

# ITEM 8

## Addendum

### Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Review Board

3 July 2018

#### Minute Extract

#### 05/18 Derby – Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy

The Board considered a report which updated the Board on the Derby – Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy.

Members of the Board asked what effect there would be if any local authority adopted different governance arrangements. It was reported that the neighbouring County Councils of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire had formally announced that they wanted to form a “Strategic Alliance” as a step towards a future Devolution Deal. There were no details at present but it was hoped that this would be in the context of the D2N2 LEP. It was noted that Mayoral Combined Authorities had been directly awarded funding from some Government funding streams, with other areas having to bid for the remainder. There was a need to get the best deal for Derby and work with a wide range of partners where there was added value.

A Member of the Board asked when outputs were likely to be available. It was reported that the strategy was now beginning to clarify priorities rather than actually having outputs but it was hoped that this would be established over the next six months.

A Member of the Board referred to concerns that may be raised by both Erewash Borough Council and Broxtowe Borough Council about the Metro and being squeezed by the cities. Members felt strongly that neighbouring districts needed to be engaged and included.

It was suggested that D2N2 LEP should be looking at how to respond to challenges such as Brexit and managing economic risk. It was reported that the LEP were refreshing their Strategic Economic Plan at present and this may provide some answers.

Members of the Board recommended that Council Cabinet explore and take advantage of any opportunities for devolution. The D2N2 area had missed out on significant investment which could have increased prosperity and supported local residents.

A Member of the Board asked how dependent the success of the Metro Strategy was on getting buy-in from the surrounding district councils. It was reported that the study carried out by Metro Dynamics into the economic potential of the metro had stated

that significant gains could only be made if the area operated collaboratively, as equal partners. There was a need to consider major projects to maximise the benefit to the area such as the growth around East Midlands Airport and HS2 at Toton. The cities needed to reach out to the districts to allay fears. There are high levels of interdependency between residents and businesses right across the area. There needed to be clearer communication and engagement to demonstrate how working together could be successful.

A Member of the Board stated that the districts had less resource to be involved in dialogue and therefore were probably not aware of the benefits it could bring. It was suggested that these are better communicated. It was recommended that Council Cabinet be requested to draw up a strategy to help sell the benefits of collaboration to the smaller districts to get them on board for mutual gain.

Members of the Board felt that any partnership needed to be on an equal footing. One of Derby's strengths was the good relationships it had with the private sector.

### **Resolved**

- 1. To note the report.**
- 2. To recommend Council Cabinet to explore and take advantage of any opportunities for devolution deals.**
- 3. To recommend Council Cabinet to draw up a strategy to engage with the district authorities and help sell the benefits of collaboration to them and get them on board for mutual gain.**