

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 27 NOVEMBER 2017

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK GROUP UPDATE**

**Summary**

Since the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the Task Group has held its mid-year meeting to review performance of the new Economic Development Strategy. The next meeting will be in March and will review the year as a whole and it is hoped that attendance will be much better following the very poor attendance this time.

The new strategy reflects the fact that the Council is very busy with existing projects and much of the team's work is focussed on consolidating our work rather than creating new activities.

The Task Group welcomed a report and film on the successes of Celebrate Woking and the marketing effort with #wearewoking which is appearing on billboards around the town centre. The change in rail franchise in August had delayed meetings with the new team but this was in hand and a consultation on a new timetable was underway and WBC would be involved. There is good news on the JSA claimant count as the numbers continue to fall.

It was noted that some residents were challenging a recent planning approval for a comprehensive development in West Byfleet and the matter was now with the Secretary of State.

**Recommendations**

The Committee is requested to

**RESOLVE That** the update be noted.

**Background Papers:**

None

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REPORT ENDS

