

## **ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held in Committee Room 1, City Hall, Plater Way,  
Sunderland on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 at 4.30 p.m.**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs Ali, M. Dixon, Edgeworth, Foster, Laws, Mordey, Reed, Scanlan, D. Snowdon (Chairman),  
H. Trueman (Vice Chairman) and Warne.

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1.	<b>Apologies for Absence.</b>	-
2.	<b>Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2022</b>  (copy herewith).	1
3.	<b>Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)</b>  <b>Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>  No Items  <b>Part B – Scrutiny Business</b>	-
4.	<b>Refugee and Asylum Seeker Programmes - Update</b>  Report of the Assistant Director of Housing and Communities (copy herewith).	11
5.	<b>Visit to the Port of Sunderland</b>  Report of the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co- ordinator (copy herewith).	12

**Contact:** Paul Wood Principal Governance Services Officer  
Email: paul.wood@sunderland.gov.uk

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Report of the Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator (copy herewith).

7. **Notice of Key Decisions** 18

Report of the Scrutiny and Members Support Co-ordinator (copy herewith).

**Part C – CCFA/Members Item/Petitions**

No items.

E. WAUGH,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,  
Civic Centre,  
SUNDERLAND.

4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

**At a meeting of the ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CITY HALL on TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022 at 4.30 p.m.**

**Present: -**

Councillor D. Snowden in the Chair

Councillors Ali, M. Dixon, Edgeworth, Fagan, Greener, Laws, Price, Taylor, Thornton and Warne.

Also in attendance: -

Mr James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Sunderland City Council  
Mr Paul Wood, Principal Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council  
Mr Mark Jackson – Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation  
Ms Vicky Tubman – Sustainable Travel Officer, Sunderland City Council  
Mr Paul Muir, Group engineer (Transport and Development) Sunderland City Council  
Mr Oliver Irons – Neuron Mobility  
Mr Teddy Howard – Neuron Mobility

Members of the Press and Public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Foster.

**Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

A copy of the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record subject to the inclusion of Councillor Stephen O'Brien's attendance

**Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)**

There were no declarations of interest

## **Public Transport - Update**

The Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation Housing Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with an update on public transport in Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mark Jackson, Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation was in attendance and proposed to the Committee that this item be deferred as they had been waiting to understand the positive impacts of the additional bus funding that had been announced and also awaiting a response from DfT on the Enhanced Partnership proposals submitted by the region.

Mr Jackson advised that they had since received news that there would be £163 million funding for the North East and negotiations would be taking place over the next few weeks on where that money should be focussed.

Therefore it was felt that Officers would be able to give Members a more thorough briefing and be able to provide more in depth responses to any queries that may be raised if the item was rescheduled to the June agenda.

Having discussed the proposal to defer the report, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report be deferred to the June meeting of the Committee.

## **Sunderland E-Scooter - Progress**

The Assistant Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Transportation submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide the Committee with an update on the Sunderland E-Scooter trial.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Jackson presented the report, introducing representatives of Neuron, Mr Oliver Irons and Mr Teddy Howard and Ms Vicky Tubman, Sustainable Travel Officer, Sunderland City Council, who provided a PowerPoint presentation and were on hand to answer Members queries.

In response to Councillor Laws query over plans to attract older demographics to use the scooters, Mr Howard confirmed that the plans to service the Nissan user base would result in the demographics changing and they wanted to be able to service everyone within the community.

Councillor Laws queried how reliable they would be to access, for those commuting to work and if anyone could access the scooters, they may not be outside of your home when needed. Mr Howard advised that they work with other companies to determine trip data, working out start and end data and optimal numbers for stations. Mr Howard gave an example of two residents that regularly used the scooters, based on the data, therefore they ensured there were always 4 scooters at those station

locations. Whilst they couldn't always guarantee them, they did work to ensure all stations were sufficiently stocked.

In relation to Councillor Laws query, Mr Howard advised that if the scooters were driven into a no ride/parking zone, the scooters gave a mobile signal that once passed through a particular geozone, would slow down to a gradual stop. The scooters tell the rider when this happens and the app would also give detailed info on the zones not permitted.

