



Date of Meeting	24 th February 2021
Portfolio	Thriving Economy
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Public/Private Document	Public

Economy Directorate Plans 2020-2021: Quarter 3 Performance Update

Executive Summary

1. To report progress at the end of Quarter 3 (1st October – 31st December 2020) towards achievement of the targets contained in the Economy Directorate Plan 2020-21.

Recommendation

2. Members are asked to review the information contained within the report and the appendices.

Reason for Recommendation

3. In accordance with the Council's performance management framework, progress toward targets contained within Directorate Plans are to be reported to relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committees at the end of each quarter.
 - 3.1 The Quarter 3 progress report for the Economy Directorate is attached at Appendix 1. Actions within each appendix have been colour coded in accordance with the following criteria
 - 3.2 **Red:** Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date
Amber: Action not fully completed or not on track to be completed by the target date due to circumstances outside of the directorate's control
Green: Action completed by the target date
Purple: Action is not yet due for completion but is currently on track

The appendix includes a commentary against actions that are showing red, amber or purple.

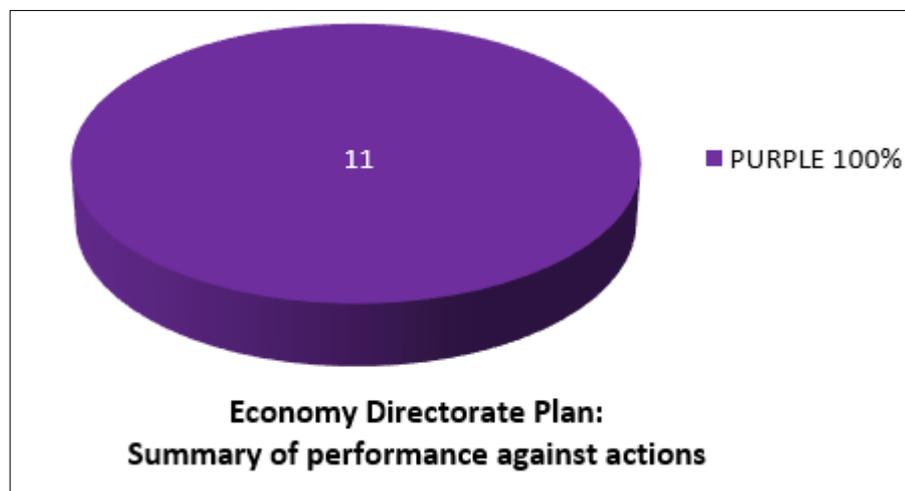
- 3.3 Appendix 2 provides information on the Q3 performance of Rochdale Development Agency.

Key Points for Consideration

4. Economy Directorate Plan 2020-21 Progress

Performance Overview

- 4.1 100% (11) of the actions included in the Directorate Plan 2020-21 are ongoing. The chart below shows the overall performance of the Directorate in meeting its plan targets at the end of Quarter 3.



Quarter 4 Summary

- 4.2 During Quarter 3, a total of 1783 residents received employability and skills support, 273 secured new jobs and 351 completed courses in growth sectors. A total of 116 new jobs were created with RDA assistance. The Kingsway Logic scheme was fully let.
- 4.3 Rochdale received an 'in principle' £17m funding offer from the Future High Streets Fund. This will contribute towards the Riverside Phase 2 project. A Towns Fund bid was also submitted for £25m. for various projects, including the Advanced Machinery and Productivity Institute (AMPI) on Kingsway and new homes on Central Retail Park (Neighbourhood Rochdale).
- 4.4 Over £117m of external funding has been secured through the work of the Directorate in 2020/21. This includes £31,712,800 of GM devolved funds with a further £328,000 of funding secured. Further bids for the GM Brownfield Land fund for the Neighbourhood Rochdale, British Vita and Castleton station were submitted. Draft Heywood and Littleborough Town Centre Masterplans will be presented to Townships in early 2021.

- 4.5 Preliminary work commenced on the Junction 19 Link Road project and a planning application submitted for a first phase of commercial development. .
- 4.6 Work to decant services from the Town Hall was completed. The new GM Fire Service Museum is on track to open later in 2021 branded as FIREGROUND.
- 4.7 Good progress was made on several brownfield housing schemes with a planning application submitted for 101 homes on the former Carcraft site in Castleton. Countryside Properties will commence redevelopment of the former Dunlop Mills, Castleton for 225 homes in early 2021 using a £1.65m grant secured from the GMCA brownfield land fund. Capital and Centric and Wilmott Dixon were appointed to redevelop the former Central Retail Park site for around 220 homes, which will comprise the first phase of the Rochdale Station Gateway project. Enabling works also commenced on the Rochdale Riverside Phase 2 scheme with a detailed planning application submitted.
- 4.8 The Estates team completed the disposal of eighteen assets, achieving capital receipts of £500k. Despite the pandemic, rent collection rose to 94%. No rent increases will be implemented until the Covid crisis ends. Terms were agreed for a new letting of Number One Riverside. However, the Directorate is unable to meet savings targets from strategic investment from the Property Growth Fund due to a lack of suitable opportunities. Business centres have remained open with Covid secure practices in place during the latest restrictions and occupancy remains high at over 90%. The impact of Covid and retailers opening late means the business rates growth target is unlikely to be met. Rental payments on main investment properties have been restructured but not reduced.
- 4.9 Consultation on the Publication GM Spatial Framework Plan was withdrawn following the decision of Stockport Council to withdraw itself from the Plan. Further work is taking place to consider an alternative approach to the preparation of a joint Plan with remaining GM Districts. This will delay preparation of a new Local Plan. The Council approved the 2040 Transport Strategy and Delivery Plans, including a Local Transport Plan. However, work on a new planning enforcement plan was suspended to allow the service to focus on a surge in enforcement cases which has continued during lockdown.

Alternatives Considered

- 4.10 Not applicable

Costs and Budget Summary

5. None

Risk and Policy Implications

6. None

Consultation

7. Not required

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
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8. Appendix 1 - Economy Directorate Plan 2020-21 Q3 Appendix 2 - RDA Performance Report Q3	Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1XU
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