

Public Document Pack

Date of meeting	Wednesday, 18th March, 2015
Time	7.00 pm
Venue	Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG
Contact	Justine Tait Ext 2250

Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee

AGENDA

PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA

- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items included in this agenda
- 3 MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 3 - 12)
To agree as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2014
- 4 Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership** (Pages 13 - 16)
- 5 Newcastle Town Centre Partnership** (Pages 17 - 18)
- 6 Newcastle Economic Development Strategy - Year Four Action Plan and Year Three Review** (Pages 19 - 26)
- 7 Joint Local Plan** (Pages 27 - 30)
- 8 NEWCASTLE HOUSING ADVICE CONTRACT PROGRESS**
Quarter 4 update report to be produced at the next meeting
- 9 NEWCASTLE HOUSING ADVICE CONTRACT MONITORING** (Pages 31 - 32)
Quarter three performance statistics to be reported
- 10 SUPERFAST STAFFORDSHIRE PROJECT** (Pages 33 - 34)
An update to be provided of progress by the Chair
- 11 WORK PLAN** (Pages 35 - 50)

To discuss and update the work plan to reflect current scrutiny topics

Annual Work Plan Review

To receive outcomes and recommendations of the topics reported during the past twelve months

12 URGENT BUSINESS

To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

Members: Councillors Baker, Holland, Loades, Matthews, Owen, Mrs Simpson, Stringer (Chair), Wallace, Wilkes and Mrs Williams (Vice-Chair)

PLEASE NOTE: The Council Chamber and Committee Room 1 are fitted with a loop system. In addition, there is a volume button on the base of the microphones. A portable loop system is available for all other rooms. Should you require this service, please contact Member Services during the afternoon prior to the meeting.

Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.

Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 3rd December, 2014

Present:-	Councillor David Stringer – in the Chair
Councillors	Baker, Holland, Loades, Matthews, Owen, Mrs Simpson, Wallace, Wilkes, Williams and Mrs Williams
	Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, , Business and Customer Services
Apologies	Councillor White and Chair of Kidsgrove Town Council Community Interest Company

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 3rd September 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. NEWCASTLE TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP

An update was provided by the Chair of the Town Centre Partnership on the Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Centre Partnership, Quarter 3 Chair's Report.

Footfall Counters

These were fitted in Quarter 2 on the corner of the Ironmarket and Castle Walk. Percentages had increased by 151.79% from July to August of people visiting Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Property Vacancy Rate

The town's property vacancy rate had seen figures drop by 2.71% in Quarter 3 compared to the same quarter in 2013.

Dragons Den

Due to various setbacks the winner did not open the new business until Quarter 4 along with a number of 'pop-up' stores.

Business Engagement

Town centre businesses were kept up to date of all the Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Centre Partnerships activities via the Talk of The Town Newsletter. This assisted businesses in knowing what is coming up and allowing them the opportunity to capitalise on the events as well as getting involved.

Retail Index Scheme

Town centre businesses were encouraged to partake in the retail index scheme allowing them to benchmark themselves against other town centre businesses.

Newcastle-under-Lyme was trading below expectations but new projects are being identified to generate greater footfall and to improve profitability. Businesses that were trading above expectations were the larger stores; the lowest ones were newsagents and card outlets.

The national average from January through to September was still below expectations due to lack of spending in the town centre.

Bottlecap Film Festival

The Town Centre Partnership repeated the popular event and was well received.

Lyme Card

The Town Centre Partnership was working closely with Newcastle Borough Council team in developing and expanding the existing Lyme Card into a town centre loyalty. It was launched with twenty two businesses to offer discount to anyone who signed up. Jubilee 2 customers automatically received a card. Feedback had been good.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Christmas Light Switch On

The launch of the Winter Wonderland on the Ryecroft development opening coincided with the town centre Christmas lights switch on. The number of website hits had quadrupled.

The Chair enquired about the retail index trading figures falling below average and asked if there were like for like figures?

It was answered that the other town centres were not forthcoming in sharing the figures and the information supplied was only a snap shot.

The card shops were looking at expanding ways of enticing customers by offering complimentary products, such as giftware.

A Member congratulated Newcastle Town Centre and Newcastle Borough Council on the well organised launch of Winter Wonderland.

It was observed that the expenditure of the catchment population was decreasing, but hopefully with Christmas shoppers visiting the town it would increase. Since the commencement of free parking after 3.00pm there had been an increase in footfall.

A Member advised that greater participation was required from the traders. The Roebuck Centre Manager commented that change was encouraged by the Town Centre Manager.

The Chair thanked the Chair of the Town Centre Partnership for attending.

Resolved:- That Committee receive the report.

4. **KIDSGROVE TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP**

The Borough Council's representative of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership provided an update report.

Marketing

Regular newsletters continued to be hand delivered to every business in Kidsgrove town centre and Butt Lane shops.

The website has gone live and the Kidsgrove Town Centre Community Interest Company (KTCCIC) would be canvassing local businesses to become members asking them to pay £5.00 annual membership in return for which they get an enhanced listing on the website.

Events

The 2014 Christmas shopping challenge was running from 29th November to the 23rd December.

There was an Artisan type market held in the town centre. KTCCIC teamed up with local businesses. This was very successful and warranted for it to be arranged again.

Heritage walks had been arranged around the town and along the canal which were popular.

There were three short and mid-term projects on-going:-

➤ Waterfront Project

To improve the canal waterfront in providing more moorings, improve lighting and security and access to the towpath.

➤ Market Street

Traders were in favour of making Market Street one way in order to solve traffic problems.

➤ Christmas Lights

Consultation took place with residents to see whether they would like to sponsor a bulb for a £1.00 in memory of a loved one on the new tree in the town centre and a lot of positive feedback had been received.

The Chair reported that in the last report the Chair of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership was to be in rotation.

Councillor Mrs Bates advised that at the last Board meeting a discussion took place of conducting a skills audit. A Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership Board Skills Matrix was tabled.

There were signage issues around the town and a signage strategy was to be looked into.

The Chair requested a balance sheet of how the £10,000 had been invested and the future aspirations.

The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, Business and Customer Services reported that a great deal of progress had been achieved, including expanding the number of business Directors on the Board. The Town Centre Partnership and the Locality Action Partnerships were being encouraged to work together to take the town forward.

A Member advised that the Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership need to start making themselves more well-known and to involve more traders. The Member's personal view was to be careful not to over invest in what is not required and only move forward when people get involved.

Resolved:-

- (a) That a balance sheet is produced at the next meeting showing how the £10,000 had been invested and the future aspirations of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership.
- (b) That the branding on signage within the town centre be prioritised and discussed with the County Council.

5. NEWCASTLE HOUSING ADVICE CONTRACT MONITORING

The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services provided a summary update to Quarter 2 2014/2015 – Newcastle Housing Advice Monitoring.

There had been an increase in the housing register enquiries at reception.

There had been a decrease in exclusions from 132 in Quarter 1 to 39 in Quarter 2.

The system was focussing more on supporting older people to apply for housing on-line.

Resolved:- That Committee receive the summary update for Quarter 2.

6. JOINT HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW PROGRESS

The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services tabled an additional summary of interim results from the Housing Allocations Policy Review. The consultation process was still on-going and one-to-one meetings and group discussions were being held at the Lettings Forum.

The proposed revisions within the Joint Allocations Policy are provided below:-

(a) Fair Assessment of Aspire Tenants and other Registered Provider Tenants

Changes had been requested that the policy would still enable an existing Aspire Housing customer in housing need to apply to the revised policy and be given reasonable preference; however they would not be given any additional priority and would be banded like any other Registered Provider customer. In question 7 of the consultation survey, 79% registered providers agreed and if the tenant had to vacate the property it was agreed this to be treated in the same format. In question 8, 84% registered providers agreed and question 10, again 84% registered providers agreed.

Aspire Housing had also requested the removal of their tenants who had no housing need from band 7. This was being considered in line with the option to give exception to those requiring rehousing for employment and training.

(b) Proposed Changes to Administering the Housing Register

The move to the “Homes Direct” system in August 2014 enabled Officers to review some of the administration processes of the Housing Register.

The present Joint Allocation Policy gives applicants the freedom to make unlimited bids, which allows the applicants the ability to express interest in all properties. The new system had the ability to limit customers to three bids per weekly cycle. Once a customer had agreed to a property they were unable to see further vacant properties. 72% of customers thought unlimited on-line bids was the way forward.

(c) Member Request – Local Connection

Customers were asked if they were in agreement to the on-line system being expanded, 54% agreed.

(d) Member Requests – Ex-Service Personnel

The Council are prioritising applicants through the use of band B to support Ex-Service Personnel settle back into the community following active service.