With regards to the potential of the scooters coming to Washington, Mr Irons commented that it was fair to say they had tried to get a larger service area from the DfT but these were trials at present and they would love to be able to service more areas. Mr Jackson advised that they did try during discussions with the DfT and got the best deal they could possibly get.

Councillor Ali thanked those in attendance for an excellent presentation and enquired as to the 65% figure stated in relation to money spent locally by users of the scooters and enquired how this was broken down. Mr Irons advised that they did not have that level of granular detail and that the figures were based on the questions asked within the last quarterly survey but he was happy to work with Members and businesses on the next set of questions for the next survey to be carried out so that they could obtain which specific businesses had benefitted.

With regards to profits, Mr Irons advise that he could not disclose the commercial details at present as this was a trial, they had competitors in the field and ultimately the contract could go out to Tender in the future.

Councillor Ali also enquired if there were plans for a route from Ryhope to Seaham. Mr Howard informed the Committee that they were restricted in terms of where they could go at present but with "spider leg mapping" routes did end up leading to other areas that were not consistent with public transport so it was possible to reach pretty much anywhere if there was a need.

Councillor Taylor thanked the representatives for their presentation but cautioned the figures were purely related to their company and their specific trial. Councillor Taylor suggested that the Committee contact Northumbria Police about Anti Social Behaviour and illegal E-Scooters for consideration as these had been a nuisance plaguing Washington.

Councillor Taylor commented that people were getting these scooters for Christmas and riding them illegally and the Committee needed to get a picture of the E-Scooters in general.

Mr Howard commented that illegal use of private scooters was very frustrating for them as a company and it was very important to note that Neuron had geofences that restrict people from going into certain areas, around schools/parks etc and a lot of people share the frustrations of users of private e-scooters.

Mr Jackson wished to stress that this was separate from Neuron and that they were running a real responsible offer, every mode of transport had users which engaged in anti social behaviour or drove irresponsibly and that needed education/enforcement of but it was felt that the outcome of this trial showed that e-

scooters had a place to play as they were clean tech and that had to be seen as a positive.

Ms Tubman commented that they were working in partnership with the Police on campaigns circulated to schools and on social media to warn of the risks of buying illegal e-scooters and how they are to be driven on public highways.

Councillor Taylor agreed that education was key and that the Police did need to take more action.

Councillor Greener commented that she loved the idea of the e-scooters and it appeared that all the users of them seemed to love and enjoy them too but she did worry about them being on the roads and enquired if they had caused many accidents.

Mr Irons advised that all users had to have a valid driving license and the hire of the scooters came with full insurance. Neuron Also worked with ROSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and that this work continued still.

Mr Howard advised that there had also been a change to the Highways Code over prioritisation and he had noticed the extra space drivers were now giving to cyclists and scooter users which was nice to see. The licence and insurance was a requirement in the UK as the scooter was a motorised vehicle and they had to be driven on the roads and not footways.

Councillor Edgeworth informed that he was a regular user of the E-Scooters and he loved them. He also commented that the customer service he had received had always been very good so requested this be passed on to the Team. Councillor Edgeworth also commented that he would love to see the service in Grindon and Thorney Close areas but there were quite a few pinch points.

Mr Howard advised that he was amazed by the Cycling infrastructure in place within the City and that they had been able to adjust the geofences within the City Centre to accommodate pinch points. Mr Irons commented that if Members had any suggestions they were happy to meet for walkarounds etc, if they would like to contact them and if suggestions were safe to do so, they would look at them.

In response to Councillor Edgeworth's query over the reliability/availability of the e-scooters Mr Howard advised that this was constantly monitored so they could determine which stations were used regularly and they could make sure scooters were available or increase the capacity of those well used stations if need be. Mr Irons advised that in March, 98 scooters were deployed and for April they wanted that number to be 200. The cap was currently 300 e-scooters and they would supply to this limit if the demand was there.

In response to Councillor Price's queries, Mr Irons advised that there were around 100 of their scooters available in Sunderland, give or take and with the expansion there were another 100 ready to go. With regards to data usage, they did not store particular details due to GDPR but they could determine by trips, same journeys at the same time each day etc that there were regular users.

