

Scrutiny Sub-Committee for Building a Strong Economy

13 March 2006



Work Programme

Report of Head of Overview and Scrutiny

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To give consideration to the Work Programme for the Sub-Committee.

Background

- 2 Under the new Constitution, the Sub-Committee, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the main Committee, sets its work programme.
- 3 The work programme provides the opportunity to plan the work load of the Sub-Committee. This, however, needs to be continually reviewed but provides a guide in terms of Forward Planning and Project Management.
4. The project to consider Tourism has reached the stage when the evidence can be assessed and issues considered. The last evidence session proved an opportunity to find out about way in which the various County Council services and the County Durham Development Company contribute to the promotion of tourism in County Durham.
5. The approach to tourism both regionally and locally is undergoing significant change. The Area Tourism Partnership has recently appointed its chairman, Chris Davy, who has already provided views for this Scrutiny investigation. It is clear that the introduction of the Partnership will have an impact on the way in which the County Council supports and promotes tourism including the financial arrangements. The details of this impact are being clarified and it will be sensible to wait for this clarification before the working group seeks to consider the issues and recommendations to Cabinet.
6. The Scrutiny review of the Strategic Alliance arrangements is to be reported to Cabinet on the 9th March. In summary, Cabinet is being requested to consider the business case for the extension of these arrangements beyond 2007.
7. Arising from the discussion with the Cabinet member for business and tourism, a suggestion was made that a visit to Netpark at Sedgefield should be made by members of the Sub-Committee. If this is supported by the Sub-Committee, arrangements can be made for a visit. This would provide the opportunity to see the current position but also to have an up-date about future plans.

Recommendation

7. You are recommended to note the work programme.

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**SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE FOR
BUILDING A STRONG ECONOMY**

**WORK PROGRAMME
JANUARY 2006 – OCTOBER 2006**

CALENDAR	PROJECT		REVIEW
2006			
March	European Grants	Tourism Review	
April	Netpark ?	↓	
May			
June	Performance Management		
July			
August			
September			
October			