

REPORT TO	ON
Scrutiny Committee	22 October 2020



TITLE	REPORT OF
South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan	Director of Planning and Property

Is this report confidential?	No
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### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to provide an opportunity for Scrutiny Committee to consider the draft South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan prior to the Action Plan going before Cabinet in November 2020.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that Scrutiny Committee consider and provide comment on the draft Community Wealth Building Action Plan

### CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

An exemplary Council	✓
Thriving communities	✓
A fair local economy that works for everyone	✓
Good homes, green spaces, healthy places	✓

### BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

4. The Council has an ambition to change the way in which it undertakes Economic Development. We want to make our approach more focused upon cooperation between partners and citizens and with a greater emphasis upon delivering maximum benefit for the South Ribble economy and our residents in economic, social and environmental terms. With this in mind a commission to explore Community Wealth Building has recently been instructed with Matthew Baqueriza-Jackson an independent policy advisor who specialises in this area of work. The commission is now at an advanced stage where a draft action has been prepared

## PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

5. As evidenced in the new Corporate Plan and Community Strategy, the Council has an ambition and vision for Economic Development activity to be undertaken in a cooperative way involving a range of public, commercial and social sector partners and residents of the Borough. It also has the ambition that all activities undertaken by these partners should bring maximum local economic, social, democratic, cultural and environmental benefit for South Ribble and its residents.
6. The Community Wealth Building Action Plan, which is framed by the emerging new Corporate Plan and the existing Community Strategy, together with learning from elsewhere, therefore sets out South Ribble's approach over the next five years to further shifting our approach from one of 'Traditional' Economic Development to one of Community Wealth Building. Community wealth building is based on 4 principles as follows:
  - **Principle 1: 'Triple Bottom Line' Outcomes** - success is the realisation of a range of social, environmental, health and well-being, cultural, and community outcomes
  - **Principle 2: Cooperation** - organisations across the public, commercial and social sectors working together with residents to change the economic destiny of a place
  - **Principle 3: Localisation** - harness wealth for the benefit of a local economy
  - **Principle 4: Anchor Institutions** - are based in a place and shifting their behaviour so that greater benefit is realised. Anchor Institutions are big, often public sector Institutions (but not always) which have a significant stake in place because they spend lots of money buying goods and services, they employ lots of people, they own lots of land and assets, they often have a democratic mandate, and they are unlikely to go anywhere;
7. The Action Plan has been developed through a number of workshops with key Council Officers and Members of the Cabinet together with external engagement via the South Ribble Partnership and engagement with businesses. This is crucial to how the action plan moves forward as whilst the Council is an important player its success is reliant on other key stakeholders and businesses embracing the action plan.
8. The action plan is based on the five pillars of community wealth building and these can be summarised as follows:
  - **Pillar 1: Progressive Procurement** - the approach of local authorities and other Anchor Institutions to buying goods and services is done in a way which enables local organisations the opportunity to compete and bid, and in a way which brings wider social and environmental benefits
  - **Pillar 2: Advancing fairer employment and just labour markets** - the approach of local authorities, Anchor Institutions and wider business to employment and recruitment is undertaken in a fair and equitable way
  - **Pillar 3: Plural ownership of the economy** - more democratic forms of businesses such as Worker Owned Cooperatives, Social Enterprise, and Community Interest Companies are provided with the conditions in which to flourish
  - **Pillar 4: Socially just use of land** - this is about utilising the assets of local authorities and other Anchor Institutions in a more community focused way. This includes ensuring that all planning and development decisions bring community benefits

- **Pillar 5: Making financial power work for local places** - utilising existing resources such as pension funds in a more community focused and democratic way
9. For each of these pillars there are a number of actions identified to deliver the pillars and these are outlined in the appendix to this report.
10. Finally, the Action concludes making a series of recommendations which can be summarised as follows:
- **Recommendation 1 : Adopt Action Plan** – the Council needs to adopt the South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan at both Member and Senior Officer level. This will enable the actions and associated roles and responsibilities to be embedded into the workloads of relevant Officers and enable budget lines to be set against it.
  - **Recommendation 2 : Resourcing** – the Council needs to look at resourcing the implementation. The consultant recommends 2 Officer roles one focused on delivery and one on the monitoring of outcomes of the action plan. There may, however, be other ways to resource this which need to be considered too
  - **Recommendation 3 : Promotion and Communication** – the Council needs to communicate and promote the Community Wealth Building Action Plan to both South Ribble based business and residents. The Plan should also be promoted nationally through CLES' Community Wealth Building Centre of Excellence.
11. Scrutiny Committee are asked to review the Action Plan and provide comments to help shape the final version of the Action Plan to be tabled at Cabinet in November 2020.

## **CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION**

12. Consultation during the work on the Action Plan has included key Council Officers and Cabinet. There has also been engagement with the South Ribble Partnership. Workshops with the Partnership and local businesses are ongoing at the moment.

## **AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

13. The action plan will provide wide ranging environmental outcomes.

## **COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER**

14. The advice outlined in the report suggests the resources required to deliver the action plan to be, as a minimum, two officer roles and a budget for communication and promotion. Subject to approval of the action plan, officers will provide recommendations to Executive Cabinet as to how this will be funded, this will depend on whether there is sufficient in-house expertise and capacity within the council as a whole.

## **COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

15. Legal Services and Procurement have been involved in the development of these proposals. Work in particular with regard to a Social Value policy and Social Value Framework (in the context of procurement) is particularly advanced. Some of the finer detail still needs to be worked out but the broad principles are sound. This is a new departure for this council but something has been done elsewhere.

**OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

<p>▶ <b>Risk</b></p> <p>▶ <b>Equality &amp; Diversity</b></p>	<p>Risks relate to not adopting the action plan and the loss of social, environmental, economic and community benefits.</p> <p>The action plan provides for wide ranging positive outcomes for equality and diversity.</p>
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**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS (or There are no background papers to this report)**

None

**APPENDICES (or There are no appendices to this report)**

Appendix A : Draft South Ribble Community Wealth Building Action Plan

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