

Scrutiny Sub-Committee for Building a Strong Economy

12 June 2006



County Durham's Economy; An Up-date

Report of the Head of Overview and Scrutiny

Purpose of Report

1. To explain the presentation to be given by the Head of Economic Development and Regeneration.

Background

2. To start the new Committee cycle, a presentation has been requested to provide an overview about County Durham's current economy. This is intended to assist members in determining the focus of this Sub-Committee for this year.
3. The service priority to promote economic well-being in the County is to improve economic activity, reduce the number of people claiming incapacity benefit, promote job creation and focus on the knowledge economy.
4. The priorities for improvement are to reduce the level of worklessness, increase entrepreneurial activity and increase the number of people with the skills required to meet current and future business needs.
5. The presentation will provide some basic information about businesses, employment and some of the economic issues facing County Durham's economy.
6. This information will be of assistance for the session on the 20th June involving all non-executive members when consideration is to be given to the major projects to be undertaken by each of the Scrutiny Sub-Committees this year.

Recommendation

7. You are asked to consider the presentation.

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