(e) Members Requests – Equity

The on-line service survey had been agreed by the customers with no recommendations being made to the changes to the equity figures.

A Member asked if there were any legal constraints regarding the local connection requests.

The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services advised that every local authority has local connection criteria.

It was asked where was the 67% response received from. It was responded from a mixture of customers and support staff.

A Member agreed to keep the local connection in place.

Resolved:-

(a) The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services to bring back to Scrutiny costings if these were not covered by the budget.

(b) The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services to take back the views of Scrutiny.

7. REVIEW OF NEWCASTLES OF THE WORLD ALLIANCE

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council had been a member of the ‘Newcastles of the World’ partnership since 1998 and had attended the biennial summit on most occasions since.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne City Council sought to re-energise and re-focus the Alliance in response to the "Joint Declaration" that was signed at the end of the 2012 summit and had provided a vast amount of work to the secretariat.

In line with the 2012 and 2014 Declarations there was a commitment to have a paid Secretariat commencing early 2015. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council had committed to the first year's membership in 2015. If the Council were to consider a second year's payment in January 2016 this would need to be considered by Cabinet in February as part of the 2015/2016 budget setting process.

A Member felt it no longer gave value for money.

It was advised by a Member that a survey had been carried out. Schools were consulted with the feedback being that the no-one had heard of the Alliance.

Resolved:-

That Cabinet should be advised to withdraw from the Alliance to enable resources to be directed to activities which deliver priority local outcomes.

8. PORTFOLIO HOLDER QUESTION TIME

Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, Business and Customer Services was in attendance to provide an update on his priorities and work objectives for the next six months and to answer questions raised by Members.

This year had seen the completion of the scheme with the successful pedestrianisation of Hassell Street and introduction of new market stalls. A market fun day was held during September to promote the new market and to celebrate the history of the market charters.

Ryecroft Retail-Led Redevelopment Scheme

There is continued work with the Council and the County Council to secure a long term use for the Ryecroft site. To deliver a successful redevelopment would require significant resources and time for the preferred developer to further refine the scheme and a Co-operation Agreement will enable this.

Town Centre Partnerships

The Council actively continues to support both the Newcastle and Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnerships.

The Homecoming New Circus Event

Specific Council support was provided to deliver this event. In addition, Officer time supported the Newcastle Town Centre with a successful Arts Council bid.

Business Boost Competition 2014

Another successful competition and an awards event was held at the Keele Sustainability Hub.

Town Centre Subway Improvements

Through Section 106 agreement funding, structural repairs and visual improvements had been made to two key subways in Newcastle town centre.

Education Business Partnership

Through the Council's aims to support local business growth and ensure young people can access employment opportunities the Council was seeking to strengthen links between educational establishments and employers.

Inward Investment

Through working with the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire "Make It" team, the Council was able to have inward investment brochures and advice to companies looking to relocate or develop within the area.

Business Support

Working with Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce to signpost businesses to the Business Helpline and access to Advisors on 0300 111 8002. The Chamber can direct businesses to training and support.

The following questions were raised and answers given:-

Q1: Two points; firstly the Member had been trying to relocate his business to Newcastle and had been unsuccessful in finding premises. Secondly the Member raised concern of the amount of businesses who employ young people in placements but had no work for them to carry out.

A1: The first point the Member agreed to speak to the Portfolio Holder separately. The second point, Newcastle Education Business Partnership had strong interface of partnership providers. PM Training always strove to seek a good outcome.

Q2: Did young Apprenticeships still exist?

A2: Yes. There were a variety of apprenticeship models.

A Member advised that the decorating of the subways had been praised by members of the public and congratulated the Town Centre Partnership. It was asked if there were any funding still available to decorate the remaining subways, funding will be sought through Section 106 agreements where appropriate. The Portfolio Holder advised that the Council was working with Schools and Colleges on this project.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

10. RYECROFT REDEVELOPMENT

The Executive Director Regeneration and Development tabled a high-level plan which had been prepared around 2009/2010 to identify strategic redevelopment opportunities in Newcastle town centre. The review process had highlighted the Ryecroft area as the key opportunity for a retail-led scheme.

Officers of the two Councils had been working closely with retail development consultants, Cushman and Wakefield.

To test the developers' appetite for investing in the Ryecroft area a competitive bidding process was drawn up. As a result of this Cabinet approved the launch of a marketing campaign to attract developer interest in carrying out a retail-led mixed use development to an agreed brief. Three developers were shortlisted from this process and invited to work up an indicative scheme layout and design, with an indicative schedule of uses and unit sizes, target occupiers, a breakdown of estimated costs, values and rents and a financial offer.

The Executive Director Regeneration and Development explained what each developer was proposing and explained how a preferred development partner had emerged. He envisaged being able to report back to Committee in about six months with a final scheme.

RESOLVED:-

- (a) Committee were in agreement for Cabinet to be advised that the selection of Developer A as the preferred development partner for the Ryecroft scheme.

11. HS2 BRIEFING NOTE

The Head of Planning introduced the HS2 Briefing Note which conveyed an up-date on the present proceedings.

On the 28th October 2014 the Chairman of HS2, Sir David Higgins, published his report "Rebalancing Britain". One of his four main proposals was the need to take forward both legs of the HS2 Y-network, his conclusion being that the alternatives would not bring the same capacity, connectivity and economic benefits. In addition to his four main proposals the report set out a series of recommendations from his review of the proposals for Phase 2 of HS2. These included that the line should be extended to Crewe by 2027 – six years earlier than originally planned. The report had been submitted to Government and any final decision on the recommendations would be made by Ministers.

On the 4th November 2014 the Secretary of State announced that he proposed to safeguard a section of the HS2 route – the section between Fradley and Crewe. It was indicated that *"no decision had yet been made on the route for Phase 2 of HS2 ... however evidence to date suggested that the route via Crewe was the best performing option. The Secretary of State was, therefore, consulting on issuing safeguarding directions for this route."*

Response to the safeguarding consultation to the Government ran until January 2015. The Head of Planning suggested Committee ask the Executive Director of Regeneration and Development and the Portfolio Holder for Economic, Regeneration, Business and Town Centres, to consider making comments to the following questions to the Government. These comments would be submitted to Planning Committee for approval on the 9th December 2014:-

1. What are your views on the proposal to safeguard land between Fradley and Crewe
2. What are your views on the content of the proposed safeguarding directions
3. What are your views on the content of the guidance for local planning authorities on the directions

4. What are your views on the proposed approach to determining what land is to be safeguarded
5. What are your views on the draft Impact Assessment

The Chair advised that the Working Group, comprising of Councillors Stringer (Chair), Becket and Loades, had met with representatives from Stoke-on-Trent City Council on the 26th November 2014 to discuss the on-going proposals.

RESOLVED:-

That Committee agree to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Development and the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, Business and Customer Services submit a response to the Planning Committee on the safeguarding consultation which would be then be presented to the Government.

12. WORK PLAN

RESOLVED:-

That the following items are added to the work plan:-

18th March 2015

Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership

- That a balance sheet is produced showing how the £10,000 had been invested and the future aspirations of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership.
- That the branding on signage within the town centre be prioritised with the support of the County Council and to advise on the future aspirations.

Joint Housing Allocations Policy

- A breakdown of costings are provided if the costs exceed the budget.

Local Plan

- An update to be provided

13. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions had been received from the public.

14. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 18th March 2015, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1

COUNCILLOR DAVID STRINGER
Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

Go Kidsgrove Update March 2015

CHRISTMAS

Christmas lights 2014

We were delighted to be able to realise our dream of bringing the first ever Christmas tree to King Street. Special thanks go to the Kidsgrove Rotary Club who sponsored the tree and will also sponsor a growing tree to be planted later this year. Special mention should also be made of the Borough Council's Streetscene team for clearing and preparing the bed with generous support from the Community Team, Smithson's for providing the fixings for the tree and the Police for monitoring the site. Thanks also to the willing volunteers who erected it one chilly Sunday! Unfortunately, there was no time to get power to the tree, so we had to resort to battery lights, which weren't as bright as they could be ... but watch the space – it will be better in 2015.

Christmas Trail

Go Kidsgrove organised a third Family Trail round the shops in Kidsgrove and Butt Lane in response to a request from traders. 28 shops took part, an increase on the previous trail which took place at Easter.

Christmas 2015

The Go Kidsgrove Environment & Infrastructure group met with NBC's Graham Williams in Feb 2015 to discuss plans for the Christmas lights in 2015. Recognising that Borough Council funding is decreasing, we are looking at other possibilities which do not include lighting column fixtures, and which will be sustainable if council funding is withdrawn altogether. Potential ideas will be presented at the AGM on 25th March to gauge business reaction. Go Kidsgrove funding will be used to provide a power source to the bed in which the Christmas tree will be located.

