

Title of meeting:	Cabinet and Council
Date of meeting:	9 th September 2019 and 15 th October 2019.
Subject:	Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy 2019-36
Report by:	Director of Regeneration
Wards affected:	All
Key decision:	No
Full Council decision:	Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek approval from Cabinet and Council for the adoption of the new Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy 2019-36.
- 1.2. To note the consultation survey results and the summary feedback from the stake-holder focus groups.
- 1.3 To note the Councils role and the benefits of delivering a successful economic development and regeneration strategy.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet notes the consultation responses from both the survey and the focus groups (see appendix 2) which are on the whole positive and supportive of the strategy.
- 2.2. The Cabinet delegate to the Director of Regeneration to consider the key objectives and proposed actions of the strategy and to ensure that the Council is able to deliver measurable outcomes supporting the economic development and regeneration agenda, working with key stakeholders in the city subject to Council approval of the strategy.
- 2.3 That Cabinet notes the alignment of the strategy with Council corporate objectives and it's commitment to the environment following the declaration of a climate change emergency for Portsmouth.
- 2.4 That Cabinet notes the alignment of the strategy with the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership's work on the new Local Industrial Strategy.

That Cabinet recommends to the City Council that,

- 2.5 Council adopts the Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy 2019-36.

3. Background

- 3.1. It is critical that the Council sets out a clear economic development and regeneration strategy and vision for the city for the following reasons:-
- 3.2. In November 2017, the National Industrial Strategy was published which included a number of government priorities for the national economy and for particular sectors and grand challenges in technological terms. Since the publication a series of sector deals and grand challenge funding via the Industrial Strategy Challenge fund have been launched. These provide an opportunity for the City to gain substantial benefit and we need to align our project proposals to this Strategy.
- 3.3. The Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (SOLEP) in common with all LEPs is in the process of producing a Local industrial Strategy which is the key strategic document determining how new growth funding and the new UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be used locally . It is critically important that Portsmouth has set out its requirements in a clear well evidenced strategy; which will also be a key lobbying document.
- 3.4. As part of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) the Council is required to set out a clear economic vision and strategy which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth, having regard to Local Industrial Strategies and other local policies for economic development and regeneration. We are required to set criteria, identify strategic sites, for local and inward investment to match the strategy and to meet anticipated needs over the plan period (including making provision for clusters or networks of knowledge driven, creative or high technology industries); we must also seek to address potential barriers to investment, such as inadequate infrastructure, services or housing, or a poor environment; all of which this new Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy addresses.
- 3.5. The key next steps following adoption of the Strategy will be to continue to work with local stakeholders to progress an Action Plan for the Themes and Objectives contained in the Strategy. The Economic Growth team will lead on this work, with internal and external partners across the City.

4. Consultation on the final strategy

- 4.1. The public survey on the full draft strategy attracted 670 respondents. There was clear public support for the Strategy with 75% approval and 78% approval for the themes. 70% were over 45 years of age so future work will target young people and especially young entrepreneurs.

- 4.2. Focus groups were held with Shaping Portsmouth, University of Portsmouth, Health Trusts, Portsmouth Naval Base and BAE Systems. All focus groups were very positive about the aims and draft strategy. All appreciated the early consultation last year and final consultation and how there was a direct read across. All wanted to work with the Council to now get on and deliver the strategy. The focus groups made the point that some of the wording could be more ambitious so minor changes have been made to the theme wording.

5. Equality impact assessment

- 5.1. A full equality impact assessment was undertaken and taken into account as regards the consultation, see appendix 3.

6. Legal implications

- 6.1. There are no direct legal impacts as a result of the recommendations within the report - however, in adopting and subsequently implementing the Portsmouth economic development and regeneration strategy there will be a need for legal services to be engaged throughout noting the potential planning, highways, and procurement issues. There will be a need to engage with third party terms of reference for relevant funding streams such as the SLEP to ensure legal concerns such as state aid implications are reviewed and fully understood.

7. Director of Finance's comments

- 7.1. The costs associated with the production and consultation of the Strategy have been met from within existing cash limits; however, the Strategy itself may give rise to financial implications in the future as it is likely to underpin bids for funding from Central Government, the Solent LEP and other bodies. Future financial implications arising during the implementation of the strategy will be the subject of future reports to Cabinet prior to any spending commitments being entered into.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

- 1) Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy 2019-36.**
- 2) Portsmouth Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy Focus Group Summary Output.**
- 3) Full equality impact assessment.**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Full evidence Base	https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/development-and-planning/regeneration/a-plan-for-portsmouths-prosperity
Public Survey analysis	https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/development-and-planning/regeneration/a-plan-for-portsmouths-prosperity

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: