

# Public Document Pack

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A meeting of **Overview & Scrutiny Committee** will be held Virtually on **Tuesday 27 October 2020** at **2.00 pm**

MEMBERS: Mr A Moss (Chairman), Mr K Hughes (Vice-Chairman), Mrs C Apel, Mrs T Bangert, Mr G Barrett, Mr M Bell, Mrs N Graves, Mr D Palmer, Mr C Page, Mr H Potter, Mrs S Sharp and Mr T Johnson (co-optee)

## SUPPLEMENT TO AGENDA

- 6 **Covid 19 - Progress Covid 19 Recovery Action Plans** (Pages 1 - 3)  
The Committee will discuss the attached proposal from Cllr T Johnson for a District wide Towns and Villages Recovery Group during the discussion of this item.

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*In keeping with Part 4 – Rules of Procedure of the Constitution, specifically Section 4.5 Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, “Work programme” 10 (a), I am exercising my entitlement to require this item to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting.*

**Overview and Scrutiny Council recommend, as part of their review of the Recovery Plans and in light of the ongoing economic impact of Covid-19, that Cabinet approve the formation of a Towns & Villages Recovery Group at their next meeting.**

### ***Background***

At July’s Full Council meeting, Councillor Duncton argued against the creation of a geographical recovery group just for the Peninsula because there were needs North of the A27 as well as to its South. Again, at our September meeting she made a plea to not forget there are communities North of the A27 who do not fall within the SDNP but who have needs and concerns. Councillor Briscoe similarly, more than once, has spoken about the need for us to consider the needs of the whole District, not just one part of it.

Three quarters of our Residents do not live in the City. Some in Communities that have been relatively unscathed by the economic impact of Covid-19, others have had a different experience. Even within the relatively unscathed communities, there are micro and small businesses who would appreciate support.

To reflect workload concerns, Members with additional responsibilities would not be expected to play an active part in this group; similarly, and because small business owners may prefer not to meet during business hours, however the Economic Development Team would be updated after each meeting, with an option to attend any meeting should they feel it appropriate. This Group will therefore primarily be an interface to facilitate discussion, build trust and identify tailored needs.

### ***Indicative Terms of Reference***

The Towns & Villages Recovery Group will strive to support the achievement of the aims and aspirations of its participating communities. It will act as a positive interface between them, facilitating discussion, building trust and identifying tailored needs. It will facilitate the flow of useful economic information and allow businesses to share concerns and ideas, by encouraging: -

1. Business growth, the development of infrastructure and the fostering of entrepreneurship;
2. The attraction of new investment and the development of programmes to regenerate the area and improve connectivity;
3. Increases in employment and skills levels and the development of a competitive workforce that meets the demands of employers and the local economies;
4. Increases in the economic inclusion of adults, the tackling of financial exclusion and the reduction of the proportion of children in poverty;
5. A boost to the economies of the participating communities.

The main role of all the participants of the Towns & Villages Recovery Group is to play an active part, take a District wide perspective and develop consensus in the best interests of its participating

communities. Participants will bring their own perspectives and also represent their organisation, interest group or area. They will be required to adhere to these Terms of Reference and: -

- Be accountable by working openly and honestly, and reporting back to their organisation;
- Demonstrate commitment by attending every meeting where possible, and being properly prepared by reading any paperwork beforehand;
- Remain focussed and strategic and to contribute positively to discussions and work with other participants to achieve consensus.

The Towns & Villages Recovery Group is not to be used to air individual grievances or complaints unless they affect the strategic economic performance of the District. Participants must act with honesty, objectivity and integrity in achieving consensus through debate. They must respect the confidentiality of the information provided, reflect the positive interests of the organisation they represent, raise areas of strategic concern, and contribute their experience & expertise to discussions & decisions to achieve good workable solutions. They will respect others, and listen to & take account of their views regardless of their gender, race, age, ethnicity, disability, religion, sexual orientation or any other status.

The Standing Members of the Towns & Villages Recovery Group will be: -

- Chair - a Member who exercises no other additional responsibility, e.g. Cabinet, Committee Chair;
- Vice Chair – a Member who also exercises no other additional responsibility, e.g. Cabinet, Committee Chair;
- Other Ward Members who wish to participate;
- An Economic Development Team Link, who may attend meetings at their discretion, but will always be fully updated after each one.

Participation will be open to all active businesses and business groups operating outside of the City. Parishes and the voluntary sector will also be invited to provide participants. They may change over time at the discretion of the Chair and Vice Chair, and be asked not to attend meetings if they do not adhere to these Terms of Reference.

The Towns & Villages Working Group is responsible for bringing together business and voluntary, public and private organisations operating in our District outside of the City in order to provide a positive information exchange which will benefit the area's economic activity. All information, advice and support will be fit for purpose, accurate, timely, objective, clear, concise and reliable.

Each participant is required to declare any personal or pecuniary interest (direct or indirect) in any agenda items and shall take no part in the discussion or decision making about that item.

The Towns & Villages Working Group will meet at least on a monthly basis; in view of the supportive role of the Economic Development Team Link, they will be informed in advance of any additional persons attending and making a planned contribution.

These Terms of Reference can only be amended following consultation with the Cabinet of Chichester District Council.

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