MARKETING

The website www.gokidsgrove.co.uk is now live. Town centre businesses have a basic listing but will be asked to become a member of Go Kidsgrove for a small fee, which will entitle them to an enhanced listing (includes photo, description, web link, etc).

Greater use is being made of electronic communication to keep businesses and residents informed. Go Kidsgrove has a list of over 100 e-mail addresses and social networking continues to be a key part of our marketing strategy with over 570 likes for the Go Kidsgrove Facebook Community page and over 130 @gokidsgrove Twitter followers.

Go Kidsgrove were notified that the Alsager branch of the Co-op Bank was closing in December and produced a flyer promoting Kidsgrove as an alternative for banking. Since December, the Kidsgrove branch has seen a significant upturn in transactions (approximately 250 extra transaction per week which represents a 20% increase)..

At the AGM, businesses will be consulted on how they would prefer to receive communications.

ATCM HEALTHCHECK

The Association of Town & City Management (ATCM) undertook a free town centre healthcheck as part of the support package we won last year. A number of issues were highlighted and an action plan has been put together to identify responsibility for dealing with the issues. A Chairs group (comprising Go Kidsgrove, the LAP and Town Council) is being set up to take this action plan forward.

SIGNAGE

The healthcheck identified a number of issues to do with signage. Go Kidsgrove is going to develop a signage strategy to ensure that the right type of signage is put in the right places to enhance visitor experience for canal users, residents and businesses. ATCM is undertaking the initial consultations with stakeholders in March 2015 as part of the free support. Go Kidsgrove has set aside money in its budget to pay for additional consultancy work on the signage strategy.

Following a successful Expression of Interest to Heritage Lottery Funding, an application is being prepared for £10k of HLF funding to provide an interactive map for the canal noticeboard. This will use innovative technology to provide additional heritage information to canal users with smart phones and tablets, building on the excellent network coverage available in the area. The application will be submitted in April.

Go Kidsgrove are also going to fund a noticeboard for the flower bed by the King Street shops.

OTHER

NBC Newcastle in Bloom team is currently exploring new lamp column planters for Kidsgrove and is seeking funding from the Town Council. Go Kidsgrove has agreed to fund 10 additional planters and has also secured some private sector sponsorship for a further 4.

Kidsgrove Town Centre CIC

Cashflow / cash requirement summary (March 2015 - February 2016)

		2015										2016		
		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Balance b/f	£'s	1225	175	425	425	425	675	225	125	1575	725	725	475	
Expenditure:														
Re-imburement of set up/other costs		500												500
Website		550	750										250	1550
Signboard			500											500
Artisan market			500											500
Signs contribution to electronic s/board			1000											1000
Heritage event								100						100
Paint the town pink									200					200
Halloween event									100					100
Victorian market										100				100
Signage strategy			500	1000										1500
Brand launch/AGM		250												250
Promotional material		250	250				250							750
Newsletter							200							200
Christmas lights						1000				2000				3000
Canal booklet/promotion						500								500
Planters				500										500
Advertising			250			250			250			250		1000
Total		1550	3750	1500	0	1750	450	100	550	2100	0	250	250	12250
Funding requirement		500	4000	1500		2000			2000	1250				
Balance c/f		175	425	425	425	675	225	125	1575	725	725	475	225	

This page is intentionally left blank

Newcastle Town Centre Partnership Quarter 3 Update Taking Forward the Business Improvement District Plans

The key priority of the TCP is to deliver a Business Improvement District for the town centre to ensure investment continues to be sustainable. Over the past quarter significant progress has been made in engaging with local businesses to ensure that a suitable BID Business Plan can be developed.

NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME BID Newsletter
January 2015

Your invitation to finalise BID Business Plan

Area meetings are being held to finalise the main activities for the BID business plan together with the budget and how much businesses will pay. This is your opportunity to help finalise the plan which you will vote for in June.

Date and Time	Venue	Hosted by BID Champions	Address
Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 3pm	Mr Malik's Restaurant	Ali Malik of Mr Malik's and Tina Cork of Meridian Business Support (Innovate)	53 Ironmarket, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke On Trent, Staffordshire ST15 1TE
Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 4pm	Old Brown Jug	Rich Buxton of The Hippy Hippy Shake 'n'	41 Bridge Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST15 2WV
Thursday 5th February 2015 at 4pm	Sainsbury's	Dorothy Mallett Manager of Sainsbury's	Uxbridge Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST15 2AF
Thursday 5th February 2015 at 5pm	Vue Cinema	Eddie Laligowicz, franchisee of McCreesh's, Newcastle	Office above Vue Cinema - The Square, Market Arcade, High Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme ST15 1TF (The main entrance from High Street, and go through double doors between Subway and Restaurant)
Monday 9th February 2015 at 3pm	Borough Arms Hotel	Mr Sheikh, General Manager of Borough Arms	26 King Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST15 1JX
Monday 9th February 2015 at 5pm	Bellini's	Susan McCarthy, Manager of the Redbus Shopping Centre	3 Pepper Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme ST15 1QR

Timeline for the BID

The BID development continues to make good progress with businesses from across the town being involved in workshops, seminars, one-to-one interviews and surveys to ensure that the plan has the right projects and objectives in it to support Newcastle businesses over the next five years.

with a further opportunity to tune the business plan to their needs. It is likely we need to ensure that everyone will benefit from this fantastic opportunity.

During May and June, 'Baseline Agreements' will also be drawn up with Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council which will be signed off and agreed with the BID Company to ensure that the services provided in the BID plan are additional to any services provided by the Council.

At the end of June ballot papers will be issued to businesses so that they can vote on the plan. It is anticipated that, subject to a positive result, the BID operations and delivery of the plan will start 1st September 2015.

with a further opportunity to tune the business plan to their needs. It is likely we need to ensure that everyone will benefit from this fantastic opportunity.

During May and June, 'Baseline Agreements' will also be drawn up with Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council which will be signed off and agreed with the BID Company to ensure that the services provided in the BID plan are additional to any services provided by the Council.

At the end of June ballot papers will be issued to businesses so that they can vote on the plan. It is anticipated that, subject to a positive result, the BID operations and delivery of the plan will start 1st September 2015.

Businesses from across the town are being involved in workshops, seminars, one-to-one interviews and surveys to ensure that the plan has the right projects and objectives in it to support Newcastle businesses over the next five years.

Over the last month a range of workshops have been held at Sainsburys, Mr Malik's, the Old Brown Jug, Vue Cinema, the Borough Arms and Bellini's.

These workshops have involved a wide range of local businesses discussing the key issues:

1) The BID Boundary

In response to feedback received before Christmas, the draft boundary of the BID area has been extended to ensure that these businesses are able to benefit from the BID and play their part in promoting Newcastle as a great business location. Whilst the workshops were helpful in directly the discussion about the extended boundary this will be subject to further discussion with businesses over the forthcoming weeks.

2) BID Business Plan

The on-going dialogue with businesses continues to provide further opportunities for the plans to be tuned to meet business needs. Ultimately we need to ensure that everyone will benefit from this fantastic opportunity. The key project areas under consideration are:

- i). The NUL experience
- ii). Marketing and promotion
- iii). Business support
- iv). Inward investment

3) BID Levy

Clearly there needs to be a balance between setting a suitable levy for all town centre businesses and developing a Business Plan which is realistic and deliverable. Discussions are taking place as to how the levy could be set, for example no charge for businesses with a rateable value below £3,000, a set fee of say £150 for businesses with a rateable value of £3k-£10k, then a percentage levy for business with a rateable value of £10k or over. There is also an interesting discussion taking place as to how a different % levy could be set for businesses inside and outside of the ring road and how this could be tied into the projects delivered.

BID Timescales

The BID Steering Group is working hard to deliver the ambitious plans of holding a ballot which will hopefully result in positive support for the BID to commence in September.

The key dates for this are:

- Final consultations March
- Draft plan April
- Plan Launch May
- Ballot papers sent out 17th June
- Final Day of Ballot period 16th July
- Result known 18th July
- Potential start of BID Operation 1st September

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY

COMMITTEE

18 MARCH 2015

Title: Newcastle Economic Development Strategy: Year Three Review and Year Four Action Plan

Report author: Kim Graham Regeneration and Economic Development Manager

Email: kim.graham@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk

Telephone: 01782 742465

Introduction

This report is made in order to provide Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to comment on the Economic Development Strategy Draft Year Four Action Plan in advance of its consideration by Cabinet on 25 March.

