



Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date **Monday 6 October 2014**
Time **9.30 am**
Venue **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham**

Business

Part A

Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend. Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's agreement.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Declarations of Interest, if any
4. Items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties, if any
5. RED Capital Programme - Overview: (Pages 1 - 4)
 - (i) Joint Report of Assistant Chief Executive and the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economic Development
 - (ii) Presentation by Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance, Regeneration and Economic Development
6. Masterplans for County Durham - Update: (Pages 5 - 8)
 - (i) Joint Report of Assistant Chief Executive and the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economic Development
 - (ii) Presentation by the Regeneration Projects Manager and the Community Economic Development Team Leader, Regeneration and Economic Development
7. County Durham Plan - Update: (Pages 9 - 12)
Report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economic Development
8. Durham Employment and Skills and Pre-employment Training - Overview: (Pages 13 - 16)
 - (i) Joint Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economic Development
 - (ii) Presentation by the Employment and Skills Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development

9. Such other business as, in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Colette Longbottom
Head of Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall
Durham
26 September 2014

To: **The Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee:**

Councillor R Crute (Chairman)
Councillor A Batey (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors E Adam, J Armstrong, J Bell, J Clare, J Cordon, I Geldard, D Hall, C Kay, J Maitland, P McCourt, H Nicholson, R Ormerod, A Patterson, J Rowlandson, M Simpson, P Stradling, O Temple, A Willis and S Zair

Co-opted Members:

Mr E Henderson and Mr I McLaren

Contact: Martin Tindle

Tel: 03000 269 713

**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**



6 October 2014

**RED Capital programme –
monitoring arrangements**

**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
and Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and
Economic Development**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information on the monitoring arrangements currently in place for the RED Capital programme prior to the presentation by Andy Palmer, Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance, Regeneration and Economic Development.

Background

- 2 The Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee receives quarterly budget reports providing members with detail of the financial position for the following three major accounts maintained by the RED Service Grouping:
 - RED Revenue Budget.
 - Housing Revenue Account.
 - RED Capital Programme.
- 3 At previous meetings of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee when considering the quarterly budget reports members have asked questions in relation to the RED Capital Programme particularly concerning how it is monitored. It was therefore thought appropriate when refreshing the committee's work programme for 2014/2015 to include an overview of the RED Capital Programme including detail of how it is monitored.
- 4 Arrangements have been made for Andy Palmer, Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance, Regeneration and Economic Development to attend the meeting on the 6 October, 2014 and deliver a presentation focusing on:
 - Ambitions and Priorities
 - Programme make up
 - Funding

- Expenditure Profile
- Major Schemes
- Capital Request Process - MTFP5
- Management / Monitoring
- Summary

RED Capital Programme

- 5 The RED Capital Programme for 2014/2015 is currently valued at £96.581m and consists of 192 individual schemes / budgets. The Programme is fluid as a result of in year internal budgetary transfer and the securing of any external funding.
- 6 The programme is funded from the General Fund and from the Housing Revenue Account together with any external funding sources. Expenditure profiling is undertaken for each scheme with a number of schemes incurring expenditure over a 2-3 year period (sometimes longer).
- 7 There are clear mechanisms for the reporting of financial information within the RED Service Grouping consisting of monthly expenditure profiles and forecasts supplied to the Capital Programme Manager together with monthly monitoring reports produced for management and corporate finance, and quarterly monitoring reports considered by the RED Management Team. In addition Highlight Reports are provided to the Corporate Capital Programme Boards where required.
- 8 Monthly financial update reports are submitted to the Capital Programme Member/Officer Working Group (MOWG) for endorsement prior to approval by Council and both capital and revenue expenditure is reported to the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis.
- 9 Performance monitoring is a new addition to the capital programme whereby data relating to programme targets, milestones, outputs and outcomes are collected and monitored. Monthly / bi-monthly / quarterly monitoring meetings have been established with all project officers, depending on the scale of individual schemes they manage, to track and report on scheme progress and any issues arising. Programme performance reports are submitted to RED Management Team on a quarterly basis.

Recommendations

- 10 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to note and comment upon the information provided during the presentation.
- 11 That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee continue to monitor the performance of the RED Capital Programme via the quarterly budget reports.

Background Paper(s)

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny presentation - RED Capital Programme - 6 October, 2014.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Financial implications are detailed within the report which provides an overview of the RED capital position.

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – Individual schemes within the programme will be at various stages of the procurement process

Disability Issues – Individual schemes within the programme incorporate DDA compliance activity where required

Legal Implications – None

**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**



6 October 2014

**Masterplans for County Durham
Update**

**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
and Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and
Economic Development**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the development of Masterplans within County Durham prior to the presentation.

