

## SEVENOAKS DISTRICT BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

### People & Places Advisory Committee - 16 June 2020

Report of Chief Officer People and Places

Status For Information

Key Decision No

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**Executive Summary:** This briefing report informs Members of the steps taken to establish the Sevenoaks District Business Advisory Board, following the corona virus lockdown.

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This report supports the Key Aim of Economic Development.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Lesley Dyball

Contact Officer Emily Haswell, ext. 7261

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**Recommendation to People and Places Advisory Committee:** To note the report.

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**Reason for recommendation:** To keep Members updated on the establishment of the Sevenoaks District Business Advisory Board.

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### Introduction and Background

- 1 Following on from the corona virus lockdown and the closure of all non-essential business SDC have been looking at ways to help local businesses re-open and recommence trading. The Business Advisory Board will be a joint private and public sector venture, led by Sevenoaks District Council. With members from a broad spectrum of the Sevenoaks district's businesses, as well as representatives from partners, the Board will articulate the current issues and experiences of the business community.

### Key Implications

#### Financial

There are no cost implications apart from staff time.

#### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

The Board's Terms of Reference defines the purpose and structure of the Board and how partners will work together to accomplish shared aims.

## Equality Assessment

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. Board members will come from both the business community and public and voluntary sector organisations, reflecting the business make-up of Sevenoaks district, and the urban and rural nature of the district.

## **Conclusion**

With members from a broad spectrum of the Sevenoaks district's businesses, as well as representatives from partners, the Board will bring the voice of businesses across the district to the table, assisting the district to be as business friendly as possible.

As part of the district's economic recovery, the Board will support the promotion of the district as a place to shop and do business, voicing the constraints, opportunities and current trading conditions.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A - Briefing Note - Sevenoaks District Business Advisory Board

## **Background Papers:**

None.

**Sarah Robson**  
**Chief Officer for People & Places**