Councillor Price also enquired if they were in discussion with the University sites within Sunderland. Mr Irons informed that they had a Regional Office Manager who was working with Sunderland Student Unions on digital advertising and safe routes around the City.

Councillor M. Dixon referred to the 34 sites originally chosen and the 10 in 1 particular Ward, querying what the logic had been in deciding the original sites as 10 in 1 was a very concentrated area. Mr Irons advised that they try to meet demand on an ongoing basis. Safety was always first and consideration was given to the infrastructure around proposed parking stations as they could not impede upon pedestrians and such like.

Mr Howard informed that at the beginning, It had been rather a guessing game, they had looked at data, transport hubs, Universities and trading estates, worked with the Council and received feedback from users on the ground. Mr Howard commented that the experts were the people who lived and frequented the streets.

Councillor M. Dixon commented that it was odd to have 3 stations in adjoining streets and suggested that maybe the consultation with Hendon Ward Councillors had went better than other areas.

Councillor Laws queried if there was anything stopping the E-scooter service from expanding and crossing into other Local Authorities. Mr Irons advised that there was as they had to sign a contract with the Local Authority therefore they had to abide to that. Mr Jackson advised that this was the situation at this moment in time but that could change in the future if there was the possibility of taking the scooters on the Metro for example. There would also be possible different suppliers in other authorities as well.

In response to Councillor Laws enquiry over any ASB/damage caused to the scooters, Mr Irons advised that they had been pleasantly surprised on this, there had been a small spike of damage in August during the school holidays but hotspot data was used and the scooters were not supplied during those times/locations. Once the messaging got through these incidents tailed off.

Councillor Laws commented that it all seemed really positive and encouraging and was adding something valuable to the City with Neuron reacting to any issues when needed.

Councillor Taylor referred to comments on the IAMP site and that this was a joint project with South Tyneside therefore consultation would be needed with that Authority to service the site also.

Councillor Ali enquired if there had been any incidents of drink driving of the scooters. Mr Irons advised that it was illegal to be under the influence of drink/drugs on the scooters and if this was reported to Neuron, each scooter had identification which they could report and work with the Police on. There had been incidents at the start of the trial but there have been no incidents at all since then.

Mr Irons also informed of work with the Police around key dates such as Christmas, "Black eye Friday" and New Years Eve where the scooters were removed from certain locations and geofences established around pubs etc.

Mr Jackson commented that the E-Scooters were a motor vehicle and users had to have a driving licence so they came with the same penalties if driven under the influence.

Mr Howard also advised that riding a scooter was more challenging than sitting behind a wheel. Mr Howard informed that they can offer a lot of support to the Police as they can give people's exact journeys, licence details etc, all through the correct channels of course so they can help relieve the pressure upon the Police.

Councillor M. Dixon informed that he was on the East Sunderland LMAP's and this issue did not get mentioned so it did not seem to be a problem and it all looked reasonably positive.

In response to Councillor Fagan's query if they could determine when Scooters had been in a collision or hit stationary cars etc Mr Howard advised that should one of their scooters suddenly stop they could determine the location and how many minutes it had stopped there but they couldn't definitively say it was that scooter which was involved in an accident. In such incidents where damage was caused they do take the scooter back to be stripped down for investigation.

In response to the Chairman, Mr Irons advised that they operated schemes in Slough and Newcastle as well as Sunderland but it was very difficult to provide direct comparisons due to different topography and different demographics within each location.

Mr Howard commented that he loved to see how far Sunderland has come and thanked everyone for their feedback which had been really positive.

Having fully considered the report, the Chairman thanked Mr Irons, Mr Howard and Ms Tubman for their attendance and the Committee would look forward to seeing future updates later in the year.

3. RESOLVED that the progress report be received and noted.

### **Road Safety Annual Report 2020/2021**

The Transportation Development Group Engineer submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide an update on road safety issues in the City and for Members to give consideration to the Road Safety Annual Report 2020/21

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Paul Muir, Group engineer (Transport and Development) presented the report and was on hand to answer Members queries.

