

Name of meeting: Annual Council

Date: 24 May 2017

Title of report: Re-establishment of (i) Town Centre Working Party and (ii) Regional Issues Working Party for the 2017-2018 Municipal Year

To consider the re-establishment of the Town Centre Working Party and the Regional Issues Working Party.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	N/A
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	N/A
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal, Governance and Commissioning Support?	Julie Muscroft
Cabinet member portfolio	N/A

Electoral wards affected: Not applicable

Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable

Public or private: Public

1. **Summary**

To consider the re-establishment of the Town Centre Working Party and the Regional Issues Working Party for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

At the meetings of Council on 14 December and 22 March 2017 respectively, a decision was taken to establish the Town Centre Working Party, and the Regional Issues Working Party. This report seeks approval for the Bodies to be re-constituted for the 2017-2018 Municipal Year. The current Terms of Reference are appended to this report and the membership is as below;

Town Centre Working Party -

2 : 2 : 1 : 1, plus Cabinet Member

Regional Issues Working Party –

Leader and Deputy Leader

Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Economy, Skills, Transformation and Planning

Councillors who are not members of the Executive on a 2:2:2:1:1 ratio.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 **Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP)**

Not applicable

3.2 **Economic Resilience (ER)**

Not applicable

3.3 **Improving Outcomes for Children**

Not applicable

3.4 **Reducing demand of services**

Not applicable

3.5 **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

Not applicable

4. **Consultees and their opinions**

Not applicable

5. **Next steps**

The Working Parties will be re-established in accordance with the decision of Council.

6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

That approval be given to the re-establishment of Town Centre Working Party and Regional Issues Working Party for the 2017/18 municipal year in accordance with the membership as set out above, and the attached terms of reference.

7. **Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendation**

Not applicable

8. **Contact officer**

Andrea Woodside, Principal Governance Officer

9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

Not applicable

10. **Service Director responsible**

Julie Muscroft – Legal, Governance and Commissioning

APPENDIX

TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY – TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To explore the challenges and trends facing Huddersfield Town Centre, such as the significant changes in the way people carry out retail and business transactions and use their leisure time and the impact this has had on Town Centre usage.
2. To look at opportunities and challenges, for Huddersfield Town Centre presented by significant planned private sector investment such as Kingsgate Phase 2 and The HDONE and the increase in town centre residential.
3. To hear evidence on overall retail trends in respect of town centre activity and the impact of a range of factors, to include:
 - Trends from a customer and business perspective
 - Rental values/commercial yields/vacancy rates
 - The potential impact of major developments planned in and around the town centre
 - The impact of transport infrastructure changes and the balance between different modes of transport, including public transport on the town centre
 - Parking and enforcement issues
 - The increase in residential activity within the town centre
 - The impact of the evening economy, major sporting activity and Sunday trading
 - The economy as a whole, including consumer and business confidence and opportunities to attract investment
 - Competition from the internet and out of town retail centres
 - The impact of austerity on the town centre environment
 - The impact of population changes and habits, including leisure activity, attitudes to shopping and town centres being promoted as leisure destinations.
 - Crime and safety issues
 - The quality of the town centre streetscape and environment
 - The impact of the University and Kirklees College
 - Bus gates
4. To report to the Cabinet and Council on the Working Party's findings with a view to informing future policy development, planning and decision making impacting on the town centre.

REGIONAL ISSUES WORKING PARTY – TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To act as a forum for discussing and sharing information on regional infrastructure issues that have long term implications and/or opportunities for Kirklees.
2. To assist in informing the Leader, Deputy Leader and other Councillors who are participating in Regional decision making, on the best interests of Kirklees and its communities.
3. To provide a cross party opportunity for the raising of issues of concern on Regional issues with the Councils representatives at the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and other Regional Bodies.