. They will be looking to partners to show where investments should be made. If Board members agree, the panel would like to start working up how this can happen.
The Board endorsed this.

Action: The Board endorsed this going forward

7. Powered by People – Brian Archer

BA gave a presentation to the Board which included a video on Powered by People which aims to spread the word that Durham is a fantastic place in which to invest.

The Powered by People Campaign Strategy has not changed from what was presented to the Board just under a year ago. As well as the UK Industrial Strategy the LEP is developing a Regional Strategy.

The County presented to stakeholders in the House of Commons. There were around 120 people at Westminster.

Questions/Comments

It was felt that Powered by People shows a powerful message

There was mixed feeling as to whether we should be shouting about what we have, especially as Brexit could mean we may longer be a transitional region. We may then need a new message. It was agreed there needs to be a balance in the message for different audiences, but it was also agreed that we need to be on the map. We have a lot of opportunities as well as a lot of need. We need to make sure that don't lose sight of the pockets of need that we have.

BT thanked BA for his presentation

8. Terms of Reference – For information

BT stated that the TOR had been circulated for information

9. Updates from Working Groups

Business, Enterprise & Skills Working Group

SP informed the Board that at the last meeting in March all providers of ERDF Delivery programmes across the County were invited to give an update on their programmes. This was a very well attended and very informative meeting

Housing Forum

IT mentioned that the main topic of discussion at the last Housing Forum meeting was around selective Licensing.

VCS

JL felt there was not a lot of new stuff going on. Partnership working is strong particularly in relation to social prescribing and wellbeing. Looking to work with NHS on commissioning community-based activities.

BT mentioned we are now missing the link with the Rural Working Group at this meeting. AB will speak to Rachael McCoy and Graham Black to see if we can get briefing updates from the group

**Action: AB to speak to Rachael McCoy and Graham Black from Rural Working Group
Durham University**

JG informed that he had provided information from the innovation plan to Catherine Johns for the business Durham plan. He had agreement that the current energy minister will come and visit to see what we are doing around that agenda. MPs Helen Goodman and Claire Perry will attend the University. JG has briefed Oliver Sherratt and will take this forward.

10. Any Other Business

DF informed Board members that New College have been successful with its bid to become the lead further education college for an Institute of Technology in the North East. They are one of only 12 selected across the UK. This is excellent news for our region and for the College and partners. Institute of Technology status comes with the promise to deliver high-quality technical qualifications and to provide a route for young people to gain industry skills required by the region.

BA mentioned that EU money is not the only pot of money available. We need to be aligning funding opportunities. We need to be aligning a pipeline to strategic priorities. We don't want to be funding-led.

Partners are to suggest relevant items for the next meeting. ACB will be charged to canvass for items for the next agenda.

- JG suggested County Durham Climate Emergency. – We have started to develop response which will be heard at OSE meeting and will it was proposed that we develop this for our next meeting
- SP would like to bring a paper to the next meeting outlining the overall approach to the resource's portfolio, for the Board to consider

Action: ACB to source items for the CDEP Board agenda

11. Date and Time of next meeting – Friday 12th July at 1pm

BT thanked everyone for attending.