

Regeneration and Housing Scrutiny Review Board

22 September 2020

Present: Councillor Russell (Chair)
Councillors Carr, McCristal, Pearce and West

In Attendance: Gerry Dawson – Director of Development and Growth
Maria Murphy – Managing Director of Derby Homes
Verna Bayliss – Acting Director of Planning, Transport and Engineering
Andy Hills – Environment and Business Energy Efficiency Manager

01/20 Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Evans.

02/20 Late Items

There were no late items.

03/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/20 Minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

05/20 Reducing Carbon Emissions in Derby – DE-Carbonise and D2EE Impact of Brexit and Support to Business

The Board considered a report which summarised the achievements of the Derby and Derbyshire Energy Efficiency (D2EE) project, which was a three year energy efficiency project part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) which ended in October 2019.

The report introduced the DE-Carbonise project a three year project working with small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to help them reduce carbon emissions and save money. This collaborative project between Derby City Council, Derbyshire County Council and the University of Derby was part funded by ERDF and started in November 2019.

Members of the Board were impressed with the performance of the project and its contribution towards the climate emergency. A question was raised on how the performance compared to private dwellings. It was noted that this project was only a small contribution to the climate emergency as it only related to businesses. It was reported that 20% of carbon emissions came from dwellings and this was due to a large number of older properties which were leaking emissions. Derby Homes were helping to look at retro fitting houses to reduce energy consumption.

It was reported that there was a green grant scheme available to help reduce energy bills and reduce emissions. Consideration was being given to how this could be promoted in Derby.

It was agreed that a leaflet on the DE-Carbonise project be circulated to Members of the Board.

Members of the Board expressed thanks to the team for the work undertaken on the project.

Resolved

- 1. To acknowledge the achievements made during the D2EE project in supporting Derby businesses by lowering their energy costs and carbon emissions and thereby increasing their resilience and potential for growth.**
- 2. To support the DE-Carbonise project by promoting it to businesses and partners across Derby, to maximise benefit to Derby businesses and reduce carbon emissions.**
- 3. To acknowledge the role that the D2EE and DE-Carbonise projects' have played, and will continue to play, in supporting the Council's response to the declared Climate Emergency.**

06/20 Covid Impact on Derby

The Board received a presentation on the impact of Covid on Derby which would help to shape the work programme of the Board.

The presentation included statistical information in relation to public health, the economy, employment, the city centre and housing. It also included the strategic approach to recovery, particularly the economic recovery plan (restart/ revive/ renew).

Planning in the middle of a storm – included, immediate events and activities, continuing major regeneration projects, urgent property and business related issues, wicked issues, master planning and governance issues.

The presentation then went on to talk about housing and neighbourhoods.

Suggested lines of scrutiny included:

- The robustness of the Economic recovery plan and its implementation?
- Derby renew: re-employment support?
- Derby renew: stimulate startups & scaleups?
- Derby renew: attract inward investment?
- Derby renew: city connectivity?
- Derby renew: reinventing the city centre?
- The response in relation to housing and neighbourhoods

Members of the Board commented that the presentation was startling, concerning, engaging and hopeful. Consideration needed to be given to how to take this forward collectively. Derby needed to be set apart from the regional and national competition.

It was reported that in relation to communities pulling together Derby seemed to be very good at this. The Council and Derby Homes had worked well together to respond to the pandemic. Officers hoped to work with the Board to pull the information together and get the best outcomes for the people of Derby. There were three work streams which highlighted working together, to make sure the jobs created go to the people of Derby, investing in Derby and the nature of the relationship with neighbourhoods, planning and mobility.

The Chair asked if there was any information available by ward on the health outcomes and if there was a breakdown of the numbers of people made redundant or at risk of being made redundant. Consideration should also be given to what will attract people to the city.

Resolved to note the presentation.

07/20 Remit, Work Programme and Topic Reviews

The Board considered a report which allowed the Board to study its Terms of Reference and Remit for the forthcoming Municipal Year. The report also allowed officers to inform the Board of any key work areas, issues or potential topic review subjects within the service areas for discussion or inclusion in the work programme.

Resolved to approve the following work programme for 2020/21.

- Energy Efficiency Update
- Covid Impact on Derby
- Moorways – project update
- Update on next steps accommodation provision for homeless people and rough sleepers
- A52 update on final weeks of the project and lessons learnt.
- Permit Parking - update
- Transport option in the South of the City (A500/A50 Corridor – presentation on the work of Midland Connect)
- Update on Covid Impact on Derby
- Climate Change – mitigation beyond OCOR and CO2 emissions
- A38 Update (Motion from Council)

To continue with the topic review started in the previous municipal year.

08/20 Items Referred from the Executive Scrutiny Board

There were no items referred from the Executive Scrutiny Board.

MINUTES END