

Skills Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission 09 March 2022 Item 5 – Economic Stock take and the Night Time Economy	Item No 5
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Outline

The Covid-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the UK and local economy. As a result, this has impacted the local economy in many ways and many businesses / sectors have struggled following lockdown restrictions (shutting down many businesses) and the constraints on population mobility. The economic impact has been severe. Although some local businesses may have thrived, broadly speaking many sectors (like the night-time economy and hospitality sector) have seen huge losses in their income that have threatened their survival.

Hackney borough was home to a thriving night-time economy, tech businesses and a large volume of micro businesses. It is acknowledged that the Council has always pushed to support the development of local high streets and campaigned for shopping local. At this juncture in the pandemic the SEG scrutiny commission wants to understand what has happened to the local economy during the pandemic. The Commission is keen to identify if the council's decisions and government measures have helped to keep the local economy stable and establish what businesses have managed to remain steady and survive.

Presentations to cover

1. What data does the council collate and monitor about businesses in the economy pre and post pandemic? *Please can you provide a list of the data held and how this is used.*
2. What support has Hackney Council received from central Government to support local businesses to maintain a stable local economy? In addition, what council specific decisions have been taken in support of local businesses and what measures has the Council taken itself to support the local economy?
3. What data does the council collate and monitor about the local high streets?
4. What support has been given to businesses in the local high streets and what assessment has been made of the impact of the support given?
5. What analysis has been undertaken of the night-time economy both pre and post pandemic?
6. What data does the council collate and monitor about licensing in relation to the businesses in the night time economy in the borough? In addition, how is this data used to understand the sector and support the stability and growth of local businesses?
7. How does the work of the Business Regulatory Service feed into achieving the Council inclusive economy objectives and support local economic growth and stability in the night time sector?

Report in the agenda:

To support this discussion the following presentations and papers are included for background information.

- Economic stock take & night time economy
- Business Regulation response to the pandemic
- Markets, shop fronts & street trading economic recovery

Guests in Attendance**London Borough of Hackney**

- Aled Richards, Strategic Director of Sustainability & Public Realm
- Stephen Haynes, Strategic Director Inclusive Economy, Corporate policy & New Homes
- Cllr Guy Nicholson Deputy Mayor for Housing Supply, planning, Culture and Inclusive Economy
- Suzanne Johnson, Head of Area Regeneration
- Michael Toyer, Economic Development Manager

Action

The commission is asked to note the presentations and ask questions.