

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT
Statement to Scrutiny Places Panel by the
Local Business and Enterprise Portfolio Holder (Cllr Rook)
2010/2011

Achievements

Economic Development – Support for Innovative Businesses

HDC has worked with Prospect Leicestershire (the county's economic development company) to deliver an Innovation Centre in Market Harborough at Airfield Business Park

In November 2009, The Council agreed to appoint William Davis Ltd as preferred bidder, subject to the company securing full planning consent and the whole project cost being met.

Confirmation of EMDA funding was received in July 2010 and construction work began soon after that date.

Running alongside the construction project a procurement exercise took place to select a preferred bidder for the management of the Innovation Centre.

Provide specialist employment skills training and benefits advice to 80 households in housing need

The was target has achieved, however, the funded project ceased on 31st March 2011

Hold business networking events to engage local business from all sectors.

Two business networking events took place during the year. The second event was aimed at helping business secure contracts resulting from the 2012 Olympics.

Support the delivery of 5 town centre events to increase footfall and bring improved trading to the retail sector throughout the district.

Many town centre events were support with the aim of improving footfall. Examples of the events are:

Town Centre litter pick 15th May

Harborough by the Sea 3-4th August

National Play day 4th August

Arts Fresco September 12th September

Italian Market 1-3rd October

To produce 2 updates to the Market Harborough Shopping Guide and investigate the opportunity of producing a guide for Lutterworth and Broughton Astley

Two updates to Market Harborough Shopping Guide produced. Notice boards for Broughton

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Astley and printing of 600 Town Trail leaflets for Lutterworth were delivered by BAIT and LIT respectively through sourcing external funding.

Market Harborough BID

The Market Harborough BID (Business Improvement District) Project consulted many of the businesses in Market Harborough to develop a 5 year Business Plan. Businesses within Market Harborough were balloted in February 2011 to decide whether they would support the Business Plan by agreeing a 2% levy on their Business Rates. The result of the ballot was as follows:

44% Turn out

42% Voted Yes

58% Voted No

Although the BID will now not be implemented the project provided an excellent opportunity to consult with businesses in the centre of Market Harborough.

Current work in progress.

Develop a brochure to supplement the information available on the area provided by Prospect Leicestershire.

Make more use of the website to provide information for businesses

To be undertaken as part of a refresh of the HDC website.

Harborough Innovation Centre (HIC)

The opening of the HIC will take place on 9th June.

The arrangements and contract for the management company will be finalised during June and the company will take up occupation in July.

A Strategy Board will be developed to provide direction for the management of the HIC.

Future plans.

Hold 3 Business Networking Events during 2011/2012.

Oversee the first 9 months of operation of the Harborough Innovation Centre and meeting the targets for occupation and job creation set by EMDA.

Discuss tourism options with Leicestershire Promotions.

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Areas of concern

None at present

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Key Performance Indicators <i>(report on exceptions, i.e. over or under performing BV indicators)</i>			
Better than target		Worse than target	
Corrective Actions			
No corrective actions required			