Councillor Taylor wished to thank Mr Muir and his colleagues for the recent site visits carried out to look at issues around St Roberts School and he realised this was not an easy fix as there was a lot of traffic there. Councillor Taylor wished to highlight a scheme provided by the Fire Service who were collaborating with Gateshead Council where they used Fire Engines to travel past schools during pick up/drop off times to highlight to parents the difficulty emergency vehicles had in getting past parked cars.



Councillor Taylor also advised that he had attended a Road Sense presentation recently which he found very worthwhile to do and would recommend.

Mr Muir commented that Biddick Lane had been a real eye opener and there were things that could be done with measures being looked at so once these were introduced they could see how it worked. They were also looking to work with the Ambulance Service on Emergency Vehicle Projects around Schools and the Road Sense/Common Sense presentations would hopefully be provided in the Colleges in the future.

Councillor Ali enquired if Officers worked alongside the Police, if they had any areas of concern and if they reported to the Police and Crime Commissioner. Mr Muir advised that in relation to the Ryhope area, they were looking at Stockton Road as it met the requirements to progress with the Police as part of a Operation Modero site. Mr Jackson advised that Officers attend the Northumbria Safer Roads meetings which had high ranking officers there that would report to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Councillor Price commented that we had suffered in the past from chronic recruitment problems of School Crossing Patrols and enquired if this was still the case. Mr Muir advised that it was a challenging situation and they had around 40 school crossing patrol officers at present, which was the second highest in the North East. There were still vacancies and they were actively promoting these as well as looking at resourcing and suitability of locations.

Councillor Price referred to the Vehicle Activated Speed signs and that the rotation of these within the Houghton Ward had been very successful and wished to thank the team for their work on this.

Councillor M. Dixon referred to speed surveys and the contradiction between residents experience and the results, therefore enquired what time of day the surveys were carried out. Mr Muir advised that traditionally it was tubes put down across the road that covered a 24 hour period rather than certain hours.

Councillor M. Dixon commented that Operation Modero had been very good and thanked Officers for their work on that, there had been a lot of positives but queried as to why the Police were slightly inflexible in moving the locations of the mobile vans.

Mr Muir advised that certain criteria had to be adhered to for where the vans could be used and had to be in a suitable location but more flexibility was used now in the management of this.

Councillor M. Dixon referred to the Schools Streets closures and commented that it would be wonderful to see Thornhill Park in St Michaels Ward included and if there were any plans to move into other areas of the City after the Washington Pilot.

Mr Muir advised that they needed to see how the pilot worked first as they didn't wish to promise anything until they could examine the results of how successful the pilot was and that the Washington pilot was due to start this month and ideally they would like programmes to start for the next school year.

Councillor Fagan referred to the 20mph zones and queried how the criteria was chosen for this as there didn't appear to be consultation. Mr Muir advised that they developed programmes around schools and Stephen Dixon was working on expanding this but the main criteria was dependent on the road layout but he could check with Mr Dixon on this. Councillor Fagan commented that she would like more consultation to occur with the Members.

Mr Jackson commented that if there were places that Members thought required a zone implementing, then to put in the request and Officers could look at that. It was a science based on lots of different criteria and they were limited by budget and competing demand however.

Councillor Taylor wished to make the Committee aware that the Police could not enforce the 20mph zones.

In response to Councillor Thornton's query, Mr Muir advised that Safety Works had reopened and if Members knew of any schools interested to let him know and the programme was historically well used and he could get the figures for Councillor Thornton if she so wished.

Councillor M. Dixon commented that he was a big supporter of the VAS signs and that liaison from Officers with Members of the rotation had been first class. Councillor Dixon referred to the School Travel Plans commenting that some schools had taken these more seriously than others and enquired as to where we were at the moment on those.

Mr Muir advised that the Plans were a requirement to develop and agreed that some were proactive and others weren't but they were trying to promote these to schools and it was included as a planning condition on any new applications for new schools to develop a plan.

Councillor Taylor commented that it was worth bearing in mind that government guidance changed during COVID in relation to Travel Plans and it was preferred that parents drop their children off rather than spread the disease on crowded buses.

