

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 23 September 2021
Report for: Information
Report of: Executive Member for Covid-19 Recovery and Reform

Report Title

Trafford Inclusive Economy and Recovery Plan - Update

Summary

The Covid-19 pandemic was unprecedented and has had an adverse effect on residents, businesses and the economy as a whole.

The Trafford Inclusive Economy Recovery Plan was prepared to identify the specific actions required to ensure effective economic recovery and the delivery of a more inclusive economy in Trafford.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Scrutiny Committee notes the report.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Stephen James (Head of Growth, Communities and Housing)

1.0 Background

- 1.1 To set out a comprehensive roadmap for steering the economy of the borough through recovering from the Covid pandemic, the Executive approved the Trafford Inclusive Economy Recovery Plan (TIERP) in February 2021. The Plan sets out a detailed list of actions covering nine priority themes to be delivered by the Council in partnership with stakeholders (see Appendix 1).

2.0 Trafford Inclusive Economy Recovery Plan Update

- 2.1 The TIERP was produced in consultation with the Inclusive Economy Board and the Executive Members for Housing and Regeneration, Covid-19 Recovery and Reform, and Communities and Partnerships. The Plan identifies a comprehensive list of actions/initiatives against nine Priority Themes to help steer the economy of the borough through the recovery phase. The Priority Themes are as follows:

- Business Support and Sustainable Job Creation
- Transition Preparedness/ Trading Outside of the EU
- Green Economy and Sustainable Job Creation
- Sustainable Jobs and Skills for Growth for Local Residents
- Inward Investment and Sustainable Job Creation
- Funding and Growth
- Strategic Sites Development and Job Creation
- Improved Town Centres for Residents and Businesses
- Increase Visitor Economy

- 2.2 Appendix 1 provides an update on each of the actions/initiatives and provides a RAG rating (red, amber and green) as a quick reference guide to show progress against each. Even though the initial focus has been in dealing with the Covid pandemic and supporting residents and businesses through this difficult period; good progress has been made in delivering the TIERP. As can be seen, the vast majority of actions under each of the Priority Themes are either green or amber (28 and 71 respectively out of a total of 111 actions). Successfully delivering the amber and red actions is a priority going forward.

- 2.3 Delivery of the TIERP is the priority of the recently established Inclusive Economy and Communities Team that sits within the Growth, Housing and Communities Service. However, the Plan can only be delivered in partnership with a wide range of public, private and VCFSE stakeholders and these have been, and will continue to be, engaged throughout the Plan's timeframe. For example, further positive collaboration with the Trafford Youth Employment Task Force Group, the Adult Education Board and the Poverty Action Group has ensured that all activity within the TIERP is aligned to the Council's Corporate Priorities, and other strategies.

- 2.4 Regular updates on the TIERP will be made to the Inclusive Economy Board that sits under the Trafford Partnership, which will have a strategic role in steering and monitoring the Plan's implementation. In addition updates will be provided to the Covid Recovery and Renewal Group and the Executive will receive a further update on the Plan in January 2022.
- 2.5 The Plan is a 'live' document and will be amended/added to over time as priorities and issues to address the recovery change, including the effects of any government policy and funding announcements.

3.0 Wider Corporate Links

- 3.1 The Trafford Inclusive Economy Recovery Plan is consistent with the Council's Corporate Plan and the Council's other policies and strategies, including the Poverty Strategy and the Carbon Neutral Action Plan. The TIERP also sits under, and is a key element in, the delivery of the Corporate Recovery Strategy. The Trafford Recovery and Renewal Group and Inclusive Economic Board/Trafford Partnership will receive regular updates on delivery of the Plan.
- 3.2 At a GM level, it will support the growth ambitions articulated within the GM Strategy, GM LEP Economic Vision, GM LIS and emerging sub-regional plan for the nine GM local authorities.