

Report to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting: 19 November 2020

SCRUTINY



Subject: UK Innovation Corridor - Scrutiny of External Organisation

Responsible Officer: Gary Woodhall (01992) 564470

Democratic Services: Vivienne Messenger (01992) 564243

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

(1) That the Committee undertake appropriate external scrutiny of the effect of the work of the UK Innovation Corridor across the Epping Forest District.

1. The Committee has previously requested an opportunity to undertake appropriate external scrutiny of the effect of the work being undertaken by the UK Innovation Corridor (formerly the London-Stansted-Cambridge Consortium), to better understand the potential benefits for the Epping Forest District. This issue is included in the current work programme for the Committee.

2. Invitations have been extended to the UK Innovation Corridor to attend this meeting. John McGill, Director of the Innovation Corridor, and Dr Ann Limb, Chairman of the Innovation Corridor, have both confirmed that they will attend the Committee meeting.

3. The following questions relating to the UK Innovation Corridor have been notified to Mr McGill and Ms Limb as the initial focus of the external scrutiny:

- (a) what benefit does the District obtain from the UK Innovation Corridor;
- (b) how can the District collaborate better with the UK Innovation Corridor; and
- (c) why did you change your name from the London-Stansted-Cambridge Consortium?

4. The identification of relevant lines of questioning to be raised has also been sought through the Council Bulletin, and Members will have the opportunity to further question the representatives from the Innovation Corridor at the meeting.

Resource Implications:

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The Council's Constitution sets out rules for the management of its Overview and Scrutiny responsibilities. Although external organisations are not generally required by legislation to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is hoped that most would be willing to engage constructively with the Council's scrutiny activity when invited to do so.

Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the District.

Consultation Undertaken:

The proposed scrutiny of the effect of the work being undertaken by the UK Innovation Corridor across the District is included in the current work programme for the Committee.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:Risk Management

The Council's Constitution sets out rules for the management of its Overview and Scrutiny responsibilities.

Equality:

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.