The Chairman queried why there was no data for 2021 with regards to reported road user casualties. Mr Muir advised that they had plucked the key figures to show accident trends which were fairly static with no trends or change. They did get monthly data and it was difficult to capture a moment in time.

In response to Mr Muir's request for comments and suggestions for focus on future reports, Members requested an update on Schools Street closures pilot, updates on fixed cameras, School parking, and pavement parking.

Councillor Price commented that the report was very helpful and suggested that it be emailed to all schools as the more people could see it the better. Mr Muir advised that he had no problem with the report being sent to schools.

Having fully considered the report, the Chairman thanked Mr Muir for his attendance and wished to place on record his thanks to Mr Jackson, who informed the Committee that he was leaving the Authority in the near future.

4. RESOLVED that the progress report be received and noted.

### **Annual Report 2021/2022**

The Scrutiny and Members Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated), for Members to consider and approve the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee report as part of the overall scrutiny annual report 2021/22 that was to be presented to Council.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer presented the report and enquired if there were any comments or amendments that Members wished to see.

Councillor M. Dixon commented that it was a great report and suggested that the only change he would make was to highlight the great depth spent considering Housing issues.

5. RESOLVED that Members approved the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee report for inclusion in the Scrutiny Annual Report 2021/22

### **Annual Work Programme 2021-22**

The Scrutiny and Members Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated), to provide options, provide support and advise Members on the development of the scrutiny work programmes for 2021/2022

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer presented the report for Members information advising that the Public Transport Update would be included on the programme for next years consideration.

6. RESOLVED that the information contained in the work programme for 2021-2022 be noted.

### **Notice of Key Decisions**

The Scrutiny and Members Support Co-ordinator submitted a report providing Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28-day period from 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (copies circulated).

(For copy report and notice – see original minutes).

Mr Diamond, reminded Members to get in touch if they required further information on any of the items included in the notice.

Councillor M. Dixon requested further information in relation to 220128/687 – To agree the proposed implementation and funding arrangements in relation to the North East Screen Industries Partnership and associated regional Memorandum of Understanding with the BBC

7. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked Members for their input over the year and Officers for their work during this period. The Chairman also wished to thank Councillor Taylor for his contributions as he was standing down in his role as Councillor at the next election and wished him all the best in the future.

(Signed) D. SNOWDON,  
Chairman.

**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**12 JULY 2022**

## **REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER PROGRAMMES - UPDATE**

### **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with a report on refugee and asylum seeker programmes.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee agreed to receive an update report on support for refugee and asylum seekers.

#### **3 Current Position**

- 3.1 Graham Scanlan (Assistant Director of Housing and Communities) will provide a presentation on the programmes currently in place and operating for refugee and asylum seekers.
- 3.2 The presentation will cover the current position of the programmes, the challenges and plans moving forward.

#### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the report and presentation.

# Item 5

**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE      12 JULY 2022**

## **REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR**

### **VISIT TO THE PORT OF SUNDERLAND**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To consider the arrangements for the Committees visit to the Port of Sunderland.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 At the beginning of the year, the Committee asked that a visit to the Port of Sunderland be included as part of its work programme for the year.
- 2.2 The visit should provide members with an opportunity to consider the progress being made and the challenges and opportunities facing the Port.

#### **3 Current Position**

- 3.1 It is suggested that the visit take place at 1.00pm on Tuesday 13 September 2022. The visit should last around 2 hours and will be hosted by Matthew Hunt (Port Director).
- 3.2 It is also suggested that the visit include a stop off at the Stella Maris Seafarers Centre; a drop-in facility owned by Sunderland Council and the Port which provides practical support for seafarers.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Members are asked to consider the arrangements for the visit to the Port of Sunderland.

## ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 JULY 2022

### ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2022/23

#### REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

##### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consider and agree a work programme for the Committee for the municipal year 2022/23.