Background

- 2 The Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee has previously received presentations providing information on the various masterplans for County Durham. The Committee at the meeting on the 23rd June agreed the work programme for 2014/15 which included an update on the development of the various masterplans for the principal towns within the County.
- 3 Arrangements have therefore been made for Chris Myers, Regeneration Projects Manager and Jackie Donnelly, Community Economic Development Team Leader to attend the meeting on the 6 October, 2014 and deliver a presentation focusing on current and planned regeneration activity across the County.

Masterplans - Development

- 4 Masterplans are prepared at a town centre or settlement level and are developed to provide detail on current or proposed activity. They are designed to supplement the information provided through the planning framework and can provide an opportunity to ensure the effective alignment of services or investment by the Council and its partners at a local level. This can include town centre improvement budgets, highways and local transport investment and alignment of the Council's accommodation and customer services approaches.
- 5 The development and adoption of masterplans provides an opportunity to challenge, prioritise and channel resources to the most appropriate locations and ensure that requirements and opportunities are resourced appropriately.

This has become particularly relevant given the ongoing pressures on public finances and the relatively weak private development sector.

- 6 All masterplans produced follow a similar format and are developed using a multi-disciplinary group of staff driven by the Regeneration and Economic Development (RED) service grouping which typically included Planning, Economic Development, Housing and Transport colleagues and depending on the location other service areas or partner organisations may input throughout the process.
- 7 As part of the development of the Masterplans detailed consultation has taken place with external individuals, groups and organisations that fed their thoughts into the document. A key element of this consultation relates to the relevant Area Action Partnerships, many of which have identified or retain task and finish groups looking at the main centres.

Current Position

- 8 Regeneration Masterplans have now been prepared for each of the County's principal Towns and a review of the Bishop Auckland document is currently underway. The revised Bishop Auckland Masterplan will be considered by Cabinet in January 2015.
- 9 During 2014, projects supported through the Council's Capital Programme and delivered by the Regeneration and Economic Development service have received national and regional recognition by professional bodies. These are:

Awards

- RIBA North East – Client of the Year (DCC); Project of the Year (Seaham Marina);
- RICS North East Renaissance – Regeneration Project (Seaham Marina); Tourism & Leisure Project (Seaham Marina); Building Conservation (The Witham Hall)

Shortlisted

- RIBA North East - Project of the Year (The Witham Hall) – won by Seaham Marina
 - National RICS Regeneration Project (Seaham Marina); Building Conservation (The Witham Hall)
 - National RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence – Planning for Natural and Built Heritage (The Witham Hall) – won by Stonehenge Environmental Improvement
 - RTPI NE Awards for Planning Excellence (Seaham Marina & The Witham Hall)
- 10 Officers will continue to seek resources through the Capital Programme to implement the various projects outlined in the Masterplan documents. All Masterplans are considered to be “live” documents. Officers will evaluate the implementation of the Masterplans and will update them where required.

Recommendations

- 11 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to note and comment upon the information provided during the presentation.
- 12 That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee is kept updated on an annual basis on the development of the various masterplans within County Durham.

Background Paper(s)

Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Report - Masterplans for County Durham – 27 January, 2014.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – Each masterplan contains a detailed delivery plan with identified costs across Council services.

Staffing – None.

Risk – Detailed risk assessments will be undertaken for each development project.

Equality and Diversity – Each masterplan is subject to an Equality Impact Assessment. Further, more detailed work will be identified and addressed on an individual project basis.

Accommodation – Accommodation issues will be identified on an individual basis.

Crime and Disorder - None

Human Rights - None

Consultation – Appropriate consultation has taken place in relation to the various masterplans within the County, typically utilising Area Action Partnership structures.

Procurement - None

Disability Discrimination Act - None

Legal Implications – The masterplan documents will provide evidence to support the County Durham Plan but it will not have any statutory weight in the planning process.

**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

6 October 2014



County Durham Plan - Update

**Report of Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and
Economic Development**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a further update in relation to the progress on the County Durham Plan.

Background

- 2 As Members will remember the County Durham Plan (CDP) is a key Council document, seeking to guide the future development of the County and to improve the lives of its existing and future residents.
- 3 Overview and Scrutiny have received regular updates and workshops in relation to the ongoing preparation/progress on the CDP. The last formal stage for the CDP was the Pre-Submission Consultation of late 2013. The consultation raised a number of comments to the contents of the CDP and these were considered and reported to Cabinet and then Full Council in early 2013.

Current Position

- 4 On the 25th April 2014 the County Council Submitted the CDP to The Planning Inspectorate. Submission of the CDP represents a fairly advanced stage in plan preparation and along with the CDP itself the Council submitted a large amount of evidence in support of the CDP and the approach it takes. Following Submission the next stage is the Examination in Public (EIP) into the Plan.
- 5 The Planning Inspectorate confirmed that the Submission was in order and appointed a Planning Inspector (Mr Harold Stephens) to hold the Examination in Public (EIP) into the CDP. This is the forum when those with concerns over aspects of the CDP can raise those concerns in an independent environment. The Council itself has appointed a Programme Officer to support the EIP. This person provides the link between the Council and other parties with the Inspector in order that he maintains his impartiality in the process.
- 6 The EIP is to be carried out in three Stages and will be held at the Emirates Cricket Ground in Chester-le-Street. Part 1 of the EIP will broadly examine the strategic matters in the CDP and commenced on

the 1st October, running until 13th November 2014. A Programme for this part of the EIP is available for Member perusal which can be accessed on the web page of the Programme Officer at <http://durhamcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/prog/>. The Inspector is then to produce an Interim Report on this finding for Part 1 of the EIP.

