

Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Scrutiny Panel

Business Support

Aims and Objectives

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To consider what type of support (technical and financial) is available to businesses in Halton.
 To provide a retrospective look at funding and provide future 'horizon scanning'.
 To consider the resources available to deliver these services and potential future risk and Opportunities.
 To understand how this support is provided and by which organisations.
 To assess whether the support provided continues to be relevant to the needs of businesses.

Context/Background

Business Support covers a number of functions:
 Grants to businesses
 Advice on Business Planning

Methodology

Timescale

November 2021 to January 2022

Scrutiny Topic Group Session 1

Date of meeting: November 2021

Purpose of the session: To provide an overview of the policy context as well as a summary of business support activities in Halton

	<p>The session will refer to COVID grants provided as well as the work the Council undertakes through Business Growth Programmes</p> <p>Expert witnesses: Paul Corner Principal Inward Investment Officer and Sally McDonald Regeneration Manager and W Rourke Operational Director</p>
Scrutiny Topic Group Session 2	<p>Date of meeting: December 2021</p> <p>Purpose of the session: to provide an overview of work of other providers</p> <p>Expert witnesses: Rachael Owen, Halton Chamber of Commerce, Mark Basnett or his nominee Managing Director of the Growth Platform</p>
Scrutiny Topic Group Session 3	<p>Date of meeting: January 2022</p> <p>Purpose of the session: Case Studies & Visits to Halton companies</p> <p>Expert witnesses: Local Business representatives that have received support</p>
Scrutiny Topic Group Session 4	<p>Drafting of Final report, conclusions & recommendations to form a report to the PPB meeting in February 2022.</p>

Potential outcomes	
Expected outcomes	<p>It is expected that this review will support the ELS&C PPB in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right interventions? Most appropriate providers Links with other services Managing expectations in terms of resources available
Measuring success	<p>Any recommendations arising out of the review will be considered by the Employment, Learning, Skills and Community PPB and once agreed presented to the council's Executive Board. Subject to Executive Board approval, recommendations will be implemented and monitored.</p>
Officer/Member involvement	
Members	<p>All Members of the ELS&C PPB will be given the opportunity to be involved in the Scrutiny Topic Group review.</p> <p>Chair of the scrutiny topic group –</p> <p>The Scrutiny topic Group will be supported by the following council officers:-</p> <p>Other officers and guest speakers will be invited to participate in the Scrutiny Topic Group as appropriate.</p>