

Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee  
Report from Meeting held on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014

The meeting was attended by David Taylor from Midland Heart Limited. Questions were answered regarding the progress of the new Newcastle Housing Advice Service. Key Performance Indicator figures were presented and approved. It was agreed that the Committee shall receive the KPI figures to be scrutinised on a Quarterly basis in the future.

It was agreed to accept the Joint Housing Policy Review. However concerns were raised that the perception is that Aspire is “breaking away” from Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council. It was agreed that our concerns would be raised with Aspire. It was agreed to recommend the extension of the successful Double Ticket Refund Scheme on Council-run car parks and to recommend that the Town Centre Partnership should be allowed to offer free parking after 3 pm in the run-up to Christmas.

It was agreed that the LEP’s Planning Concordat should be commended to the Cabinet.

The latest trading and footfall figures for the Town Centre Partnership were presented. However these statistics were indecipherable to the Committee. The Town Centre Manager has been asked to attend the next meeting to explain.

The revised Action Plan for Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership was presented. 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.

It was decided to retain the HS2 Working Party despite the disappointing lack of information from Stoke-on-Trent City Council regarding the progress of its proposal for an alternative route.

Dave Stringer  
Chair