

# Meeting: Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

**Date:** 3 April 2017

**Title:** Business Support Sub Group

---

Author: Michael Robson, Democratic Services Officer

Tel: 0191 643 5359

Service: Law & Governance

Wards affected: All

---

## 1. Purpose of Report

To consider the report produced by the Business Support Sub Group.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

The committee is recommended to approve the report and its recommendations for submission to Cabinet.

## 3. Details

- 3.1 In September 2016 the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee approved the appointment of the Business Support Sub Group to:
- a) examine the range of support available to start up businesses;
  - b) examine the sustainability of new businesses in their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years;
  - c) consider whether providing extended and enhanced support for businesses in their 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years would reduce the likelihood of businesses failing and consequently have a positive impact on the local economy; and
  - d) formulate recommendations as to how existing support might be enhanced or how additional services might be developed to improve the success rate of start up businesses. Any recommendations to be supported with an assessment of the financial implications.
- 3.2 Having completed its investigation, the sub group prepared a report and a series of recommendations. These were considered by the Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee at its meeting on 15 March 2017 when it agreed to refer the report to the committee for consideration.
- 3.3 The chair of the sub-group, Councillor Peter Earley will present its findings, conclusions and recommendations. The sub group's report is attached as an appendix.