



Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date **Tuesday 23 June 2015**
Time **9.30 am**
Venue **Committee Room 1A/1B, 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. Minutes of the meeting held 31 March 2015 (Pages 1 - 10)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. Items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties, if any
6. Media Relations
7. County Durham Economic Partnership - Update: (Pages 11 - 14)
 - (i) Joint Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economic Development.
 - (ii) Update on the work of the County Durham Economic Partnership – presented by Professor Brian Tanner, Chairman, County Durham Economic Partnership.
8. Quarter 4, 2014/15 Performance Management Report: (Pages 15 - 40)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – Performance and Improvement Team Leader, Regeneration and Economic Development.
9. RED Investment Planning - Overview: (Pages 41 - 44)
 - (i) Joint Report of the 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.

10. Council Plan 2015-2018 - Refresh of the Work Programme: (Pages 45 - 52)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive.
11. Minutes of the County Durham Economic Partnership meeting held on 28 April 2015 (Pages 53 - 56)
12. 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
15 June 2015

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, M Davinson, D Hall, T Henderson, C Kay, B Kellett, J Maitland, H Nicholson, R Ormerod, A Patterson, M Simpson, P Stradling, O Temple, A Willis and S Zair

Co-opted Members:

Mr I McLaren

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a Meeting of the **Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Tuesday 31 March 2015** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor R Crute (Chairman)

Members of the Committee:

Councillors E Adam, A Batey, J Clare, D Hall, J Maitland, H Nicholson, R Ormerod, P Stradling and A Willis

Co-opted Members:

Mr E Henderson and Mr I McLaren

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Armstrong, A Patterson and S Zair.

2 Substitute Members

No notification of Substitute Members had been received.

3 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held 20 February 2015 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman, subject to Councillor J Clare noting the phrase he had used at the meeting was “too many players, scoring too few goals”.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties

There were no items from Co-opted Members or Interested Parties.

6 Quarter 3, 2014/15 Revenue and Capital Outturn

The Chairman introduced Principal Accounts, Resources, John Hughes and Paul Raine who were in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 3 Revenue and Capital Outturn 2014/15 (for copy see file of minutes).

The Principal Accountant, P Raine reminded Members of the areas reported upon, the General Fund Revenue Account, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the Capital Programme for the RED Service. Members noted the service was reporting a cash limit underspend of approximately £1.320 million at Quarter 3, against a revised General Fund Revenue Budget of £45.136 million. Members noted the major variances fell within Planning and Assets and Transport and Contracted. The Committee were informed that the service grouping was on track to maintain spending within the cash limit and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) savings were incorporated into the outturn position.

The Committee noted that the HRA for 2014/15 had no major issues and the variances within the HRA being set out within the report including: increased income as fewer Right to Buy sales and a lower void rate had meant additional rental income; an underspend due to lower interest payments; and an overspend in respect of supervision and management costs, in the context of setting up the new Housing Company.

The Chairman thanked the Principal Accountants and asked Members for their questions on the finance report.

Councillors asked questions in respect of the difference between the original HRA capital budget and the revised budget and whether Traveller Sites at paragraph 16 referred to permanent sites.

Members noted the Traveller Sites referred to were permanent sites. The Principal Accountant, P Raine noted that capital spend within a year could vary as schemes could roll over several years and also if there were any slippages in a schedule, schemes could roll over into the next financial year. Councillor J Clare noted that the change to the HRA capital budget did not seem like slippage and rather more a revision to the budget and asked for clarification. The Principal Accountant, P Raine noted the Member/Officer Working Group made decisions upon changes to capital budgets, and the Performance and Planning Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development, Graham Tebbutt added that some examples of schemes that had moved back included works at the Sniperley Park and Ride and Sunderland Bridge.

Councillor R Crute requested that the committee receive detail of the reasons for the revision of the capital programme and it was also suggested that as part of Quarter 4 Budget Update the Committee receive a summary of the slippage on individual capital schemes.

Councillor E Adam asked as regards the underachievement in business rates in relation to vacant properties and the underachievement in parking income, noting that with the "free after 3" scheme the underachievement in parking income should have been foreseen.

The Principal Accountant, P Raine noted an example at Newgate Street in Bishop Auckland where units had collapsed and therefore they would not be usable, and loss of rental at vacant units at Bracken Hill, Shotton Colliery and Millennium Square in Durham City, the Durham units being used by DCC currently. Councillor E Adam noted the collapse at Bishop Auckland, however, asked what work was being undertaken to let those units at Bracken Hill and Millennium Square and whether use by DCC was the best use of the resource.

