# **Brief for Scrutiny**

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Topic to be Scrutinised

The preparation of a new Economic Development Strategy for the borough 2011-16.

#### Questions to be Addressed

- (1) What are the key economic issues facing the Borough?
- (2) What are the Council's priorities for action?
- (3) What actions should we be asking our local partners to take the lead in?

#### **Outcome**

- (1) To establish progress to date and the timetable for completing the draft for Cabinet consideration.
- (2) To consider who we should be consulting with, how, and (to gain maximum benefit) at what stage in the development in the strategy.
- (3) To consider the likely financial implications on the Council of any recommendations which may be coming forward.

# **Background Materials**

(1) Report to Cabinet 27 July 2011

## **Evidence and Witnesses**

- (1) Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Planning
- (2) Officers from the Economic Regeneration team.
- (3) Possible external experts from partner agencies.

### **Method of Scrutiny**

- (1) Consideration of draft as soon as possible following presentation to EMT and before Informal Cabinet.
- (2) Scrutiny Committee's recommendations then reported to Cabinet.
- (3) Consideration of any representations on the draft from partner organisations and other consultees.

#### Timetable

- (1) Partner 'scoping and shaping' groups meeting through July to air initial ideas in the four theme areas, economy, people, infrastructure and marketing.
- (2) Early draft of Strategy reported to EMT 22 September.
- (3) Input from Scrutiny Committee date tbc.
- (4) Report to Informal Cabinet 28 September.
- (5) Report to Members' pre-cabinet 5 October.
- (6) Report to Cabinet 19 October.
- (7) Wider consultation October and November.
- (8) Report back to EDE Scrutiny 23 November.
- (9) Report back to Cabinet on results of consultation and suggested improvements and revisions to the strategy, 8 February 2012.

# Constraints

(1) Issues of commercial confidentiality in the context of development plans.

- (2) Issues of raising unrealistic expectations in a period of financial constraint.
- (3) Issues of the degree of commitment partner organisations can make to the delivery of 'their' aspects of the Strategy (in terms of both resources and timescales)

# Members to undertake the scrutiny

## **EDE Scrutiny Committee**

## Support

**Relevant Executive Directors** 

Relevant Heads of Service

Democratic Services Team

# **Newcastle Borough Council Corporate Plan Priority area**

Creating a Borough of opportunity.

# **CfPS Objectives:**

- Provides and critical friend challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers.
- Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard.
- Is carried out by independent governors who lead and own the scrutiny role.
- Drives improvement in public services.

<b>Brief Approved by</b>	y Overview and Scruting	y Co-ordinating	Committee Committee
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Date:				