



Report Reference Number: S/18/8

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 27 June 2018
Status: Key Decision
Ward(s) Affected: All
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Lead Executive Member: Cllr Mark Crane, Leader of the Council
Lead Officer: Dave Caulfield, Director of Economic Regeneration and Place

Title: Programme for Growth – Update on Existing Programme and Proposed New Programme

Summary:

The accompanying report gives Scrutiny Committee an overview of progress on the Council's existing Programme for Growth, including recommendations to the Executive for a proposed new programme of projects (subsequently approved) and outlines proposals for strengthening overall programme management and governance in response to key recommendations from the Council's LGA Peer Review.

Recommendations:

- i. **To note progress on the existing Programme for Growth as set out in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.7 and Appendix A of the accompanying Executive report;**
- ii. **To note the approved new Programme for Growth Projects and associated budgets as set out in Appendix C of the accompanying Executive report;**
- iii. **To note the strengthened programme management and reporting arrangements as set out in paragraphs 2.17 to 2.22 of the accompanying report;**
- iv. **To provide guidance to Officers as to whether there are any elements of Programme for Growth that Scrutiny Committee would like to focus on as part of future updates to Committee.**

Reasons for recommendations:

Scrutiny Committee is asked to note progress on the existing Programme for Growth and approvals for new Programme for Growth Projects as they are critical for the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities and objectives as set out in the Council's Corporate Plan and Economic Development Framework and Action Plan. Quarterly progress reports on Programme for Growth are provided to Scrutiny Committee to ensure greater transparency of decision making.

1. Introduction and background

1.1 Programme for Growth (P4G) was first established in 2011 as a means of focussing and managing investment in the Council's key priorities. Now in its third iteration (from 2017/18), Programme for Growth 3 (P4G3) is the critical delivery mechanism for the Council's ambitious Corporate Plan (2015-2020) and growth-focused Economic Development Framework which aim to make Selby District 'a great place'. The accompanying Executive report provides an update on progress and includes recommendations to the Executive for a further round of P4G projects. These were subsequently approved by the Executive (resolved 3 May, 2018).

2. The Report

2.1 The accompanying report to the Executive features four components. These are as follows:

- Progress with existing Programme for Growth projects;
- An update on the committed funding for core staffing capacity to deliver growth;
- Proposed new Programme for Growth projects;
- An update on improvements to governance and programme management.

2.2 Good progress is being made on P4G3. Although the current programme is showing an underspend of £1.735m on the £2.4m programme allocated to projects (see Appendix A of the accompanying report), financial spend alone doesn't give an accurate indication of progress as significant work has gone into project scoping, inception and commissioning. Paragraphs 2.1 to 2.7 of the accompanying report outlines the progress made with existing Programme for Growth projects.

2.3 In accordance with the approved budget, £3m has been committed to funding internal capacity across the Council to deliver the growth ambitions set out in the Corporate Plan. Appendix B of the accompanying report provides a summary of this spend, indicating that only £635k out of an allocated budget in 2017/18 of £1.2m has been spent by the end of March 2018. Paragraph 2.9 of the accompanying report outlines the reasons for this underspend.

2.4 Appendix C of the accompanying report sets out the new programme for Programme for Growth projects, with Appendix E providing more detail on these new projects. The P4G programme has an indicative budget envelope of circa £5.5m to allocate to new projects. £3.56m of this budget has been

allocated to new projects, with an additional £1.711m already allocated to recently approved projects (see Appendix D of the accompanying report for the full Programme for Growth programme). This leaves a remaining 252k of P4G funding available for future allocation.

- 2.5** Paragraphs 2.17 to 2.22 of the accompanying report outlines the improvements made to strengthen Programme for Growth's governance and programme management. The need to better define and articulate the programme and its governance arrangements was one of the key recommendations from the recent LGA Peer Review. Paragraph 2.21 provides a summary of the improved governance arrangements that were already agreed following a report to the Executive in September 2017, with paragraph 2.22 outlining further improvements to be implemented to strengthen programme management, governance and reporting arrangements.

3. Alternative Options Considered

N/A

4. Implications

4.1 Legal Implications

As the Council's major investment programme, the P4G should be underpinned by sound governance and transparency. Ensuring arrangements are consistent with the Constitution are paramount, and all delegated authorities should be consistent with the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

4.2 Financial Implications

The 'Programme for Growth' is the Council's strategic programme to support delivery of its Corporate Plan. The programme comprises a range of cross cutting projects designed to 'make Selby District a great place'. The current Programme was approved as part of the 2017/18 budget and in-year progress reports have been presented to both Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (both separately and as part of the quarterly finance updates).

Following the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge in November 2017, the current programme has been reviewed and the new Programme for Growth has been refocussed and approved by the Executive (resolved 3 May, 2018). Prioritisation of resources will be crucial to ensure delivery of the intended outcomes within the budget available and proposals will be brought before the Executive for approval in due course.

Paragraphs 3.4 to 3.9 of the accompanying Executive report provides a detailed breakdown of the funding arrangements for Programme for Growth and includes outlines proposals for the remainder of the Programme, including a discussion on the return on investment for the Council.

4.3 Policy and Risk Implications

N/A

4.4 Corporate Plan Implications

Programme for Growth is the Council's critical delivery mechanism for the Council's ambitious Corporate Plan (2015-2020) which aims to make Selby District 'a great place'.

4.5 Resource Implications

N/A

4.6 Other Implications

N/A

4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

N/A

5. Conclusion

- 5.1** There is growing momentum around the Council's ambitious growth agenda, but a need for a sharpened focus around delivery. The P4G is a key programme for delivering the Council's Corporate Plan and Economic Development Framework and Action Plan. The accompanying report to Executive provides an update on progress in delivering the Council's Programme for Growth. It also seeks approval from the Council's Executive for a proposed new programme of projects (subsequently approved) and outlines proposals for strengthening overall programme management and governance in response to key recommendations from the Council's LGA Peer Review.

6. Background Documents

N/A

7. Appendices

Appendix A – Executive Report - 3 May 2018

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