The Principal Accountant, P Raine noted the units at Millennium Square were being utilised by Business Durham and Durham Vision. The Principal Accountant, J Hughes noted the underachievement in terms of parking income was as a result of several issues, not only the “free before 3” scheme, including free parking being provided in respect of activities relating to the filming of Inspector George Gently and fee increases not being carried forward. Councillor E Adam requested further detail of the work undertaken by DCC to improve occupancy rates and increase income.

Councillor D Hall asked as regards debt written off, as set out at Appendix 2 on page 19 of the agenda pack, and also as regards an outturn forecast of zero for the welfare reform reserve. The Principal Accountant, J Hughes noted that the bad debt was primarily Council house rent, repairs and associated court costs, with provision having been made within the budget. It was noted that the welfare reform reserve was set up 3 years ago in preparation for Welfare Reform changes, to be used to help those affected by the changes. It was noted that the £393,000 was the balance remaining as at the end of 2013/14, and it was expected that the remaining reserve would be spend within the 2014/15 year in order to help Tenants.

Councillor J Clare noted the underachievement in terms of business rates and parking income, however, asked whether those relating to use of properties by DCC and the “free before 3” scheme for parking could have been factored into the budget rather than being reported as underachievement. The Principal Accountant, P Raine noted that the business rates and car parking were set as potential income generation once void properties and those occupied by DCC were taken into account.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

7 Homelessness Strategy - Update

The Chairman introduced the Core Team Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development Andrew Burnip, who was in attendance to give an update for Members in relation to the Homelessness Strategy (for copy see file of minutes).

Members were reminded that under the Homelessness Act 2002, there was a need for a Homelessness Strategy that must include plans for: the prevention of homelessness; ensuring sufficient supply of accommodation for those who are or may become homeless; and ensuring there is satisfactory support for those who are homeless or may become homeless and to prevent the loss of accommodation. It was explained that this was monitored by the Homelessness Action Partnership (HAP) and refreshed annually.

The Committee learned that the Homelessness Strategy had six objectives, namely:

- To prevent homelessness for all in housing need across County Durham
- To ensure that services work in partnership to meet the holistic needs of all clients, including those with complex needs and/or those at risk of rough sleeping
- To ensure that sufficient, appropriate and affordable accommodation is available for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless
- To provide housing advice and housing options to those in housing need in County Durham
- To tackle the wider social and economic causes of homelessness by supporting people to access health, employment, training and associated services
- To achieve Gold Standard in meeting the 10 Local Authority challenge (Making Every Contact Count; A Joint Approach to Preventing Homelessness).

The Core Team Manager explained that an Action Plan was developed with partners as regards the Strategy and that: 40 actions had been completed; 44 actions were on track or ongoing; and 12 were behind schedule. Councillors noted that there had been a number of developments made, including the Housing Solutions Gateway, a triage system at the front-end of the process looking to deal with 70% of contacts at that point. Members noted the development of Durham Key Options (DKO) to include the private rented sector, with the Landlord Accreditation Scheme and updated IT facilities via the DKO website. Members noted the Single Homeless Fund and Homelessness Intervention Project (HIP) and the Durham Action on Single Housing (DASH) facility providing support for women with complex needs. The Committee noted other developments including: the “Fair Chance Fund” supporting 18-25 year olds with complex needs; Domestic Abuse Funding; triage activities for those affected by Welfare Reform; the Holistic Temporary Accommodation and Support Service (HTASS) and Peer Education.

Members were informed that several schemes and resources that had ended included: Street Outreach (ACE); the Mortgage Rescue Fund; Step Forward, ending in July 2015, with Stonham looking to retain 8 beds; Familywise, though there may be opportunities for future European Social Fund (ESF) bids; and Through the Gate which ended in March 2015, with the new Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) to take that forward. Councillors learned that there were a number of challenges moving forward, including: future MTFP savings; continuing national austerity; ongoing Welfare Reforms; slow economic growth; and increased household costs/debts.

The Core Team Manager noted that the number of homelessness presentations to the service had reduced by approximately 15% over a six month period since the introduction of the Housing Solutions Gateway and of 761 presentations, 199 were accepted. Councillors noted that for the period January to December 2014, there had been 1,000 preventions, with 368 being found alternative accommodation and 632 being help to stay in their own accommodation. Members were reminded of the saving between a prevention and a presentation with an estimate by the Department for Communities and Local Government of wider savings £33 million. It was explained that HTASS had stopped the use of bed and breakfast accommodation and that there had been a 91% reduction in the number of 16/17 year old “bed-nights” and 86% reduction in the number of family “bed-nights”.

