

Executive

Proposed Submission to Heseltine Review

1 October 2012

Report of Head of Strategic Planning and Economy

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider a proposed submission by Cherwell District Council to the Heseltine Review.

This report is public

Recommendations

The Executive is recommended:

- (1) To report on the proposed CDC draft response
- (2) To consider the views of the Executive and adopt the attached draft CDC response.

Executive Summary

Introduction

- 1.1 The Council has an interesting experience that is of relevance to the issues which the review team are considering. Following the adoption of its first Economic Development Strategy CDC has undertaken a series of practical steps to encourage growth in the District, with Masterplans to guide town growth, Jobs Clubs to tackle unemployment, business support, active tourism promotion. CDC is also a member of 2 LEPs.

Proposals

- 2.1 The In the Autumn of 2011 the Chancellor and Secretary of State for Business asked Lord Heseltine to undertake an independent review of how spending Departments and other relevant public sector bodies interact with the private sector and to assess their capacity to deliver pro-growth policies.
- 2.2 The Government has stated that its top priority is to achieve sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries. It remains committed to tackling the financial deficit to restore

economic confidence and stability, and resolutely focused on creating the right conditions for business success.

2.3 The review by Lord Heseltine is still at an early stage. The review team will be working under the following four themes:

- Benchmark UK performance against a range of economic indicators
- International comparison of industrial policies
- Assess capacity of departments to deliver pro-growth policies
- Assess how departments interact with the private sector

Making a submission

2.4 It is proposed that the Council makes a submission around two of the 4 themes being examined by the Review, namely - the capacity of departments to deliver pro-growth policies and how departments interact with the private sector.

2.5 The Council's draft response is attached and is structured the following sections:

2.0 Supporting local and national growth

3.0 The Backdrop - Recession and growth

4.0 Taking National and Local Action

5.0 Role of Government and Agencies

5.1 The European Union role

6.0 Instruments and Tools for Growth

6.1 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)

6.2 Finance for growth

6.3 Evidence based policy

6.4 The role of planning for enabling growth

6.5 Housing as an economic driver

6.6 Location and Transport

6.7 Supporting a Low Carbon Economy

7.0 Themes for Growth – building on the Cherwell Experience

7.1 Theme One: People (skills development, work readiness, help to find work)

7.2 Theme Two: Business (entrepreneurship, enabling success, attracting investment)

7.3 Theme Three: Place (provide transport and housing infrastructure, support rural areas and develop key urban sites)

Background Information

2.1 Please find attached proposed submission

Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options

- 3.1 This is an opportunity to submit observations to the Heseltine Review from a Cherwell District Council perspective.
- 3.2 This is an opportunity to build a dialogue with the Review Team to secure policy changes of benefit to the Cherwell District.

The following options have been identified. The approach in the recommendations is believed to be the best way forward

- Option One** Do nothing, do not submit to the Review.
- Option Two** Adopt the proposed response
- Option Three** Amend the proposed response and submit to the Review

Consultations

None This is a proposed response from CDC

Implications

- Financial:** No direct implications.
Comments checked by Karen Curtin, Head of Finance and Procurement, 03000030106.
- Legal:** No direct implications.
Comments checked by Kevin Lane, Head of Law and Governance 0300 0030107.
- Risk Management:** None

Wards Affected

All

Corporate Plan Themes

A District of Opportunity

Lead Member

Councillor Norman Bolster
Lead Member for Estates and the Economy

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Appendix 1	Heseltine Review – Proposed Response
Background Papers	
None	
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