

Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee

Establishment of programme resource and next phase of delivery

Date:	4 April 2022
Key ambition area:	All
Sponsors:	Emma Alexander and Huw Bowen
For publication:	Yes

1.0 Purpose of the report

1.1 To confirm arrangements for the establishment of the Vision Derbyshire programme resource and to outline next steps in respect of Phase 4 implementation.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Vision Derbyshire programme resource be established, as approved by the current full member authorities Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council.

2.1 Note the next steps of in respect of Phase 4 implementation as set out in the report.

3.0 Reason for recommendations

3.1 Establishing the programme resource is critical in supporting the implementation of Vision Derbyshire Phase 4 proposals. Without the programme resource there is limited capacity to progress delivery and further develop identified programme activity.

3.2 Taking forward the development of detailed implementation plans and undertaking wider engagement and involvement in Phase 4 of the approach will be important in accelerating delivery.

4.0 Report details

- 4.1 Phase 4 Vision Derbyshire seeks to build on the foundations and architecture built during previous phases of the approach, whilst clearly focusing on programme delivery specifically aimed at achieving better outcomes for local people and places across Derbyshire under the following four ambition themes:
- Seize innovation
 - Establish relentless ambition
 - Build proactive communities
 - Live and work sustainably
- 4.2 Significant progress has been made on the development of the Vision Derbyshire approach to date, however the lack of capacity, particularly at a project and programme delivery level has limited the ability to accelerate delivery.
- 4.3 Establishing a programme resource including a new joint Vision Derbyshire programme team, tasked with accelerating and supporting the implementation of delivery plans and proposals is a critical element of Phase 4 proposals.
- 4.4 Proposals, to adequately resource Phase 4 ambitions and plans, agreed by the current full member authorities Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council are now set out below and will create of the following programme resource:
- Programme team – comprising combination of team members to facilitate delivery
 - Programme budget – funding to support the buy in of specialist expertise and support and support the operation of the Joint Committee and other associated costs
 - Communications budget – funding to support branding, design, campaigns, social media activity etc
 - Equipment, travel and subsistence – to support the activities of the programme team
 - Accommodation – in-kind support from host agency/agencies
- 4.6 Proposals for the Programme Team include the creation of the following roles, in line with the interim host authority’s pay and grading arrangements on a one-year fixed term basis:
- 1 x Grade 12 Programme Manager

- 4 x Grade 8 Senior Project Officers (one per ambition theme)
- 1 x Grade 8 Communications Officer
- 1 x Grade 5 Admin Support

4.7 The total cost of taking forward resourcing proposals currently stands at £331,404. The costs of preparing for and taking forward Phase 4 proposals, will be shared across full member Councils as follows:

Council	£
County Council	174,499
District and Borough Councils	52,350 per council x three councils 157,050
Total	331,549

- 4.8 Work is underway to make the necessary preparations to recruit to the programme team as outlined above and proposals will be implemented at pace following confirmation of the approach by the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee.
- 4.9 Once established the programme resource will have a vital role to play in supporting the development and delivery of agreed programme activity. The programme team and budget will continue to support the development of the short and medium term agreed delivery plan as follows, putting in place detailed implementation proposals.

Ambition	Priorities
Seize Innovation	Business Entrepreneur Scheme
	Smart Towns Programme
Achieve Relentless Ambition	Careers
	Skills and Employment Research
	Festival of Business
	Social Mobility
Build Proactive Communities	Homelessness
	Independent Living
	Domestic Abuse
Live and Work Sustainably	Climate Change
	Shared Planning Policies

- 4.11 The Team will also work with Leader, Chief Executive and Lead Officers for each of the four themes to build a broader longer-term delivery programme to meet agreed Vision Derbyshire ambitions and align with potential County Deal priorities. Detailed implementation plans will be brought forward for approval by the Joint Committee once developed.
- 4.12 Wider engagement and involvement in the Vision Derbyshire approach will also be important during the current and over future phases of the approach. Building on the success of Phase 3, further extending and deepening the engagement and involvement of Elected Members, senior managers and partner organisations through agreed implementation and delivery proposals will therefore also be a priority for the team.

5.0 Alternative options

- 5.1 None – the arrangements for establishing the programme resource have been formally agreed by full member Vision Derbyshire councils and are now being implemented.