Background

In May 2012, the Borough Council approved a five year Economic Development Strategy (2012-2017) in order to focus its efforts for stimulating growth and bringing jobs to the Borough (both directly and through working with partners). An annual action plan is also provided each year to show what actions are being taken to take this forward. These actions are grouped under the following four broad headings:

- Promoting enterprise and supporting local businesses to grow,
- Improving the skills of the local workforce
- Marketing and development, and
- Strengthening the vitality and appeal of the town centres.

Appended to this report is the draft Year Four Action Plan (2015-16), which also contains a summary of progress made in Year Three (2014-15). This is due to be reported to Cabinet (at its meeting on 25 March, or the following meeting if necessary), together with any comments made on the Plan by Scrutiny Committee.

Questions to be addressed

The Action Plan proposes action in four main priority areas (see above); members of the Committee are asked to comment on the actions proposed and to consider what other actions might be undertaken (by the Council or by its partners) in the context of these objectives and within the resources available.

Outcomes

That Scrutiny Committee identifies any additions or modifications to the Year Four Action Plan for consideration by Cabinet.

Constraints

The constraints on the Borough Council's efforts to stimulate the economic regeneration of the Borough are largely resources (both financial and staff), the strength of the national and local economy, and the influence which the Council is able to bring to bear on its partners to work together to deliver joint objectives.

Key actions highlighted within the Action Plan include some committed Council expenditure:

Action	Budget
Support for the TCP Enterprize competition	£7k has been allocated from the business rates discretionary relief
Training and Business Support for existing market traders	Market Support Budget.
Work in partnership with Make It to attract new employers to the Borough and support existing businesses to expand	£13,000 within budget.
Secure agreement with HDD for the development of the Ryecroft site	Budgetary provision has been made for the necessary work to bring the project forward to the stage of a developer agreement, should the scheme proceed further funding may be required this will be subject to further Cabinet approval.
Procure external advice to carry out Keele Options appraisal and master planning study	£139,280 is allocated for the Council's contribution.
Use of the Enjoy website and promotion for tourism from the Destination Management Partnership	£3,000 within budget.
Support NTCP to apply for further funding from Arts Council England for an event in 2015	£1,000 match funding from the Strategic Investment Framework.
Work with the County Council to refurbish two town centre subways – Friar Street and Pool Dam	£106 funded from the development of Aldi.

Conclusions

The Year Four Action Plan will be reported to Cabinet on 25 March or the following meeting if necessary. Prior consideration by this Scrutiny Committee allows members of this Committee to convey comments on the Plan and support for The Plan in advance of Cabinet consideration and allow these to be taken into account as part of the Cabinet decision making process.

Relevant Portfolio Holder

Councillor Terry Turner, Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, Business and Customer Services.

Background Materials

The Economic Development Strategy 2012-17 is available on the Council's website.

Appendices

The draft version of the Year Four Action Plan.

This page is intentionally left blank

Newcastle Economic Development Strategy 2012-2017 Year Four Action Plan 2015-2016

Promoting Enterprise and supporting Local Business to Grow

Action taken in Year Three (2014-15).	Action proposed in Year Four 2015-2016 (Bold indicates priority action)
<p>Successfully delivered the Newcastle 'Business Boost' competition, including securing new sponsors, introducing new prize categories and holding an awards ceremony in October 2014. Supported NTCP to introduce a town centre business awards scheme through the Business Boost competition, celebrating the 'best of Newcastle' in a variety of categories.</p> <p>Worked with the Newcastle TCP through the Business Boost competition and explored a second, possibly biannual approach, 'Enterprize' competition to encourage new retail start-ups in Newcastle Town Centre. Opportunities to mirror this in Kidsgrove Town Centre (with the KTCP).</p> <p>Due to market refurbishment it was not possible to run schools/youth markets in 2014/15.</p> <p>Continued the management of the Business pages on the Borough Council website to ensure that businesses are provided with up to date relevant information.</p> <p>Continued signposting of businesses to sources of assistance, in particular via the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) business helpline and the 'Make It' Inward Investment Service.</p> <p>Work had commenced with the Aspire Group and the County Council to provide standard tender documents, the first one being a common pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ) to be used by all three organisations. Since this action was agreed there have been changes to the national processes with the Revised Public Procurement Regulations coming into effect on February 26th affecting the public advertisement of tender opportunities over £25,000 and recommending a prequalification process.</p> <p>Continued to provide active support for Finest, including the popular 'Meet the Chief Exec.' event.</p> <p>Continued to work with the LEP and Staffordshire Economic Development Officers Group (SEDOG) to secure investment from the European Union (EU) for funding for business support and development and to provide input to a Strategic Economic Plan to guide investment to meet priority needs.</p> <p>Worked with the Newcastle Enterprise Coach and Business Enterprise Support to encourage unemployed people into self-employment.</p> <p>Worked with the National Association of British Markets Authorities (NABMA) and The Source Skills Academy to explore support for new market traders and provide support for up-skilling existing market traders to improve the overall performance of the outdoor market.</p>	<p>Planning for Business Boost 2015 to begin in April 2015. The amount of sponsorship will determine whether it will go ahead and in what format. Explore further opportunities for town centre business awards through Business Boost competition 2015.</p> <p>Work with the NTCP to explore options to run a second 'Enterprize' competition to encourage new retail start-ups in Newcastle Town Centre and the opportunities to mirror this in Kidsgrove Town Centre (with the KTCP), taking account of lessons learned from the previous competition.</p> <p>Make full use of the newly refurbished Newcastle Market to encourage more involvement of young traders, run further schools / youth markets in Newcastle Town Centre in 2015 and explore the possibility of a youth market in Kidsgrove. As part of the 'Love your local market' fortnight, the 'Trade for a Tenner' scheme will be reprised in May 2015 with the emphasis on getting more young people involved.</p> <p>Revamp of Business section during 2015/16 in line with council website redesign.</p> <p>Signposting activities to continue in 2015 and further support to be given through the 'Enterprise Round Table' group which brings together business support agencies from across the county.</p> <p>We will also ensure that procurement opportunities are publicised adequately so that local businesses know about the tenders and where to find out more. The Staffordshire Procurement Group will consider the requirements to establish standardised approaches.</p> <p>Continue to provide active support for Finest to include hosting the annual 'meet the CEO'.</p> <p>Continue to work with the LEP and SEDOG to secure external investment in the Borough.</p> <p>Continue to support the Newcastle Enterprise Coach to provide awareness sessions, business coaching, workshops and enterprise clubs to encourage unemployed people into self-employment.</p> <p>Offer further training and business support for existing market traders to improve their business on Newcastle Market</p>

Newcastle Economic Development Strategy 2012-2017 Year Four Action Plan 2015-2016

Improving the skills of the local workforce

Action taken in Year Three (2014-15).	Action proposed in Year Four 2015-16 (Bold indicates priority action)
<p>Worked with partners in the LEP Education Trust to set up a North Staffs Education Business Partnership (NSEBP), Education Locality Project and appointed a full time coordinator funded through Stoke on Trent City Council.</p> <p>Continued to work with the LEP and local partners to provide employment and training support across the borough based on successful previous initiatives such one to one support, advice and guidance and whole family approach focusing on people furthest away from the jobs market.</p> <p>Continued to implement the 'memorandum of understanding' (MOU) actions with PM Training and the Aspire Group to promote opportunities for work placements through the Council and apprenticeships through the Council's supply chain and explore joint procurement for delivery of goods and services. It was decided not to subscribe to Social Enterprise West Midlands at this stage due to costs.</p> <p>Continued to work with the LEP Education Trust (NSEBP) to establish initiatives to develop a skilled workforce by delivering higher level and employability skills, improving careers advice and guidance, increasing business engagement in learning and skills and developing high quality education and training facilities.</p> <p>Worked with Talent Match to identify alternative routes - such as mentoring, community buddies and creative routes such as digital media, performance and participatory arts - into training and employment for those who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs). Full time Newcastle coordinator appointed January 2015.</p>	<p>Continue to work with the NSEBP to take forward the LEP Education Trust Locality Project working specifically with five Newcastle schools - St John Fisher, Wolstanton High, Clayton Hall, Blackfriars and Madeley.</p> <p>Continue to work with partners to further develop the employment and skills offer across the Borough and to explore opportunities for a consortia approach through the Newcastle Employment and Skills group to secure additional funding and resource for the area.</p> <p>Implement opportunities for structured work placements at the Council.</p> <p>Continue to represent the Council on the LEP Education Trust (NSEBP) steering group and at specific events to improve the prospects of young people being better skilled / qualified to meet the needs of businesses.</p> <p>Continue to work with Talent Match to help 18-24 years (NEETs) into training, volunteering, work placements and apprenticeships in order to help their journey into work.</p>