- 7 Part 2 of the EIP will follow in the New Year and will examine sites proposed in the CDP in more detail. That will be followed by an Examination of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Following the closure of the EIP the Inspector will send his Report to the Council, including possible recommendation of how the CDP could be amended. At this point Officers will have to assess the Inspector's recommendations and report these to Members.

Recommendation

- 8 That the members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the latest position regarding progress of the County Durham Plan.

Background papers:

The County Durham Plan Examination: Stage 1 Programme.

Link to the EIP Evidence Library:

<http://durhamcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/cdpev/>

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

The Council has budgeted to fund the Examination into the Plan.

Staffing

Members of the Spatial Policy Team will provide the staff resource to handle the EIP with support from Legal and other RED and Council colleagues as required.

Risk

The CDP has been successfully Submitted so the current risk is getting the CDP successfully through the EIP

Equality and Diversity

The CDP has been subject to both Equality and Diversity assessment.

Accommodation

None.

Crime and Disorder

None.

Human Rights

None.

Consultation

The CDP is subject to several stages of consultation but at this EIP stage the Programme Officer provides guidance to those appearing at the EIP.

Procurement

None.

Disability Issues

The EIP venue is DDA compliant.

Legal Implications

The Council has appointed Counsel support for the EIP and its own legal team and Spatial Policy Team are involved to ensure the CDP process accords with legislation and guidance.

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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny
Committee**



6 October 2014

**Durham Employment and Skills
pre-employment training -
Overview**

**Joint Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
and Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and
Economic Development**

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee with background information on the work undertaken by Durham Employment and Skills in relation to pre-employment training prior to a presentation by Julie West, Employment and Skills Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development.

Background

2. Members will recall that at the meeting of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 23 June when considering the quarter 4 performance report two of the Council Plan actions behind target related to the development of sector specific pre-employment training to prepare clients for employment and meet employer's needs within the work place. It was requested by the committee that a report be provided to a future meeting providing more information on sector specific pre-employment training and work undertaken with employers in relation to sector specific qualifications.
3. Arrangements have been made for Julie West, Employment and Skills Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development to attend the committee meeting on the 6th October to deliver a presentation focusing on:
 - Pre-Employment Training model.
 - Maximising external funding contracts.
 - Supporting employer's needs.
 - Previous success.

Durham Employment and Skills

4. Durham Employment and Skills is part of the Regeneration and Economic Development Service Grouping with offices in Consett, Chester-le-Street, Stanley and Crook.

5. Currently 85% of their work is focused on supporting the Work Programme working as a sub-contractor to Avanta, one of the prime contractors for the Work Programme within County Durham. This involves supporting long term unemployed clients in preparing for, securing and sustaining employment.
6. The type of support currently provided by Durham Employment and Skills include:
 - Maths /English courses to encourage employability.
 - Skills support for the unemployed – ensuring that they have the desired skills required by employers.
 - Working with employers supporting them through the recruitment process, examples include Tesco, Costa Coffee and Tiger Bills.
 - Support for small businesses.
7. Durham Employment & Skills has a number of smaller external contracts that allow the team to provide support from initial engagement through to post employment support. Utilising funding in this way enables the team to maximise all of its contracts to meet agreed targets and outcomes.
8. Durham Employment & Skills works in partnership with employers to meet their requirements through providing Pre-employment training that enables potential candidates to gain essential knowledge and skills of specific sectors and employers.
9. Previous successful Pre-employment training, as mentioned above, has been provided for employers who are developing their business within Co Durham. Developing a relationship with the employer and involving them in the process ensures that Durham Employment & Skills is able to deliver a programme to up-skill potential candidates to meet the employers' needs.
10. Providing potential candidates with the knowledge and skills required for the positions available has proved very successful with a conversion rate of over 40% into employment.

Next Steps

11. Durham Employment & Skills needs to remain flexible to be able to continue to provide support for both employers and potential candidates, against a backdrop of payment by results contracts and a retendering of contracts linked to European monies.
12. Durham Employment & Skills will continue to work with Derwentside Homes, Groundwork NE, Job Centre Plus and other key stakeholders to provide long term unemployed residents with the knowledge and skills required to gain and sustain employment.

Recommendation

13. Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to note and comment upon the information provided during the presentation.

Background Paper(s)

Durham Employment and Skills website

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		E-mail: diane.close@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity– None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Discrimination Act –None

Legal Implications – None