



## Minutes of the Staffordshire Leaders Board Meeting held on 9 March 2023

Present: Alan White (Chair)

Roger Lees  
Doug Pullen

Paul Roberts  
Simon Tagg

**Apologies:** George Allen, Patrick Farrington, Olivia Lyons, Andy O'Brien, Jeremy Oates and Andrew Stokes

**Also in attendance:** Andrew Barratt (Tamworth Borough Council), Tim Clegg (Stafford Borough Council / Cannock Chase District Council), Chris Ebberley (Staffordshire County Council), Darryl Evers (Staffordshire County Council), Simon Fletcher (Lichfield District Council), Martin Hamilton (Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council), John Henderson (Staffordshire County Council), Keith Luscombe (Staffordshire County Council), Cristian Marcucci (Staffordshire County Council), Annette Roberts (South Staffordshire District Council), Wendy Tompson (Staffordshire County Council) and John Tradewell (Staffordshire County Council)

### PART ONE

#### 16. Apologies

#### 17. Declarations of Interest

None

#### 18. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approved as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

#### 19. Chairperson's Update

The Chairperson and Leader of Staffordshire County Council gave a verbal update to the Leaders' Board. The update informed the Board on Business Start Ups, Asylum Seekers, the Armed Forces Community Covenant, Staffordshire Day and the King's Coronation.

#### 20. Economic Vision and Priorities

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Staffordshire

The Board received an update and considered the Economic Vision & Priorities document.

The Staffordshire Leaders' Board agreed:

- That the final version of the Economic Vision & Priorities be approved.
- That a supporting delivery plan to be developed by the Economic Growth Directors Group over the coming months, to be considered by the Leaders' Board in the summer.

## **21. Economic Growth Programme Update**

The Board received an overview of the work undertaken by the Leaders' Board and supporting officer groups over the past year, projects and programmes that are currently ongoing, as well as providing a look to the year ahead.

The Board:

- Agreed to note the work already undertaken by the Leaders' Board and supporting officer groups, including successes in helping to secure investment in the county.
- Considered and commented upon the progress being made on the many shared projects and programmes outlined within the report that are being progressed jointly by the Staffordshire local authorities.

## **22. Staffordshire Employment and Skills Strategy**

The Board received the draft Employment and Skills Strategy which has been developed to support the delivery of the economic vision and priorities. The Employment and Skills strategy can be used to guide future employment and skills work programmes, to support external funding bids, to enable effective communication of Staffordshire's shared employment and skills goals, and to inform the development of the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) for Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.

The Board:

- Considered and commented upon the draft Employment and Skills Strategy vision and priorities set out within the report.
- Agreed that the Economic Growth Directors Group develop the vision and priorities into a succinct document to guide future work programmes and

enable effective communication of Staffordshire's shared employment and skills goals.

- Agreed that the final draft of the document be circulated electronically to Leaders for comment and agreement prior to the Summer 2023 Leaders' Board meeting.
- Agreed that they consider for sign-off the final version of the Employment and Skills Strategy at the Summer 2023 Leaders' Board meeting.
- Agreed that the appointed representatives of the Economic Growth Directors Group lead on the dialogue with Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire Employer Representative Body in the development of its LSIP with the aim of ensuring that the LSIP contributes to the delivery of Staffordshire's Employment and Skills vision and priorities.

### **23. Code of Joint Scrutiny Working - Local Authorities**

The Board considered the revised Code of Joint Working Arrangements (Joint Code) with District and Borough Councils for Health Scrutiny.

The Code has been reviewed and refreshed to develop the health scrutiny function across Staffordshire and to foster good relationships with District and Borough Council scrutiny committees and Health Partners.

The Board:

- Considered and approved the revised Code of Joint Working Arrangements (Joint Code) with District and Borough Councils for Health Scrutiny.
- Agreed that the Leaders of each District and Borough Council would take the Joint Code back to their respective Local Authorities for adoption.

### **24. Exclusion of the Public**

**Chairman**