



Report to: Policy & Performance Improvement Committee: 12 January 2026

Director Lead: Deborah Johnson, Director – Customer Services & Organisational Development

Lead Officer: Mark Randle, Transformation & Service Improvement Officer

Report Summary	
Report Title	Presentation by the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Economic Development
Purpose of Report	Update on Role of the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Economic Development
Recommendations	That the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee note the contents of the report.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 At the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee (PPIC) meeting held on 29 January 2024, Members agreed a process for Portfolio Holders to be invited to meetings of the Committee. This enabled the Portfolio Holder to brief the Committee on their remit and current and future plans and projects. It would also offer the Committee opportunity to ask focussed questions of the Portfolio Holder. This process ran from March 2024 to March 2025.
- 1.2 At the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee meeting held on 14 April 2025, Members agreed to a change in the process for Portfolio Holders attending Committee.
- 1.3 The new change in process requested that Portfolio Holders report back on 'specific areas' of their Portfolio, which will be requested by the Committee. Portfolio Holders are asked to produce a short report in answer to these specific areas. They will present back to the Committee and then take questions.

2.0 Proposal /Options Considered

- 2.1 This report relates to the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Economic Development, Councillor Claire Penny.
- 2.2 The Committee has requested information on:

1. The East Midlands Mayoral Combined County Authority recently published a Growth Plan; how are we ensuring that our area is prioritised for investment and resources to deliver economic growth?
2. Our Town Centres have had a challenging time over the last few years, what are we doing to support them?
3. We have many things to do and see in our district; how are we promoting the area to attract visitors?
4. There are many people in the district who have health issues, how are we supporting them into employment or training?
5. Planning reforms are demanding faster, digitally focused plan-making. How do we meet the government agenda for 1.5 million new homes, growth and investment whilst encouraging positive planning outcomes for local communities?
6. New planning reform has the potential to see less applications referred to the Planning Committee. How do we ensure that the voice of our local residents continues to be heard?

3.0 **Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection; Digital & Cyber Security; Equality & Diversity; Financial; Human Resources; Human Rights; Legal; Safeguarding & Sustainability and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Implications Considered			
Yes – relevant and included / NA – not applicable			
Financial	NA	Equality & Diversity	NA
Human Resources	NA	Human Rights	NA
Legal	NA	Data Protection	NA
Digital & Cyber Security	NA	Safeguarding	NA
Sustainability	NA	Crime & Disorder	NA
LGR	NA	Tenant Consultation	NA

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- **Full Council Report - 8 March 2022** – Proposals for the new governance arrangements.
- **PPIC Report - 29 January 2024** - Attendance by Portfolio Holders to Future Meetings of the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee
- **PPIC Report - 14 April 2025**- Attendance by Portfolio Holders to Future Meetings of the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee