8. Economic Development and Regeneration Service Profile
(2026/27)

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Purpose of Plan

This Business Plan provides an overview of the service, and sets out its key priorities, high level objectives, key deliverables, and key performance measures. It will be supported by individual team plans which contain more detail about how teams work towards meeting priorities and measuring success.

The priorities and actions set out in the Business Plan focus only on key areas of development, improvement, and transformation, and does not cover all detailed aspects of service delivery. The identified priorities will link directly into the Council's contribution towards the Community Plan and achievement of productivity and savings targets.

Progress against the service plan will be reviewed on a regular basis within directorate teams, by the Corporate Strategy Team, and in consultation with Cabinet Portfolio Holders.

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1. Service Overview

Service Description

The Economic Development and Regeneration Service leads and shapes the social, economic, and environmental strategy and activity for the city by bringing together key partners and delivery agents from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

Our key responsibilities include:

- Strategy and Policy
    - Delivery, support, and partnership working to ensure the success of Hull and East Yorkshire's Combined Authority, setting out Hull's strategic framework for and delivering projects aligned with the Council and Combined Authority's priorities, Invest 2035: the UK's modern industrial strategy, and Investment Plan for Hull and East Yorkshire
    - Development, delivery, review and performance management against the Economic Strategy, Climate Change and Nature Strategy, and Local Plan
    - Develop investment and business plans to support achievement of the Council's economic and environmental ambitions leveraging external funding and grants to support the Council's capital and revenue programmes
    - Lead on the corporate strategy for delivery of the Government's Pride in Place Programme, working with the Neighbourhood Boards and supporting neighbourhood teams on delivery
    - Horizon scanning and supporting the development of the Hull's profile in national and regional devolution and joint-working arrangements for the long-term benefit of the city
- Hull Training and Adult Education
    - Provision of a wide range of training, education, and apprenticeship programmes that empower learners of all ages to build their confidence, develop essential skills, and take steps towards further education and new employment opportunities.
    - Alignment of our training and development with the Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIP) in Hull that is responsive to and relevant to local labour market and employer driven labour market demands.
    - Our programmes are designed to boost learners' employability and support the Government's Get Britain Working initiative, which aims to create sustainable pathways into meaningful employment. In addition, our collaboration with Skills Bootcamps offers flexible, employer-led training to quickly upskill individuals in high-demand sectors, enhancing their job prospects.
    - We offer a diverse range of occupational activities, including tailored learning first steps pathways, apprenticeships in Engineering, Business Administration, Customer Service, Business, Digital Media, and Construction, as well as apprenticeships and study programmes. These opportunities are carefully tailored to address both current skills shortages and future employment trends.
    - Our tailored learning provision ensures flexible, personalised pathways that meet individual needs and local labour market priorities. By removing barriers to participation and focusing on disadvantaged groups, we promote social

mobility—helping learners gain skills, progress into higher-value employment, and contribute to inclusive economic growth across Hull and East Riding.
    - Our provision spans accredited and non-accredited qualifications, from pre-entry to Level 5, and includes courses in Supporting Teaching & Learning, Leadership and Management, English, Maths, ESOL, ICT, and Tailored Learning, including Family Learning. These programmes are designed to meet the diverse needs of learners, providing stepping stones to their progression into further study or new employment opportunities in line with local skills priorities.
- Business Development
    - Supporting business development and growth in the city centre as well as promoting growth within local and district centres.
    - Supporting the employment, training and development of Care Leavers across the Council and other partners through the Business Engagement Board
    - Supporting the establishment, long term viability and growth of Small to Medium Enterprises (SME's), particularly in growth sectors and in relation to innovation, research and development and added value services – ensuring delivery of an effective/impactful business support programme which provides equity to Hull based businesses with those elsewhere in the HEY region.
    - To establish 161 High Street (Elevate) as a vibrant centre of excellence for Youth Enterprise support in the region; developing a sustainable business model which provides value and impact for the city and wider region.
    - Supporting the growth of new microbusinesses and efficient delivery of the youth enterprise skills programmes as well as supporting Micro Biz Matters Day
    - Supporting the growth of young people to set up in business through the MC4C programme and efficient delivery of enterprise skills programmes in schools and work with the Micro Business Alliance and Small Business Commissioners Office to raise issues relating to supporting microbusinesses.
    - Supporting local businesses to recruit, train and support skilled and motivated local residents to their workforce.
    - Supporting residents to be work ready through high quality one-to-one support and guidance which is well connected to local stakeholders with a role to play in economic wellbeing for local people and families.
    - Attracting inward investment, and reinvestment into Hull. Maximising the benefits of the Freeport and Enterprise Zones sites.
    - Supporting the investment and fundraising ecosystem for early stage, high growth companies in key sectors such as tech and med-tech.
    - Providing a Key Account Management (KAM) programme for large employers and other economically important businesses.
- Planning
    - Deliver a new Hull Local Plan to facilitate the development of the city in line with the requirements of its residents and businesses.
    - Ensuring all new development is of a high quality of design which respects the heritage of the city and is climate proofed and located in sustainable locations providing convenient access to employment, services, and points of learning for all in a way which supports healthy lifestyles whilst minimising pollution
    - Enablement of key development sites and underperforming property assets through the development of funding bids to support the occupation of these sites/premises to support these areas of local growth.

- Delivery of a Carbon Neutral and Net Zero city through the development of a clear energy strategy and water resilient city building on the success of the Living with Water Partnership.
- Have policies in place to retain existing and attract new business and residential investment and improve employment and economic development opportunities in the city.
- Take stock of and improve biodiversity in the city to make the city a greener and healthier place.
- Provides effective enforcement against unauthorised development to ensure that all development is carried out correctly and to protect the public's interest and confidence in the Planning system.
- Educate and interest members of the public on Hull's history through participation in archaeology opportunities.

Strategic Direction / Future Plans

Economic Development and Regeneration's overall goals over the next two years will be to focus on:

- Driving forward the Council's support for Hull and East Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and ensuring effective working internally, with partners, and across the Humber.
- Leading the development, agreement, oversight and implementation the Economic Strategy, Local Plan, Pride in Place, and Levelling Up Partnership ensuring long-term city-wide economic, social and environmental success
- Leading on the delivery of a resilient Carbon Neutral City making best use of biodiversity improvements and the Living with Water agenda to respond and adapt to climate change
- Enabling and supporting an inclusive, fair and equal city which provides opportunities for all through the development of skills, jobs, and digital enablement, with a particular focus on micro-businesses, small to medium enterprises, youth entrepreneurship and employment and increasing the local value of supply chains.

Overall Service Priorities

Service Priority	**Strategic Driver (Community Plan Ambition, Government, Organisational, etc)**
Development, delivery, and embedding of devolution proposals for Hull and East Yorkshire	**Community Plan** – All Ambitions, specifically Ambition 4 building on the city's role as a regional hub **Government** – Government's new and developing approach to devolution and cities **Organisational – C**ivic and regional leadership, sustainable economic development **Statutory duties –** Levelling Up and Regeneration Act, English Devolution Bill; Get Britain Working; Invest 2035
Review, update, and performance management of the Council's economic, planning, climate and	**Community Plan** – All Ambitions, specifically Ambitions 3, 4, and 5 supporting people to reach their potential, promote sustainable economic

nature, and skills strategies in line with Ambitions 3, 4, and 5	growth, and respond to the climate and ecological emergencies **Government** – Government policies for local government, planning and development, and energy security **Organisational –** Providing clear direction for the organisation in tandem with resource allocation (MTFP / People's Plan, Transformation Programmes) **Statutory duties –** Environment Act, Local Plans, Planning and Infrastructure Bill, Devolution and Regeneration Act, English Devolution Bill, Better Buses Bill
Development of business support and economic development and investment offer to improve outcomes for the city	**Community Plan** – Primarily Ambition 4, in increasing economic opportunities, but also in support of all Ambitions by embedding sustainable economic development **Government** – Government policies to support local growth and economic development **Organisational –** Supporting sustainable economic growth, ensuring prompt payment of invoices to support growth in the micro, VCSE, and SME sectors **Statutory duties –** Local Economy, Devolution and Regeneration Act, English Devolution Bill, National Planning Policy Framework, Local Plan
Development and delivery of the training and skills provision to meet the current and future needs of the city	**Community Plan** – Primarily Ambitions 3 and 4 with support to all other Ambitions **Government** – Delivery of local economic growth policies and support for improved productivity and higher skills, changes to in-work skills and training funding outlined in the Skills England Bill **Organisational –** Supporting young people and adults into employment alongside addressing economic demand for skills in specific sectors. HTAE maintains a Good OFSTED rating and delivers bootcamp programme. **Statutory duties –** Skills England Bill

2. Service Resources and Assets

Staffing and Financial Resources (including grants)

Budget 2026/27	**£000'**		
Staff Costs	12,787	**Budget Changes**	**£000's**
Other Expenditure	15,009	26/27 Efficiency Savings	
Gross Expenditure	**27,796**		
Fees & Charges	-2,439	25/26 Savings undelivered	
Grant Income	-19,117		
Other Income	-1		
Gross Income	**-21,557**		
		Investments	764
Net Expenditure	**6,239***	Funding of Base Pressures	

*Chief Executive funding is included within EDR budget lines