##### 2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is designed to set out the key issues to be addressed by the Committee during the year and provide it with a timetable of work. The Committee itself is responsible for setting its own work programme, subject to the coordinating role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.2 To be most effective, the work programme should provide a basis and framework for the work of the Committee, while retaining sufficient flexibility to respond to any important issues that emerge during the course of the year. The work programme is therefore intended to be a working document that the Committee can develop and refer to throughout the year.
- 2.3 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.4 The remit of the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee covers the following:-  
  
*Any matter relating to the economic prosperity of the city and the performance of services to support that including physical infrastructure, sector growth and skills, economic vibrancy, safer sunderland, licensing and trading standards, strategic transport, environmental services, libraries, heritage and tourism.*
- 2.5 The work programme should reflect the remit of the Committee and the need to balance its responsibility for undertaking scrutiny, performance management and policy review.
- 2.6 The work programme should also reflect and be aligned to the key priorities of the Council as set out in documents such as the Sunderland Strategy and Corporate Plan, reflect issues highlighted following external assessments and issues raised during the Committee development sessions.

##### 3 DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

- 3.1 On 15 June 2021, the Committee held a workshop session to discuss potential items for inclusion in the work programme.

- 3.2 The table below provides details of the issues considered for inclusion in the work programme:-

<b>Regular Work Programme Items</b>	
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee Work Programme (Monthly)	To receive the Committee's work programme outlining future meetings of the committee and the items scheduled for those meetings.
28 Day Notice of Key Decisions (Monthly)	To consider the Council's 28 Day Notice of Key Decisions.
<b>Single Item (Items to be scheduled when dates known)</b>	
Business Improvement District (BID)	To consider the progress being made by the BID
Economic Outlook	To hear from the Chamber of Commerce on the opportunities and challenges facing the local economy including implication of the Covid pandemic and UK exit from EU. (NB – awaiting confirmation of attendance)
Business Centres – Progress Report	To consider the progress made by the Council's Business Centres (Evolve, the Software Centre and Washington Business Centre).
Siglion Regeneration	To consider and review progress of on the development and regeneration undertaken by Siglion. Consider visit to sites.
Sunniside Area Regeneration	Continue Task and Finish Group review of the plans for the Sunniside area – multi disciplinary approach.
Future High Street Fund	To consider progress made with plans for developments funded through the Future High Streets Fund
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	To hear more about the opportunities for the city arising from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund
Sunderland Port	Visit to the Port of Sunderland to hear from the Port Manager on the progress being made by the Port.
Safer Sunderland Partnership	Conduct a deep dive into a priority issue contained in the Plan (NB – Issue also highlighted by Scrutiny Coordinating



	Committee
Allocations and Designations Plan	To consult on the Allocations and Development Plan (NB Await Confirmation of Date)
Development of Cycling Infrastructure	To consider the development of cycling infrastructure in the city
E Scooter Pilot – Feedback	To consider feedback from the E Scooter pilot scheme operating in the city.
Improvements to Public Transport	Future plans to improve transport in the region including bus services, rail, metro and cycling
Low Carbon Annual Report and Action Plan	To consider the plans and progress being made to reduce the level of carbon emissions by the Council and its partners
City Heat Networks Projects	To hear proposals for a City Heat Network Project
Housing Strategy - Consultation	To feed into the consultation process for the forthcoming refresh of the Housing Strategy. To meet with providers of social housing.
Rough Sleepers Prevention Strategy	To provide input into the revision of the Rough Sleepers Prevention Strategy
Environmental Services Update	Meet with new Director to consider future plans and service improvements, including side waste policy and pest control
Refugee Programme	To receive an update on the programme in place for Ukrainian and Afghan refugees
Events Update	To receive an update on plans for future events in the city and their contribution to the local economy
Cultural Sector – Culture for Growth	To receive an overview of the role of the cultural sector as a driver for economic growth
Annual Road Safety Report	To provide latest information on the level of road traffic accidents and fatalities in the city
Accessibility of the City Centre	To considers measures to improve the

	accessibility of the city centre
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A draft Scrutiny Work Programme for 2022/23 is attached as **Appendix 1**.

- 3.4 It should be noted that the work programme is a 'living' document and can be amended throughout the course of the municipal year. Any Elected Member can add an item of business to an agenda for consideration (Protocol 1 within the Overview and Scrutiny Handbook outlines this process).

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 That the Scrutiny Committee consider and agrees a draft Annual Scrutiny Work Programme for 2022/23 and incorporates emerging issues as and when they arise throughout the forthcoming year.

