

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

27 JUNE 2016

**REPORT OF SENIOR
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Regeneration and Transport – Lead Cabinet Member – Cllr Cooke

ECONOMIC CLIMATE REPORT ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH: ANNUAL ROUND-UP

1. Summary

Further to Members receiving the three thematic reports for People, Place and Business this Economic Climate Report summarises the overall economic performance and growth of the Borough in relation to a series of high level indicators, and proposes the production of an Economic Strategy 2016-2031 and three-year Growth Plan for Stockton-on-Tees.

2. Recommendations

1. Note the performance and growth of Stockton's economy.
2. Support the development of an Economic Strategy 2016-2031, and Economic Growth Plan 2016-2019 for the Borough.
3. Agree that future Economic Climate Reports will be the method by which delivery of the Growth Plan will be reported.
4. Delegate approval of the Economic Growth Plan to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Transport and the Director of Economic Growth and Development.

3. Reasons for the Recommendation(s)/Decision(s)

Understanding the nature and extent of opportunities and challenges that exist within Stockton's economy will create a Borough that is more confident, vibrant and successful than ever before; where business and people prosper and grow.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, in

accordance with paragraph 18 of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

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ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH: ANNUAL ROUND-UP**

SUMMARY

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RECOMMENDATIONS

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DETAIL

1. The Economic Climate Report is presented in various sections (**see Appendix 1**):
 - i. **Economic Dashboard** – presents a number of key indicators which are monitored at least quarterly
 - ii. **Updates** – summarising key announcements and developments:
 - **updates** – announcements with implications across key sectors and the region
 - **business announcements** – announcements from some of the key businesses within our Borough
 - **strategic locations** – a brief update on any new development at strategic business locations across the Borough
 - **training & skills** – provides an update on emerging news relating to skills needs and provision

Internet links have been included, where possible, to provide digital viewers of this report with more information on each announcement.

- iii. **Economic Strategy and Economic Growth Plan**
Economic Output – Growth Forecasts

Jobs – Growth Forecasts
Labour Productivity
Job Seekers Allowance – Cumulative Trends

iii. **Case Study** – A relevant case study for the theme. For instance, the case study in this report focuses on the foreign direct investment by Japanese companies in Stockton-on-Tees.

2. To assist with development and delivery of the Economic Strategy and Economic Growth Plan, the Council engages with the business community in a number of ways at both a Member and Officer level. The Council also participates in many of the networks that exist in order to ensure the Council can both support and promote business investments within the Borough. Work is underway to audit the way that we engage and where opportunities exist to strengthen how this can be done more effectively with both the resources currently available and the use of technology. Support to this agenda is being strengthened in the short term to ensure the Council remains at the forefront of business engagement and seeking opportunities to promote growth.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

3. This report does not relate specifically to a new policy or strategy or a change in the delivery of a service. However, it does recommend a process for policy and strategy formulation in the production of the Economic Strategy and Economic Growth Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. Any financial pressures will be picked up and reported as part of the Council's budgetary preparations and medium term financial planning.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no legal implications as a result of this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

6. This economic climate is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

COUNCIL PLAN POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

7. The effects of the economic downturn will have an impact on the Council's ability to deliver against all of the Policy Principles in the Council Plan.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

8. This report does not contain any corporate parenting implications.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

9. Relevant portfolio holder and appropriate officers.

Name of Contact Officer: Richard McGuckin
Post Title: Director of Economic Growth and Development
Telephone No. 01642 527028
Email Address: richard.mcguckin@stockton.gov.uk

Education related?

No

Background Papers

Stockton-on-Tees Local Economic Assessment 2014

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors

Not Ward specific.

Property

There are no implications in relation to the Council's property as a result of this report.