

Report of the Chief Executive

BOROUGH MARKETS OFFICER1. Purpose of report

To request the establishment of a Markets Officer within the structure of the Economic Development and Regeneration Team. A short term post was created in 2020 to develop and promote markets as means of generating additional footfall in the Borough's Town centres. The work of the current post holder has been very well received, with the Beeston Markets performing strongly and further market development activities being replicated in Stapleford, Kimberley and Eastwood. It is now important to position the service on a firmer footing and secure the expertise that the Council has developed, by making the role permanent.

2. Detail

The current post holder (Post Ref: TMPP41) is an experienced markets operator and was appointed on a one-year temporary contract in 2020. Their work has been well received, especially during the pandemic which was material in the contract being extended until 31 March 2022.

The addition of new equipment for use by the current post holder, secured with external funding should help attract new market traders, especially business start-ups. A permanent team member with considerable markets expertise has other advantages, allowing the Regeneration Team to bid for and secure external funding and support wider town centre events and promotional activities, such as Beeston Light Nights, Platinum Jubilee and the Christmas Light Switch-ons.

Further detail supporting the permanency of the Markets Officer post can found in Appendix 1 and an Organisational Chart in Appendix 2.

3. Financial Implications

See Appendix 3 for further details.

4. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Unison would fully support this role being made permanent. Markets are important to the Community and for supporting small businesses, as well as bringing in an income.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that role of Markets Officer be made permanent, given car user status and added to the establishment.

Background papers

Nil.