6.0 Implications for consideration – Financial and value for money

- 6.1 The total cost of taking forward Vision Derbyshire proposals as set out in the report is £331,404. A breakdown of costings is set out below:

Resource	£'s
Programme Team	
1 x Grade 12 Programme Manager	42,821 oncosts 11,133
4 x Grade 8 Senior Project Officers (1 per theme)	114,688 oncosts 29,820
1 x Grade 8 Communications Officer	28,672 oncosts 7,455
1 x Grade 5 Admin Support	20,092 oncosts 5,223
Programme Team total	259,904
Programme Budget	50,000

Equipment, Travel and Subsistence and host authority costs	15,000
Communications Budget	6,500
Total	331,404

- 6.2 Where an authority determines through its own governance arrangements that it no longer wishes to be a member of the Joint Committee, that authority may cease its membership with effect from the date of its decision. However, authorities will remain liable for any previously agreed financial contributions to fund Vision Derbyshire until the end of the financial year for which those contributions have been agreed regardless of any decision to cease membership.
- 6.3 Where long-term liabilities, such as any Pension Fund shortfall, exists they will be calculated at the point membership ceases and any council exiting the arrangement will pay Chesterfield Borough Council as the interim host authority an amount to cover their share of that liability.
- 6.4 Salary increments for Programme Team members will accrue at agreed intervals and will need to be factored into the future budget profile. Costs will be shared across member councils to ensure this liability does not fall upon Chesterfield Borough Council as the interim host authority.

7.0 Implications for consideration – Legal

- 7.1 Section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 (LGA 1972) permits councils to make arrangements for two or more authorities to discharge any of their functions jointly, and arrange for the discharge of those functions by a Joint Committee.
- 7.2 Under the legislation, all members would have the right to participate and vote on any matters at the Joint Committee. However, voting rights can be restricted in the Terms of Reference to members of those authorities who have delegated to it so that authorities would not be able to vote in respect of functions they have not delegated to

the Joint Committee. This is the approach developed for the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee.

- 7.3 Within the articles of the Joint Committee, agreed at the 4 April 2022 Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee, ‘Section C’ under ‘functions and responsibilities’, oversight of the Vision Derbyshire Delivery Programme is delegated to the Joint Committee. Establishing this programme resources therefore falls under the decision making remit of the Joint Committee.

8.0 Implications for consideration – Human resources

- 8.1 Chesterfield Borough Council as the interim host organisation will be responsible for the recruitment and hosting of the seven Programme Team posts and this will be in line with standard recruitment and remuneration policies.
- 8.2 The Programme Team will report to their dedicated Accountability/Line Manager within Chesterfield Borough Council on matters relating to their employment, however for operational matters relating to the delivery of the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee work programme, will also report to the Assistant Director – Strategy and Policy Derbyshire County Council, who will also hold them to account by working with the Host Authority to monitor their effectiveness and flag any issues of inadequate performance, non-compliance or substandard conduct.
- 8.3 It is proposed that all posts will be created on a fixed term basis, and as such, will be subject to the host council’s redundancy and redeployment policies and procedures. Where employees are on fixed term contracts, employment law determines that they may be entitled to claim both unfair dismissal and/or redundancy payment at the termination of their contract.
- 8.4 Full Vision Derbyshire members will be asked to confirm their willingness to recognise an obligation to the postholders, through offering redeployment opportunities as appropriate, should this become necessary.

9.0 Implications for consideration – Climate change

- 9.0 Climate change activity forms part of delivery proposals and it is expected that the programme budget and team will support the delivery of associated programmes of work and projects as they develop and are brought forward.

10.0 Implications for consideration – Equality and diversity

10.1 Equality Impact Assessments in relation to specific project and programme activities will form a key part of Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee considerations to ensure that appropriate mitigations are developed for potential negative impacts on people with protected characteristics, and positive impacts maximised.

11.0 Implications for consideration – Risk management

Description of the Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Mitigating Action	Impact	Likelihood
Inability to recruit to programme team roles	High	Medium	Work will take place to identify the appropriate recruitment opportunities to secure appointments across the team	Medium	Low
Insufficient programme budget to support project delivery	Medium	Medium	Should additional resources be required this would be the subject of a full business case to the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee with agreement on the approach to adequately resource identified activity.	Medium	Low

Document information

Report author
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Background documents
These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when the report was prepared.
None
Appendices to the report
None