



Derby City Council

**REGENERATING OUR CITY OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY BOARD
21 February 2017**

ITEM 7

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place

Derby-Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy

SUMMARY

- 1.1 To update the Board on progress on the developing “Metro” Strategy with Nottingham.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note progress on the Metro Strategy.
- 2.2 To request a further update is brought back to the Board following the publication of the strategy and key actions documents.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 This report is for information only.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 **Background**

Originally conceived during the development of the North Midlands Devolution Deal, the Metro Strategy aims to set out a vision for our urban area and recognises our common city interests and ambitions within a framework to drive economic growth around four targeted geographies: City, Market Town, Rural and former coalfields.

The strategy recognises that combined, the city areas give scale with significance. Nottingham and Derby individually are ranked outside the top 100 population centres in Europe – yet together the Nottingham-Derby area is one of the top 30. By taking advantage of this, the cities could be more strongly positioned to establish the national presence and international reputation required to make best advantage of future opportunities, such as Midlands Engine and foreign trade and investment. If done effectively, this should increase the metro contribution to the wider economy adding value to our broader D2N2 collective efforts.

- 4.2 In a wider D2N2 context the strategic themes (such as jobs, productivity, promotion, innovation and connectivity) are aligned but it is recognised that issues should be tackled at the most appropriate level. The Metro Strategy establishes the Derby-Nottingham area at the urban centre of a prospering region.
- 4.3 The Metro Strategy sets out four initial themes for action:
- a) **Metro Enterprise** – to promote Derby and Nottingham worldwide to attract new investment; support businesses to innovate, diversify and find new markets; increase productivity and strengthen supply chains
 - b) **Metro Talent** – to enhance leadership, knowledge and creativity of skilled workers; nurture young people to be ready for work in the 21st century
 - c) **Connected Metro** – to improve accessibility to the cities through shared development of our transport corridors, application of new transport technologies and better integration with rail and airport interchanges
 - d) **Metro Living** – to provide a range of exciting and accessible opportunities for a modern urban lifestyle, befitting of a world-class urban area.
- 4.4 The Metro Strategy was launched for consultation at a joint event in Derby on 21 July 2016. The draft strategy and action plan reflected the joint work led by Nottingham and Derby City Councils, setting out a series of realistic short term actions. The consultation closed on 19 September 2016, with over 150 responses received. Overall these show strong support for the aims and underpinning principles of the strategy, and the approach outlined to achieve these aims.
- 4.5 Following the consultation, work is continuing to refine the strategy and action plan, and to support this, a Delivery Board (comprising representatives of the two City Councils) has been established. The first meeting was scheduled for late December 2016, and the Strategy and consultation response will be officially launched Spring 2017.
- 4.6 The action plan includes a number of actions that relate to the urban challenges faced by the two cities within the D2N2 area. However, it is recognised that if we are to fully achieve the ambitions set out within the strategy, a wider group of stakeholders will need to work together – many of these have indicated a commitment to be involved through the consultation, and key relationships are being strengthened. It is proposed to establish a Strategic Advisory Group drawn from key stakeholders from the universities and the business sector, in order to draw in wider expertise and engagement as the strategy develops.
- 4.8 Similarly, the City Councils are committed to working with District and County Councils. There have been some early discussions with neighbouring authorities to explore how this can best be achieved and how we can work together on specific areas of mutual interest / benefit – for example, improving the connectivity between the two cities.

- 4.9 Alongside the Strategic Vision we are developing a Key Actions document as clearer actions was also a strong request coming through from the consultation. It will set out the priorities and be a key document for communication and engagement.
- 4.10 Some early benefits of a collaborative approach between the two cities include the announcement of Toton as the East Midlands HS2 station hub, ERDF funding secured for 'Investing in D2/N2' and the subsequent joint trade mission to China (under the Midlands Engine umbrella) and the submission of the first funding bid under the 'Metro banner (a £7.6m bid for 'green and blue' infrastructure).

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| OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED |
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- 5.1 Not applicable.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

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| Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s) | David Gartside, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Planning and Transportation |
| For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices: | Verna Bayliss 01332 643034 verna.bayliss@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications |

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| IMPLICATIONS |
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Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 None directly arising from this report.

Legal

- 2.1 None directly arising from this report.

Personnel

- 3.1 None directly arising from this report.

IT

- 4.1 None.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None directly arising from this report.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 None directly arising from this report.

Risk Management

- 9.1 None directly arising from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 The Metro Strategy also supports the Council's Delivering Differently programme and should add value by increasing opportunities for efficiency and effective use of our collective resources.