

O&S REVIEW PROGRESS REPORT



Part 1: About the review	
Subject:	Regeneration schemes (other than Sittingbourne Town Centre)
Lead review member:	Councillor Roger Truelove
Other review members:	Councillors Mike Baldock, Lloyd Bowen, Mike Henderson and Ben Stokes
Review type:	Performance review
Objective	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review the effectiveness of measures to regenerate the Borough, including the role played by Swale Borough Council and its partners; To review how individual schemes contribute to the strategic drivers of the local economy (business, skills, employability, infrastructure, investment, innovation etc); As necessary, to make recommendations to Cabinet. 	

Part 2: Progress report		
Overall progress		
X	Either: The deadlines on the work programme are expected to be met.	
	Or: The deadlines on the work programme are not expected to be met.	
Changes to deadlines	<u>Original expectation</u>	<u>Revised expectation</u>
Begin evidence gathering:	June 2018	-
Committee sessions (if any):	N/A	N/A
Draft report to committee:	TBA	TBA
Note: Changes to dates of committee session(s) and for the draft report to be presented to committee must be reflected in the committee work programme.		
Progress against main review stages		
Inception:	Completed	
Evidence/input:	In progress	
Report:	Not yet started	
Follow-up:	Not yet started	
Commentary on progress		
This review was originally identified in 2017/18 and the Scrutiny Committee adopted		

a review plan on 22 March 2018 but this was revised (as attached) and adopted at the Committee on 7 June 2018 following a change of coordinator and membership resulting from the 2018/19 Annual Council.

The Task and Finish Group met on 21 June to discuss the way forward on the review and members either collectively or individually met with officers as follows:

- 19 July: Charlotte Hudson and Kieren Mansfield (Economy and Community Services – ECS) to discuss diversity of the local economy and the skills profile of the local labour market;
- 30 July: Charlotte Hudson and Jill Read (ECS) to discuss regeneration activity in town centres and urban areas;
- 11 September: Charlotte Hudson (ECS) to discuss regeneration in deprived areas;
- 12 September: Kieren Mansfield (ECS) to discuss regeneration in rural areas.

Summary notes of these meetings are available along with some background statistics that were provided by ECS to Task and Finish Group members.

At the outset of the review, it was agreed that monthly meetings of the Task and Finish Group would be held on a regular cycle (i.e. before Planning Committee meetings) in order to review progress and push the review forward. However, attendance at these meetings has generally been poor and there haven't been any instances where all members of the Task and Finish Group have met around the table at the same time.

Given that progress on the review has not progressed as initially anticipated, the review coordinator would like the Committee as whole to consider:

- (a) whether the review should be put on hold until after the Borough elections in May 2019;
- (b) whether the scope of the review needs to be revised in order that it focuses on narrower range of factors that would aid a quicker conclusion to the review; or
- (c) whether the scope of the review remains the same, but with a revised Task and Finish Group membership.