#### **5. Background Papers**

Notes of the Development session held on 14 June 2022

Contact Officer: Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
James.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2022-23**

REASON FOR INCLUSION	14 JUNE 22 – (INFORMAL MEETING)	12 JULY 22	13 SEPTEMBER 22	11 OCTOBER 22	8 NOVEMBER 22	6 DECEMBER 22	10 JANUARY 23	7 FEBRUARY 23	7 MARCH 23	4 APRIL 23
<b>Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>			Statement of Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Licence Policy (Steve Waring)							Scrutiny Annual Report
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>	Remit and Work Programme of Committee	Refugee Provision (Graham Scanlan)  Port Visit (Matthew Hunt)	Housing Strategy/ Rough Sleeping Prevention Strategy – Consultation (Graham Scanlan)	Public Transport Update (Mark Wilson)  Annual Low Carbon Progress Report (Catherine Auld)	Sunderland BID (Sharon Appleby)  Events (Stephen Savage)	Business Centres (Catherine Auld)  Environmental Services Update (Director of Environmental Services)	Cycling Infrastructure (Mark Wilson)  Culture Sector and the Local Economy (Rebecca Ball)	Siglion (Peter McIntyre)  Future High Street Fund Programme (Peter McIntyre)  UK Shared Prosperity Fund (James Garland/ Catherine Auld)	City Heat Network Projects - Update  Accessibility (Stephen Dixon)	Annual Road Safety Report  E Scooter – Pilot Feedback
<b>Consultation Information and Awareness Raising</b>		Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 22-23

# Item 7

## ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 July 2022

### NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

#### REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions.

#### 2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

#### 3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

#### 5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda

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Contact Officer : Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
0191 561 1396  
James.diamond@sunderland.gov.uk

The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
170927/212	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
210709/612	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Washington F-Pit Museum Heritage Visitor Centre and Albany Park Improvement project, including the procurement of consultants and contractors.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 14 July to 30 September 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210728/613	To seek approval for strategic land acquisitions in Sunnyside, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220207/690	To approve the sale of the former Alex Smiles site and to undertake required remedial works.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
220106/682	To give consideration to the Draft Bus Enhancement Partnership Plan and Scheme	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220413/697	In respect of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, to consider adoption of the final document.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220421/701	To approve a scheme for Structural Maintenance of Newcastle Road Bridge	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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220504/710	To agree to the acquisition of property at Crowtree Road/Maritime Terrace, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220511/711	To approve the UKSPF and Multiply Investment Plans, including submission to Government, procurement and delivery arrangements, accepting Government grant funding agreements, and issuing local agreements to third parties	Corporate Services in conjunction with Children's Services	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220511/712	To approve the Local Council Tax Support Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>



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220414/698	To approve the approach to equalities for 2022-2026, including the statutory equality objective.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220504/709	To approve a Tree Management Policy and a procurement process for specialist support in delivery	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220513/713	To seek Cabinet approval to the disposal of South West Lodge, Mere Knolls Cemetery, Dovedale Road, SR6 8LW.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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220524/714	To agree to the grant of an option to sell property at Richmond Street, Sheepfolds, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220607/715	To approve a Tree Management Policy and a procurement process for specialist support in delivery	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220607/716	To seek approval for amendments to, and implementation of, Cemetery and Crematorium Regulations and a range of service enhancements as part of the Improvement of Bereavement Services	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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220609/717	Authorise the Director of Children's Services to commence the statutory processes required to amend the age of admission at Thorney Close Primary School.	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220615/718	To Seek Cabinet Approval for the Letting of Unit 6, International Drive, IAMP, Washington, SR5 3HX	Cabinet	Y	14 July 2022	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220504/705	To consider and adopt Council's updated Low Carbon Action Plan.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 14 July to 30 September 2022.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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210920/640	To approve land and property acquisitions within the Riverside Sunderland area.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
220207/691	To approve the acquisition of strategic sites in the Commercial Road Area.	Cabinet	Y	8 September 2022	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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**Note;** Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, or by email to [committees@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk)

**\*Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**

**Who will decide;**

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

15 June 2022