

# **Additional Comments on Final Report and Findings Pack**

## **Chief Finance Officer**

“Happy with this”

## **Business, Economy and Town Services Manager**

### **“The Role of the team**

The panel’s draft report (p12) states;

*The Panel strongly endorses the current review into the role of the team by the Economy, Planning, Development and Prosperity Havant Scrutiny and Policy Development Panel. Despite having three meetings (one ‘early thoughts’ and two ‘deep dives’) comprising almost six hours of discussion, the Panel still remain unsure as to what they do. There was no indication of priorities and there did not appear to be clear targets.*

The role of the team and priorities are detailed on p51-52 and the information below supplements that already provided.

The team’s main role is the Leadership and co-ordination of the Prosperity Havant agenda with the following priorities;

### **Identify and encourage development of major development sites**

- Dunsbury Hill Business Gateway
- Transformation of Havant Town Centre
- A27 Prosperity Corridor, including council owned employment site at Brockhampton West
- Hayling Seafront
- Waterlooville MDA
- Identify and attract external funding and investment to deliver these priorities

### **Support businesses**

- Support inward investment and local business expansion in the Borough
- Identify and help businesses access external funding
- Small business grants - (Up to £1000 grants) - 80%-85% business which have received a grant are still trading

### **Local skills agenda**

- SLA with Wheatsheaf Trust for employment support services delivered through the employment access centre in Havant
- S106 Employment and skills plans – securing opportunities in the construction sector for local people on major development sites

### **Events Management**

- Support delivery of events programme across the borough including National events such as the Virgin Kite Surfing Armada, Town Centre Events, Emsworth Food fortnight and Stockheath Common bonfire. This function to move to Community service in April 2017.

In terms of the panel's previous question on how we would measure success, I previously provided a response on this point which is expanded below;

The teams work contributes to the following economic outcomes;

- Jobs growth
- New commercial floorspace
- Business rate receipts
- Productivity improvements
- Retention of businesses in the borough
- Increase in the number of businesses in the borough

Specific successes/ achievements over the next 12 months are anticipated as follows;

- **Brockhampton West**
  - Complete site investigation works required to bring the site forward for development (including bids for external resources)
  - Developed and agreed a financial model to deliver the scheme over the next 2 years
  - The first phase of the project has potential to deliver 30,000 sq ft of new business floorspace, 150 new jobs and over £200,000 per year in rental income to HBC
- **Business support**
  - The team will have
    - assisted local small businesses to secure in excess of £250,000 in external grant funding
    - Linked local businesses with funded national and regional advice and support programmes provided by Government and Local Enterprise Partnerships (including access to finance and exporting)
- **Inward investment**
  - Promoted key development sites in Havant Borough to local, regional and national investors.
  - Provided support to new and local businesses investing in the borough including introduction to site owners, business rate relief and assistance with the planning process
- **Skills**

- The team will have secured external funding to support at least 50 unemployed residents into training and employment “