



Cabinet 17 March 2010

Report of the Policy Development Committee: Economic Assessment and Action Plan (Mar10/04)

1. On 13 January 2010 the Committee was presented with the draft St Edmundsbury Economic Action Plan. This Action Plan had been created following consideration of an economic assessment by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in November 2009.
2. The draft action plan was discussed by the Committee in January, and suggestions made for additions, and there had been a period of consultation on this approved draft which ended in February 2010. The final assessment and action plan was presented to the Policy Development Committee at its meeting on 10 March 2010.
3. The Council's Economic Development Officer (Strategy), Carol Rowntree, took Members through the final Action Plan, explaining why these particular key challenges had been chosen. She also explained that the Council's role was an influencing one, which was why the starting point for creation of the Plan had been the business survey.
4. The Committee thanked all those businesses, organisations and individuals which had helped in the drawing up of the document by providing information, taking part in the business survey or responding to the consultation exercise.
5. A wide ranging discussion on the final Action Plan was held, covering areas including information for businesses on available land and premises and the take-up of the apprenticeship scheme.
6. The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the revised economic assessment and action plan, attached to Report A543, be approved as a guide for the Council's economic activities for the next five years.

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