Marketing and development

Action proposed in Year Three (2014-15).	Action proposed in Year Four 2015-16 (Bold indicates priority action)
<p>Continued to work with the Make It inward investment team to attract prospective investors and employers to the area and secure more jobs including the publication of new 'North Staffordshire development sites' brochure specifically aimed to publicise investment opportunities in Stoke and Newcastle.</p> <p>Successfully lobbied the Government (BIS) to ensure that the new Assisted Areas Map is drawn in such a way as to help promote the Borough's industrial development sites effectively for both inward investment and to encourage local growth.</p> <p>The Council responded to the Government consultation on the proposed HS2 route by saying that it wanted to be satisfied that the potential economic benefits would outweigh environmental harm. In addition the Council Leader requested that proper consideration should be given to the alternative proposal from Stoke on Trent City Council to site a station in the heart of the city to drive the economic development of North Staffs.</p> <p>Successfully marketed the Ryecroft development opportunity in the town centre to secure interest from a number of developers prepared to bring forward a significant retail-led redevelopment scheme in the town centre. Henry Davidson Developments (HDD) has now been chosen as 'preferred developer' for the schemes and a Co-operation Agreement has been signed between the parties to facilitate negotiations to refine the financial offer and aspects of the scheme content.</p>	<p>Continue to work in partnership with Make It to attract new employers to the Borough and support existing business to expand.</p> <p>Represent the Borough at relevant Make It events.</p> <p>Action complete; ongoing promotion of Assisted Areas status to optimise the prospects of business growth.</p> <p>Consider further response to any future HS2 consultation to ensure that the Borough can benefit from any associated economic growth (balanced with consideration of environmental impact mitigation)..</p> <p>Secure agreement with HDD for the development of the Ryecroft site which meets the expectations of the two Councils with regard to occupier content, scheme design and financial return and, if so, to proceed towards completion of a formal Development Agreement.</p>

Newcastle Economic Development Strategy 2012-2017 Year Four Action Plan 2015-2016

Provided help to local firms seeking to expand with advice on land and sources of available public funding.

Continued work with the LEP to secure investment in the Borough and across Staffordshire through European funding and Government funding such as the Regional Growth Fund (RGF), the Growing Places Fund (GPF) and the Local Growth Fund (LGF).

Undertaken feasibility studies for a number of sites close to the A500 corridor to the west of Chatterley Valley to help identify a preferred 50/60 ha employment site to be put forward in the new local plan.

Continued to explore options to bring forward an appropriate scheme for redeveloping the site of the former Knutton Recreation Centre site.

Continued discussions with partners Keele University, the HCA, Staffordshire County Council and Make It to promote the opportunities for further technology-based companies to locate in the science park.

Worked with developers and landlords to encourage more use of space over shops in the town centre (specifically premises in Nelson Place, on Hassell Street and above Rare on the Ironmarket) to be used for housing and so bring more footfall into the town centre.

Worked with Keele University and Staffordshire County Council to develop a brief for the Master planning of a possible western expansion of the urban area to accommodate a sizeable portion of the Borough's growth needs over the next 20+ years.

Worked with Staffordshire University and private sector partners to explore the potential for creating a co-working space in the town centre to include small scale digital and creative industries.

Worked with partners with the aim of securing the refurbishment of the former Maxims and to explore options for the suitable redevelopment of adjoining land.

Provided help to local firms seeking to expand with advice on available premises, development land and sources of public funding.

Worked with web design company Pikemere to design and develop a Kidsgrove Town Centre website.

Provided greater promotion of the canal through Kidsgrove to both visitors and to local people as part of the wider Kidsgrove Waterfront project (ongoing from April 2014).

Worked with the County Council, East Midlands Trains and Network Rail to bring forward an emerging comprehensive set of proposals to improve the accessibility of Kidsgrove Railway Station and to establish a transport hub.

Worked with the Destination Management Partnership (DMP) to promote Staffordshire as a tourist destination, particularly for short breaks, promoting the accommodation offer via the 'Enjoy' website, business tourism via the Conference Bureau and using the DMP PR agency to promote town centre events.

Continue to promote the area for inward investment and continue to assist local companies to expand.

Work with the LEP to plan for and help shape the new European funding programme and sources of Government funding, develop potential projects within the Borough which might benefit from such funding and promote the inclusion of a number of projects in these programmes which will directly benefit the economy of the Borough, local companies and its workforce.

Complete technical studies and detailed physical and market assessments on the potential sites for consideration of designation as a new Strategic Employment Site in the north-west of the urban area to recommend for inclusion in the emerging Draft Local Plan.

Secure the satisfactory and comprehensive redevelopment plans for Knutton Recreation Centre and its environs following public consultation with the aim of enhancing the built environment of Knutton High Street. .

Facilitate the potential of Keele University to develop IC5 at Keele Science Park and support them through the LEP and other avenues to attract further investment into the Science Park.

Procure expert external advice to carry out the options appraisal and master planning study for the potential western expansion of the urban area and report this for Cabinet consideration to input to the Local Plan process.

Progress plans for the creation of a co-working space in the town centre to include small scale digital and creative industries with Staffordshire University and private sector partner.

Continue to work with partners on the Maxims project with the aim of them bringing forward a comprehensive refurbishment and redevelopment scheme.

Support and facilitate proposals for the refurbishment of Blackburn House with its new owners.

Active promotion of website to businesses, residents and visitors, including signing up businesses as members of Go Kidsgrove (the KTCP).

Funding being sought to develop an interactive map to promote Kidsgrove heritage and services to canal users. Continue to seek sources of funding for other aspects of the Kidsgrove Waterfront Project.

Continue working with and supporting partners in the development of the project to bring forward comprehensive improvements at Kidsgrove railway station.

Ongoing use of 'Enjoy' website and PR opportunities to promote town centre events.

Newcastle Economic Development Strategy 2012-2017 Year Four Action Plan 2015-2016

<p>Worked with Groundwork and other local partners to secure funding for the siting of the Miners' wheel on the Apedale County Park on the former Silverdale Colliery site. Silverdale Parish Council is now taking this project forward.</p>	<p>Action complete</p>
---	------------------------

Strengthening the vitality and appeal of the town centres

Action proposed in Year Three (2014-15).	Action proposed in Year Four 2015-16 (Bold indicates priority action)
<p>Supported the Newcastle TCP and other partners to build on previous successful events programmes, such as the Lymelight Festival, The Homecoming, Paint the Town Pink and the Christmas lights Switch-on.</p> <p>Successfully completed the Newcastle Town Centre Public Realm project and the re-launch of the Market. Completed a mystery shopping exercise on the general market with the intent of improving the customer experience, this included individual feedback to each market trader.</p> <p>Helped to promote new retail businesses opening in the town centre, including the use of social media and the Council website.</p> <p>Helped Kidsgrove Town Team to formally launched its business plan (March 2014) including activities to encourage further footfall; also developed a project plan for the Kidsgrove Waterfront project and submitted it to the project pipeline for possible ERDF and LGF funding.</p> <p>Worked with the NTCP and Appetite Arts to successfully apply for funding from the Arts Council to deliver The Homecoming, a high quality art and cultural animation event in Newcastle town centre summer 2014.</p> <p>Worked with the Roebuck Shopping Centre to review and plan for new signage on the Midway Car Park which promotes the town centre to potential customers on the ring road. On-going action with the new owners of the centre. Undertook similar action with the new owner of The Square.</p> <p>Worked with the NTCP and KTCP to support local arts and cultural providers to apply for HLF funding for town centre based projects, this has resulted in a successful reminiscence project in 2015 run by a local arts company: Letting In The Light.</p> <p>Successfully refurbished two town centre subways working with the County Council and commissioned local arts organisation Creative Arts North Staffs (CANS) to produce designs for the Bridge Street subway community arts project. Local arts organisation Entrepreneurs to produce designs for the Liverpool Road subway, working with students from St John Fisher.</p> <p>Continued financial and staff support for NTCP and staff resource to support the KTCP.</p>	<p>Continue to support NTCP on town centre events in 2015-16</p> <p>Seek ways of linking new market traders to existing business support mechanisms in North Staffordshire to encourage successful new start-ups on the market.</p> <p>Continue to provide support for new retail business in the town centre via the Council web site and social media.</p> <p>Continue to develop projects which will encourage greater footfall in Kidsgrove Town centre.</p> <p>Support NTCP to apply for further funding from Arts Council England for an event in 2015.</p> <p>Continue to work with the TCPs and the Highway Authority to improve wayfinding in the towns, in particular the development of a signage strategy for Kidsgrove.</p> <p>Support KTCP to submit a funding application for at least one heritage project during 2015/16.</p> <p>Continue to work with the County Council to refurbish two town centre subways – Friar Street and Pool Dam and commission local arts organisations to produce designs for the subways.</p> <p>The Council committed to a 3 year funding of the Newcastle Town Centre Partnership which comes to an end in December 2015; the partnership will then need to become self-financing through a Business Improvement District (BID) or membership scheme. The Council will support the TCP to undertake a ballot for the proposed BID for July 2015. Officer support from the Regeneration and Economic Development Team will continue to be provided to both the TCP's based on one day per week.</p>

Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny March 2015

Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Local Plan Progress

Purpose of the report

To update Members of the Joint Advisory Group (JAG) on the progress made in preparing the Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Local Plan (Joint Local Plan).

