

**EX73. GROWTH : INVESTMENT : INCLUSION
FALKIRK ECONOMIC STRATEGY – FINAL DRAFT**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services presenting the Economic Strategy for approval.

The Executive had agreed, on 29 September 2015 (ref EX48), to consult on a draft Economic Strategy and that the policy development panel would consider feedback from the consultation before submitting a final draft strategy to the Executive for approval.

A consultation exercise was carried out between 2 October and 6 November 2015. The policy development panel considered the responses on 16 November 2015.

A final draft Strategy was appended to the report for consideration.

The strategy, which is for the period 2015-2025, sets targets in regard to growth, investment and inclusion. The Strategy will be formally reviewed every five years to ensure that it remains relevant and dynamic.

Councillor D Goldie, seconded by Councillor Gow, moved that the Executive agrees the final Economic Strategy document as developed by the policy development panel and its publication.

As an amendment, Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alexander, moved the terms of the motion and, in addition, that the Executive agrees:-

- (1) to instruct officers to carry out a formal review of the strategy every 3 years; and
- (2) to carry out a comprehensive survey of the local business community by directly contacting a minimum of 300 local businesses to get their views on the strategy between now and March 2016.

On a division 7 members voted for the motion and 3 voted for the amendment with voting as follows:-

For the motion (7) – Councillors Blackwood, D Goldie, Gow, C Martin, C R Martin, Nimmo and Nicol.

For the amendment (3) – Councillors Alexander, Coleman and Spears.

Decision

The Executive agreed the motion.