

Meeting: Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

Date: 25 January 2022

Title: Town Centres

Author: Michael Robson

Tel: 643 5359

Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To introduce a scrutiny exercise to examine the development of the Borough's town centres.

2. Details

3.1 In determining its work programme for the year ahead, members indicated that that as a priority they wished to examine how the Council can support the development of the borough's town centres.

3.2 The sub-committee previously appointed a sub group to undertake an in depth investigation into the future of town and retail centres in 2019 and earlier this year it considered the impact of the Reopening High Streets Safely Fund, the Welcome Back Fund and the Council's town centre regeneration plans.

3.3 Building on this work, John Sparkes, Head of Regeneration and Economic Development and Paul Dowling, Service Manager: Regeneration and Transport have agreed to attend tonight's meeting to present details of how the Council is supporting the development of the borough's town centres. A copy of the draft presentation slides is attached as an appendix.

3.4 In line with the role of overview and scrutiny, members of the sub-committee may wish to

- a) ask questions to review and challenge the impact of decisions and actions taken by the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations;
- b) agree to carry out further investigations and involve communities to reflect their views and concerns; or
- c) make evidence based recommendations to support and assisting the Elected Mayor, Cabinet and partner organisations in the formulation of their future plans, strategies.

4. Background Information

The following documents have been used in the compilation of this report and may be inspected at the offices of the author:

- North Tyneside Council Constitution
- Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee minutes and work programme 2020/21