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Members are reminded that in accordance with the agreed Local Plan timetable the Plan is currently in the Pre-Production phase. This phase involves two stages: Stage 1 involves the assembly of relevant and up to date evidence, critical to driving the strategic direction of the plan strategy. (*a requirement of National planning policy paragraph 158*), and Stage 2 includes the adoption of a joint Statement of Community Involvement, (*a requirement of section 18 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, 2004*).

2.0 Progress

2.1 Statement of Community Involvement

2.2 The Draft Joint Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was approved for public consultation purposes by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and Stoke on Trent City Council on the 15 October and 30 October 2014 respectively. The six weeks consultation period began on the 10th November and ended on the 19th December 2014. The results of the consultation exercise and proposed amendments to the Draft SCI will be reported first to the council's Planning Committee so that their views can be considered by Cabinet in June. The decision to adopt the Final SCI will be made by Council and this is now anticipated to be July.

2.3 Evidence

2.4 The table below summarises the position in respect of key pieces of evidence which have either been, or are in the process of being, commissioned. Some timescales are estimates, because a contract has not been signed, and these are denoted by an *.

Project	Position	Draft report	Final report	Comments
Joint SHMA Objective assessment of housing needs (OAN) for each authority including affordable with recommendations on house types, tenures and sizes. The OAN is the	Contract awarded to 'Turley Economics' in partnership with demographic consultancy 'Edge Analytics'	Full draft report w/c 23 March. Final draft report w/c 20 April	Mid May 2015	Draft chapters of SHMA received and commented on. Stakeholder workshop held 15 Jan 2015 Final report due after the publication of the 2012 Household Projections which need to be incorporated into the report. Publication of this

starting point for developing the housing target and is a policy off position.				census data has been consistently delayed and finally made available 27 February.
Joint ELR Update of 2011 Joint study. Identifies need for economic development land and reviews existing and future employment sites including considering their potential for employment use.	Contract awarded to NLP	May/ June2015*	July/Aug 2015*	Contract awarded at end of Feb 2015. Inception meeting 18 March. Will need to take account of the final SHMA and test its economic forecasts. A supplementary SHMA report will subsequently be prepared to reflect the ELR findings.
Joint GTAA Identifies accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers including cross border implications.	Contract awarded to ARC 4 22 Sept 2014 In progress	Interim findings on data due April 2015 Draft Report June 15	Sept 2015	Joint initiative also involves Staffordshire Moorlands and Stafford Borough. Length of contract reflects seasonal activity. Arc 4 have undertaken the research review and stakeholder consultation with good results (26 responses received) Fieldwork surveys ongoing.
Joint Call for Sites Use to help inform how much land is going to be available in the future for all types of use & assess how well we can meet important social and economic needs.	Complete	N/A	N/A	Six week Call for Sites ended on 31 Oct 2014. This information will initially be analysed through each council's SHLAA and the Joint ELR. 116 responses received

<p>2 x Green Space Strategy (GSS) A full review of the Joint Urban Green Space Strategy 2009 is required to satisfy national planning policy. The GSS will guide investment decisions and help achieve a balance between the built and green environments including provision for informal sport and recreation.</p>	<p>NULBC procurement early stages.</p> <p>S-o-T Strategy is being conducted in-house</p>	<p>Draft Tender brief</p>	<p>Estimate May 2016</p>	<p>A methodology for the reassessment of the sites has been agreed to ensure that any emerging documents are consistent with each other and provide a robust evidence base.</p> <p>S-o-T has completed an initial assessment of its open space and is in the process of completing a full qualitative assessment</p> <p>NULBC Cabinet has approved in December to fund an external audit and assessment.</p>
<p>2 x Play Pitch Strategy Strategy for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities.</p>		<p>Assessment report complete</p>	<p>Final Draft Strategy to be reported to Cabinet March 15</p>	<p>Knight Kavanagh & Page commissioned in 2013 by NULBC to prepare a Play Pitch Strategy.</p> <p>SOTCC have agreed with Sport England that a Playing Pitch strategy will be completed during 2015; the procurement of this study is shortly to be commenced.</p>

SHMA -Strategic housing market assessment; ELR - Employment Land Review, GTAA - Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment, SHLAA - Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment.

3.0 Position Statement

Progress is being made to put key pieces of evidence in place and we remain on track to consult the public on 'Issues and Strategic Options' in the third quarter of 2015. However, this does depend upon satisfactory completion of the SHMA and ELR.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 9

Newcastle Housing Advice Monitoring – Summary Observations update to Quarter 3 2014/15

Year 2014/15	Q2	Q3
Access		
Calls to service	2975	1777
Housing Options enquiries @ reception	415	321
Housing Register enquiries @ reception	1012	642
Emergency out of hours calls	7	11
Interviews - appointments	155	116
Interviews – walk ins	18	24
Enquiries/homeless applications	28	36
Homelessness Decisions	26 (100% in target 33 days)	28 (100% in target 33 days)
Homelessness Preventions	143	171
Temporary Accommodations	1	1
Service standards		
Letters received and responded to within 10 days	21 (100% on target)	9 (100% on target)
Emails received and responded to within 10 days	442	336
Total Housing Register applications received	571 Waiting List 365 Transfers 206	441 Waiting List 278 Transfers 163
Housing Register Appeals	10 (100% on target)	9 (100% on target)
Homelessness Decision Appeals	1	1
Complaints	1	1
Medical Applications	42 (100% on target)	56 (100% on target)
Register/ lettings		
Waiting List Applicants	465	613
Transfer Applicants	295	359
Total Applicants	760	972
BME Applicants	47	41
Lettings*	232	127
Lettings to BME households	20	12
% of nominations being let*	93%	74%*
Exclusions	39	6

* There has been a reduction in lettings and % of nominations as Aspire now having their own lettings policy in place. Officers are continuing to monitor all Housing Associations to ensure that they meet the agreed nominations rights so that non housing association tenants in housing need have access to affordable housing.

This page is intentionally left blank

Update on the Superfast Staffordshire Project
Paul Chatwin, Project Manager

The project is making good progress to date, and a total of 178 cabinets have been upgraded giving access to superfast broadband services to 31,239 premises across Staffordshire.

The situation in Newcastle under Lyme see the 66 original structures grow to 71, due to a reallocation of funds within the project. 27 of these structures within the district have been planned (blue), with 6 completed and available for service (green) serving 519 premises. I have attached a list of all the cabs and associated addresses, so you can see the geographic spread. It is anticipated that the balance of the planned cabs will be delivered by the end of June 2015. The unplanned cabs will be planned over the coming quarters, and delivered by June 2016.

More information can be gained, along with an interactive map and postcode checker at the www.superfaststaffordshire.co.uk website. In addition as cabs become available for service we Tweet @superfaststaffs .

