

Local Improvement Programme

*Prosperous & Attractive
Borough Overview and
Scrutiny Presentation –*

*Update on the Programme
and Progress Made*



Background to the Programme

- Sale of land for housing has created an opportunity to further invest in Regeneration across the Borough
- Creation of the Local Improvement Programme (LIP)
- £3.8m has been earmarked to LIP across the Borough over a 3 year period to March 2009 * *subject to resources being available*
- Allocation tied to Area Forum Areas and based on number of households within that area



Financial Allocation per Area Forum

Breakdown of Local Improvement Programme funding by Area Forum

Area Forum locality	No of Households	%	TOTAL LIP Funding *
Area1 - Spennymoor	8,300	22	£836,000
Area 2 - Ferryhill & Chilton	8,130	22	£836,000
Area 3 - Rural East	5,250	14	£532,000
Area 4 - Shildon	4,700	12	£456,000
Area 5 - Newton Aycliffe	11,140	30	£1,140,000
Total	37,790		£3,800,000

* 2008/09 Financial Year of the overall LIP Budget Allocation to be confirmed through SBC Budget process



Main Grant Criteria

- Compatibility with Government Regeneration Defn.
 - Focus activity on underused land and or buildings
- Programme designed to tackle the key issues facing the Borough linked to:
 - Community Strategy Objectives,
 - A Strong Local Need – backed through appraisals
 - Measurable benefits – *what difference will the project make?*
 - Added Value / additional activity
 - Appropriate Local Consultation
 - Given Regeneration Definition, activity will be focused towards land and buildings



Key Issues Raised at the January Meeting

- Current performance
- Timescale of project delivery
- Impact of LIP schemes
- Match Funding secured against LIP monies
- Differing levels of activity across Borough
- Consideration of a 'cut off' date for new applications
- Issues facing applicants, quotes process, external timescales



Update on Progress since January meeting

- Increase in project activity
- Third of all LIP projects submitted in last 6 months
- Good press coverage of the scheme
- Increase in member involvement within areas
- Active Area Forums
- Increase in project activity in Shildon and Newton Aycliffe



Consideration of a cut off date

- Internal consultation undertaken
- Support for principle of a cut off date
- Review of average turn-around time
- Consideration of future Area Forum dates
- Need to develop a clear communication strategy
- Need to avoid a 'dash for the cash' philosophy
- Give all groups opportunity to submit applications
- Recognise differing needs of groups and turn around time for projects



Next Steps

- Need formal agreement of a cut off date
- Communication of a cut off date
- Press / information articles
- Engagement with Area Forums
- We have started to encourage potential applicants to submit initial draft applications to us ASAP.



Contact details

- Applications packs in paper and/or electronic versions are available.
- Contact Details – Andrew Megginson Ext. 7764

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Questions

- Happy to take any questions
- We are also happy to discuss individual project ideas / comments outside this meeting with Councillor and or Community Groups.

