

POLICY & PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

13 JUNE 2022

APPENDIX TO MINUTES

Response to question regarding the positive results on the unemployment data:

The service provided a response to show that we believe it is a combination of job density being higher (more vacancies than ever), a big reduction in 16-24 year olds has also been noted (into work and education after pandemic) and there has been also been a rise in self-employment. The Restart Scheme, Kick Start Scheme and DWP programmes are also proving successful at the moment.

Response to question regarding the museum and what we do to promote with one example being coach trips:

The service have responded to say that we offer bespoke packages to tourism group travel. Pre-COVID we had exhibited at the Group Travel Shows as part of our marketing drive and become part of the Visit England Explorers Road. Alongside that we deliver ongoing promotion through the economic growth and communications teams.

Response to question/suggestion received about a tree sponsorship scheme to empower residents to take ownership and look after a tree themselves:

The service have provided some assurances in terms of the planting programme and also will look into the idea in a bit more detail and if other local authorities have done anything similar.

- *Some of our trees planted as part of the Urban Tree Challenge have failed, which is to be expected with any large-scale planting schemes.*
- *We will be looking at the options and suitability of replacing them this autumn.*
- *The failed trees are mainly ‘whips’ which don’t require as much water as larger ‘standard’ trees which we have also planted this year and are doing well thanks to the team watering them regularly.*
- *These trees are planted in the autumn/winter when they are dormant so that when spring comes around they have an established root system to take them through the summer.*
- *Sometimes the failure is down to uncontrollable factors such as disease or other environmental factors.*