I have attached a list of the cabs within the district for your reference.
Hope this helps.
Regards

Paul

Paul Chatwin
Superfast Staffordshire
Project Manager

This page is intentionally left blank



Members: Robert Wallace, Sophia Baker, Sandra Simpson, William Welsh, Mark Holland, David Loades, Ian Matthews, Ian Wilkes and Ken Owen

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

**Chair: Councillor David Stringer
Vice Chair: Councillor Mrs Gill Williams**

Portfolio Holder(s) covering the Committee's remit:

**Councillor Terry Turner (Economic Development, Town Centres, Business
and Customer Services)**

Councillor John Williams (Planning and Assets)

Work Plan correct as at: Friday 7th March 2015

Remit:

Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee is responsible for:

- Building Control
- Design and Heritage Champion
- Economic Development
- External Regeneration Funding
- Housing and Homelessness
- Inward Investment/Marketing
- Land and Property (Asset Management)
- Local Enterprise Partnership

- Planning Policy and Development Control
- Transport Strategy and Policy (Planning)

Date of Meeting	Item	Reason for Undertaking
2nd July 014 (agenda dispatch 20th June 2014)	Superfast Broadband	Paul Chatwin to attend to advise on progress
	Town Centre Partnership Plans	To be given an update on the Newcastle and Kildgrove Town Centre Partnership's Business Plans as agreed on the Action Plan (10.09.13)
	Ryecroft	To provide a written position statement on developments
	Newcastle Economic Development Strategy – Year Three Action Plan and Year Two Review	To receive feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday 18 June 2014
	Work Plan and Scrutiny Topics for 2014/2015	To discuss the work plan and potential topics that Committee members would like to scrutinise over the forthcoming year
3rd September 2014 (agenda dispatch 22nd August 2014)	High Speed 2 Working Party	Response to the Government consultation on High Speed Rail: Investing in Britain's Future – Consultation on the route from the West Midlands to Manchester, Leeds and beyond (HS2 Phase 2). Recommendations of the Working Group were submitted to Council on the 27 November 2013
	Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Progress	The service was contracted to Midland Heart from 1 April 2014, it is appropriate that Scrutiny consider the progress made in implementing the new service
	Housing Allocations Policy Review	The Council had a joint allocations policy with Aspire Housing, they have now implemented their own Policy and it is appropriate for Scrutiny to consider reviewing the Council's Policy and if to commence consultation on possible changes
	Local Enterprise Partnership Planning Charter	To provide an update on the proposals on the steps that were likely to be required to achieve Planning Charter Mark Status in 2013
	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	That the Key Performance Indicators listed below are presented to the next Scrutiny meeting on Wednesday 3 September 2014:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footfall monitoring • Property Vacancy Rate • Trading figures

Date of Meeting	Item	Reason for Undertaking
	Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership	That a report is submitted by the Council's Board of representative for Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership outlining progress to date on the projects discussed at Scrutiny on 2 July 2014
Date of Meeting	Item	Reason for Undertaking
3rd September 2014 (agenda dispatch 22nd August 2014) Con t'd ...	Town Centre Parking	The Council approved a range of car parking schemes in 2013 to support the economic development of the town centre. It is appropriate that Scrutiny considers progress in implementing these and makes recommendations to the October Cabinet on car parking concessions going forward
	Work Plan and Scrutiny Topics for 2014/2015	To discuss the work plan and potential topics that Committee members would like to scrutinise over the forthcoming year
3rd December 2014 (agenda dispatch 21st November 2014)	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	That the Key Performance Indicators listed below are presented to Scrutiny:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footfall monitoring • Property Vacancy Rate • Trading Figures
	Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership	That the Chair of Kidsgrove Town Centre CIC be invited to discuss progress
	Review of Newcastle's of the World Alliance	As a member of the Newcastle's Alliance it is appropriate that the Council considers priorities for the forthcoming Business Plan and future membership
	Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Monitoring	The quarterly performance statistics are reported for information and any variances will be highlighted for consideration
	Joint Housing Allocations Policy Review	In September Scrutiny Members approved a review of the Joint Housing Allocations Policy. An update on the review progress and outline the main findings are to be reported for consideration
	Ryecroft Regeneration and Redevelopment Project	To provide a written position statement on developments
	Portfolio Holder Question Time	Councillor Terry Turner invited to attend. An opportunity for the Committee to question the Portfolio Holder on his priorities and work objectives for the next six months and an opportunity to address any issues or concerns that he may currently be facing. It is also an

Date of Meeting	Item	Reason for Undertaking
		opportunity for the Portfolio Holder to flag up areas within his remit that may benefit from scrutiny in the future
	Work Plan and Scrutiny Topics for 2014/2015	To discuss the work plan and potential topics that Committee members would like to scrutinise over the forthcoming year
18th March 2015 (agenda dispatch 6th March 2015)	Newcastle Economic Development Strategy – Year Four Action Plan and Year Three Review	An update on the Plan and Strategy to be provided by the Principal Regeneration Officer
	Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Progress	To be kept on the agenda with a quarter 4 update report produced at the next meeting
	Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Monitoring	The quarter 3 performance statistics are reported for information and any variances will be highlighted for consideration
	Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership	A balance sheet or financial summary to be produced showing how the Council/other funding has been invested and to clarify the future aspirations in the context of work undertaken by other local bodies
	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	The quarterly performance statistics are reported for information and any variances will be highlighted for consideration
	Local Plan	To update Members of the Joint Advisory Group on the progress made in preparing the Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Local Plan (Joint Local Plan)
	Superfast Broadband	A written update from Paul Chatwin, Project Manager on the Superfast Staffordshire Project to be provided
	Annual Work Plan	To receive outcomes and recommendations of the topics reported during the past twelve months
	Work Plan and Scrutiny Topics for 2014/2015	To discuss the work plan and potential topics that Committee members would like to scrutinise over the forthcoming year

Task and Finish Groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Speed 2
Future Task and Finish Groups:	
Suggestions for Potential Future Items:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Infrastructure Levy • Superfast Broadband • High Speed 2 – potential requirement for a future report • Ryecroft Redevelopment – an update report to be provided on the final scheme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcastle Housing Advice Service – Quarter 4 Update to be provided by Midland Heart
--	---

ADDITIONAL/JOINT MEETINGS:	Joint meeting with Finance, Resources and Partnership Scrutiny Tuesday 16th December 2014, 7.00pm, Council Chamber to discuss the Asset Management Strategy
	Joint meeting with Finance, Resources and Partnership Scrutiny to be arranged to discuss the Ryecroft Regeneration and Redevelopment Project

DATES AND TIMES OF CABINET MEETINGS:	Wednesday 18 June 2014, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 23 July 2014, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 10 September 2014, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 15 October 2014, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 12 November 2014, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 14 January 2015, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 4 February 2015, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1 (BUDGET)
	Wednesday 25 March 2015, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1
	Wednesday 24 June 2015, 7.00pm, Committee Room 1

This page is intentionally left blank



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Chair: Councillor Dave Stringer

Vice Chair: Councillor Mrs Gill Williams

Portfolio Holder(s) covering the Committee's remit:

**Councillor Terry Turner (Economic Development, Town Centres, Business
and Customer Services)**

Councillor John Williams (Planning and Assets)

Date of Meeting	Topic	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 2nd July 2014	Update on the Economic Development Strategy/ Year 3 Action Plan	<p>Members were updated on a resolution to an item Scrutiny submitted to Cabinet on the 18th June 2014 relating to the Economic Development Strategy/Year 3 Action Plan.</p> <p>Resolved:- That the Economic Development Strategy Year 3 Action Plan be approved and adopted as the basis for the Council's work over the next twelve months to promote the economic development of the Borough and bring new jobs to the area</p>	Cabinet agreed on the 18 th June 2014 that the Economic Development Strategy Year 3 Action Plan be approved and adopted
	Superfast Broadband	<p>Paul Chatwin, Project Manager from Superfast Broadband attended the meeting to provide an update on the Superfast Staffordshire project. He reported that the Superfast Staffordshire project was now in the process of fibre enabling approximately 500 existing cabinets within the project intervention area. Nearly 10,000 premises would have access to the superfast broadband network by the end of September 2014 and a further 80,000 by 2016</p> <p>Resolved:- That the Committee receive the report.</p>	A written update report to be submitted to Scrutiny on the 18 th March 2015
	Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Centre Partnership	<p>The Head of Housing and Regeneration gave a review of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Centre Partnership Business Plan and asked for Scrutiny to consider the key objectives of the Business Plan.</p> <p>The five key objectives were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategic partnerships • Improve marketing, communication and promotions • Improve safety and security • Improve economic viability and inward investment • Improve access and the environment 	<p>The latest trading and footfall figures for the Town Centre Partnership were presented, but these statistics were indecipherable to the Committee so it was agreed to postpone discussion to the next meeting.</p> <p>Trading and footfall figures were presented to Scrutiny on the 3rd December 2014 by the Chair of the Town Centre Partnership, Quarter 3 Chair's Report and</p>

Date of Meeting	Topics	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 2nd July 2014 Cont'd ...		<p>Resolved:- That the Key Performance Indicators listed below are presented to the next Scrutiny meeting on Wednesday 3rd September 2014:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footfall monitoring • Property Vacancy Rate • Trading figures 	<p>received by the Committee</p>
	<p>Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership</p>	<p>Councillor Mrs Elsie Bates, representative of the Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership gave an update on the Kidsgrove Town Centre Community Interest Company Business Plan.</p> <p>Like Newcastle, the Kidsgrove Town Centre Community Interest Company Business Plan was established to be a private sector led initiative. It had been set up as a Community Interest Company, which was incorporated in September 2013. The small Board of Directors comprised representatives from local businesses, the town Council and the Borough Council. The use of sub groups allowed the Board to give voice to a much wider audience, build on people's interests and to draw on expertise in specific areas</p> <p>Resolved:- That Councillor Mrs Elsie Bates produce a report to the next Scrutiny Committee on Monday 3rd September 2014 outlining progress to date, particularly the steps to be taken to strengthen private sector membership and leadership of the company</p>	<p>An Action Plan for Kidsgrove Town Centre was presented to Scrutiny on the 3rd September 2014. However despite requests for attendance neither the Borough Council's representative on the CIC nor the Chair of the CIC were present. As a number of Members had expressed a wish to ask questions of clarification it was decided to postpone discussion on this item to the next meeting.</p> <p>An update report was provided by the Borough Council's representative of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership to Scrutiny on the 3rd December 2014 and resolved that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A balance sheet is produced at the next meeting to be held on 18th March 2015 showing how the £10,000 had been invested and the future aspirations of Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership

