Date of meeting Monday, 17th September, 2012

Time 7.00 pm

Venue Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-

Lyme, Staffs ST5 2AG

Contact Louise Stevenson ext 2250

Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

AGENDA

PART 1- OPEN AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest from Members on items included in the agenda.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(Pages 1 - 6)

To agree as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2012. The minutes for 28 June 2012 are to follow.

4 TOWN CENTRE INITIATIVES FOR VACANT SHOPS

(Pages 7 - 64)

To receive an update regarding the meeting of the Chair and vice-Chair with Officers on 6th September 2012, to consider town centre initiatives for empty shops.

5 TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIPS DEVELOPMENT - 2ND ROUND PORTAS PILOT BID

(Pages 65 - 66)

To receive an update note regarding the progress in developing the Newcastle Town Centre partnership and plans for a Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership.

6 NEWCASTLE TOWN CENTRE PUBLIC REALM PROJECT

(Pages 67 - 68)

To consider a report requesting that a sub group of the Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee is convened to review progress with the public realm project and discuss decisions that will shortly have to be made on delivery of the project.

7 THE DRAFT EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY

(Pages 69 - 126)

To consider a report regarding the draft Empty Homes Strategy which is currently being consulted upon. The report outlines the main aims and objectives of the strategy and highlights ways the Council may seek to utilise to tackle empty homes in the Borough.

8 THE FORMER ST. GILES AND ST. GEORGES

(Pages 127 - 132)

To consider a report regarding the options available to the Council to bring forward the refurbishment and re-use of the former St Giles & St Georges School building in Newcastle Town Centre.

9 THE MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF CAR PARKING IN (Pages 133 - 134) NEWCASTLE TOWN CENTRE

To consider a scrutiny brief regarding the management and operation of car parking in Newcastle Town Centre.

10 UPDATE ON HS2

(Pages 135 - 138)

(Pages 139 - 140)

To receive an update regarding Government progress with their plans for a High Speed Rail link, Newcastle Borough Council's stance with regard to the plans and to update the Committee of the working group's position.

11 WORK PLAN

To discuss and update the work plans to reflect current scrutiny topics.

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 Mrs Astle, Miss Baker, Boden, Cairns, Clarke, Fear, Holland,

Lawton, Matthews (Chair), Olszewski, Mrs Peers, Stubbs, Studd, Taylor.M

(Vice-Chair) and Wilkes

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

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