Date of Meeting	Topics	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 2nd July 2014 Cont'd ...			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the branding on signage within the town centre be prioritised and discussed with the County Council
	Ryecroft Regeneration Project	<p>The Executive Director for Regeneration and Development gave a position update as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demolition works of the former Sainsbury's store and multi-storey car park had been completed well within the timescale and budget parameters that were agreed; • The two Councils had shortlisted three prospective development companies as potential preferred partners to take the retail-led regeneration project forward; • The shortlisted companies were Henry Davidson Developments; St Modwen and a consortium led by Zerum Consult; • The selection process involved the said companies making presentations to a joint steering group from the two Councils on the 11th June 2014, including the Portfolio Holder's attendance as an observer. <p>It was anticipated that the two Councils would be in a position to decide upon the outcome of the process by September 2014.</p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) That Members' note the information and agree to receive a further report at the earliest opportunity. (b) That members agreed in principle to hold a joint meeting with members of the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee to review the matter. 	<p>A further update was provided to Scrutiny on the 3rd December 2014 where Committee were in agreement for Cabinet to be advised that the selection of Developer A as the preferred development partner for the Ryecroft scheme.</p> <p>Cabinet resolved on the 10th December 2014:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That, taking account of the commercially sensitive and confidential information contained in Part 2 report, the selection of Developer A as preferred development partner for the Ryecroft scheme be agreed and the other two shortlisted bidders be formally notified of this decision and thanked for their interest and proposals. • That Officers be instructed to enter into a Co-operation Agreement with Developer A, as described more fully

Date of Meeting	Topics	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 2nd July 2014 Cont'd ...			<p>in the body of the reports during which detailed scheme proposals can be progressed in conjunction with the negotiation of a development agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the relevant Portfolio Holder be authorised to sign the formal and full version of the Co-operation Agreement at the earliest opportunity. • That Officers be authorised to continue working with County Council colleagues regarding preparation of the full business case for the re-provision of Civic Offices on the basis set out in the report.
Wednesday 3rd September 2014	Newcastle Housing Advice Service	<p>David Taylor from Midland Heart Limited attended the meeting.</p> <p>Midland Heart Limited were awarded the Newcastle Housing Advice (NHA) contract, which commenced on the 1st April 2014 for a period of three years, with the possible extension of a further three years following evidence of satisfactory performance and funding.</p> <p>The NHA service was now delivered from the ground floor shop of 61-63 Lower Street, Newcastle.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flyers were distributed to Members informing of the launch on the 24th September 2014. • Monitoring statistics are continually reported quarterly • Midland Heart quarter 4 update report to be produced at a future meeting

Date of Meeting	Topic	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 3rd September 2014 Cont'd ...		<p>It was requested that monitoring statistic figures are brought to the Committee quarterly and for Midland Heart to be invited back to Scrutiny on 18th March 2015.</p> <p>RESOLVED:-</p> <p>(a) That the Head of Housing and Regeneration Services distribute flyers to Members informing of the launch on the 24th September 2014.</p> <p>(b) That Newcastle Housing Association monitoring statistics are submitted to Scrutiny quarterly.</p> <p>(c) That Midland Heart is invited back to the meeting to be held on the 18th March 2015.</p>	
	Town Centre Parking	<p>In 2013 the Council received a number of approaches from the business community (via the Town Centre Partnership) to review its town centre parking charges in the hope that concessions may help to generate greater footfall with the consequent benefit to businesses and the overall town centre economy. The Council considered it appropriate to review options and decided upon a range of actions to strike a balance between the potentially adverse impact upon the Council's revenue budget and the expectation of direct benefit being achieved by town centre businesses.</p> <p>The Council approved 3 key initiatives; Nipper Parking, Double Ticket refund scheme and Enhanced Free parking days. Alongside an offer from a national supplier of car park management systems to install, as a 12-month trial, cashless parking with an ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) systems at no cost to the Council.</p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(a) To extend the successful Double Ticket Refund Scheme on Council maintained car parks.</p> <p>(b) That the Town Centre Partnership should be allowed to offer free parking after 3.00pm in the run up to Christmas</p>	<p>It was resolved at the Cabinet meeting held on the 15th October 2014:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Members note the delivery of the Nipper Parking and the planned introduction of cashless parking including the automatic number plate recognition in a number of our car parks. • That the Just The Ticket refund scheme continues to be supported. • That Members note the decision to offer free town centre parking after 3pm for the 5.4 weeks prior to Christmas and the use of the free parking day by the Town Centre Partnership for the Christmas Lights Switch on.

Date of Meeting	Topic	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 3rd September 2014 Cont'd ...			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the enhanced free parking days of 5 days to support town centre events and Christmas free parking equivalent to 5.5 weeks after 3pm are included in the calculation for the fees and charges for 2015/16 and budget setting process.
Wednesday 3rd December 2014	Newcastle Town Centre Partnership	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014 above	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014 above
	Kingsgrove Town Centre Partnership	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014 above	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014 above
	Newcastle Housing Advice Contract Monitoring	The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services provided a summary update to Quarter 2 2014/2015 – Newcastle Housing Advice Monitoring	Continued summary updates to be received quarterly
	Joint Housing Allocations Policy Review Progress	<p>The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services tabled an additional summary of interim results from the Housing Allocations Policy Review. The consultation process was still on-going and one-to-one meetings and group discussions were being held at the Lettings Forum</p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>(a) The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services to bring back to Scrutiny costings if these were not covered by the budget.</p> <p>(b) The Head of Housing and Regeneration Services to take back the views of Scrutiny.</p>	Report was received

Date of Meeting	Topic	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 3rd December 2014 Cont'd ...	Review of Newcastles of the World Alliance	<p>Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council had been member of the 'Newcastles of the World' partnership since 1998 and had attended the biennial summit on most occasions since. In line with the 2012 and 2014 Declarations there was a commitment to have a paid Secretariat commencing early 2015. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council had committed to the first year's membership in 2015. If the Council were to consider a second year's payment in January 2016 this would need to be considered by Cabinet in February as part of the 2015/2016 budget setting process.</p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>That the Council withdrew from the Alliance to enable resources to be directed to activities which deliver priority local outcomes.</p>	<p>It was agreed by Cabinet on the 14th January 2015:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Council maintain a limited membership of the Newcastles of the World Alliance but does not allocate any funding to support local business development initiatives. • That this membership be carried out through the office of the Mayor
	Portfolio Holder Question Time	The Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres, Business and Customer Services was in attendance to provide a statement on his current portfolio.	Committee received the update
	Ryecroft Redevelopment	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014.	Please refer to the meeting held on the 2 nd July 2014
	HS2 Briefing Note	<p>The Head of Planning introduced the HS2 Briefing Note which conveyed an up-date on the present proceedings.</p> <p>On the 28th October 2014 the Chairman of HS2, Sir David Higgins, published his report "Rebalancing Britain". One of his four main proposals was the need to take forward both legs of the HS2 Y-network, his conclusion being that the alternatives would not bring the same capacity, connectivity and economic benefits. In addition to his four main proposals the report set out a series of recommendations from his review of the proposals for Phase 2 of HS2.</p>	<p>Planning agreed on the 9th December 2014 that the Committee asked the Executive Director of Regeneration & Development and the HS2 Portfolio holder, Councillor Turner, to consider making the comments listed in the attached report to the Government on the questions posed in the safeguarding direction consultation</p>

Date of Meeting	Topic	Outcomes/Recommendations	Further Action Required/Feedback
Wednesday 3rd December 2014 Cont'd ...		<p>These included that the line should be extended to Crewe by 2027 – six years earlier than originally planned. The report had been submitted to Government and any final decision on the recommendations would be made by Ministers</p> <p>Resolved:-</p> <p>That Committee agree to the Executive Director of Regeneration and Development and the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Town Centres Business and Customer Services submit a response to the Planning Committee on the safeguarding consultation which would be then be presented to the Government.</p>	<p>on</p>

This page is intentionally left blank