The Committee noted that the main reasons why people had become homeless in the period January – December 2014 had been recorded as being: loss of Assured Secure Tenancy (AST); violent relationship breakdown; and non-violent relationship breakdown. Members noted the main reasons listed for presentations included: financial hardship; being asked to leave by parents; non-violent relationship breakdown; violent relationship breakdown; Section 21 Notice (AST); and rent arrears, Housing Associations and the Local Authority.

Members were referred to a number of prevention tools that included amongst others: Bond Scheme; Accredited Landlords; and the Remain Safe service. It was added that future actions would include: wider promotion of the service, links to the Anti-Poverty Strategy; exploring opportunities from the Better Care Fund; increasing influence with the Health and Wellbeing Partnership.

The Chairman thanked the Core Team Manager and asked Members for their questions on the report and presentation.

Councillors asked questions in respect of: contact details as regards the Accredited Landlord Scheme; the numbers signed up to the scheme; rolling out of the scheme across the County; whether mental health issues factored into whether a person may become homeless; why Tenants would accept ASTs; where the Authority could intervene; loss of the Street Outreach Service; and linking to the Anti-Poverty Strategy.

The Core Team Manager noted contact details could be brought back to Committee or perhaps a Member Training Session could be arranged via the Organisational Development Team. It was added that around 50-60 landlords used DKO and the majority were accredited, and Members were reminded of the pilot schemes ongoing and the roll out to the rest of the County in due course. Councillor H Nicholson noted concern as regards not having the same service operating across the whole County from 1 April. Councillor P Stradling added that the accreditation was a step forward; however, changes in legislation were needed to be able to effectively tackle rogue private landlords. The Chairman added that the Accreditation Scheme was voluntary and that there needed to be benefits for Landlords joining the scheme to encourage them to want to join.

The Core Team Manager noted mental health issues did contribute to homelessness, and for single homelessness it was often that individuals had complex needs including issues, such as depression, hoarding or anxiety linked to debt. Members were reminded of the intervention tools as set out within the report. The Core Team Manager explained that there were varying reasons why individuals accepted ASTs, some as it provided an element of freedom to move, and some Landlords preferred them so they could easily serve a Section 21 Notice to remove Tenants. It was added that if individuals approached the Authority early enough there were several options for the Council to negotiate and mediate on Tenants' behalf. Members noted that promotion of the Housing Solutions Team included: advertising on the Community Channel, as displayed in Doctors' Surgeries; a rebranded leaflet; articles within the County Durham News; and Prevention Champion training for other relevant professionals, to highlight the benefit of early referrals.

The Core Team Manager explained that the loss of outreach workers would make it difficult in respect of identifying rough sleepers, and there was the Government “Streetlink” which allowed for information on rough sleepers to be reported and passed on to the Local Authority, though there were limitations to this approach. The Core Team Manager noted he was meeting with the Housing Project and Service Improvement Manager, Marie Smith in relation to linking to the Anti-Poverty Strategy and issues of Welfare Reform looking to identify any gaps.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

8 Quarter 3, 2014/15 Performance Management Report

The Chairman thanked the Performance and Planning Manager, Regeneration and Economic Development, Graham Tebbutt who was in attendance to speak to Members in relation to the Quarter 3, 2014/15 Performance Management Report (for copy see file of minutes).

The Performance and Planning Manager reminded Members of the different types of indicators reported, Tracker indicators and Target indicators.

Councillors noted that some of the key achievements in Quarter 3 included: 144 private sector properties being improved through Local Authority interventions, the total since April 279 ahead of target; 219 apprenticeships started through DCC funded schemes, ahead of target; and the success rate for adult skills funded provision had improved from the previous academic year.

Members noted information relating to Tracker Indicators including: the numbers claiming JobSeekers Allowance (JSA) continued to fall; the number claiming JSA for 12 months or more continued to fall; a reduction in homelessness presentations; the number on the housing register classed as in reasonable preference groups had reduced; and the number of those rehoused via DKO had reduced. It was added that: numbers were improving in terms of net homes completed quarter on quarter; the percentage of homes completed in and near major settlements was higher than the previous year, in line with the previous quarter; the figures for those 16-18 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) were improved in comparison to last year, higher than the regional figures, however, still lower than the national average; and the percentage of “not knowns” in relation to NEETs was 4.4%, better than the averages for statistical neighbours, the North East region and England.

Members noted progress with Council Plan actions, including: a draft design for flood mitigation at Elvet Waterside; assessment work for Millburngate House; site investigation as regards a Western Relief Road, with the next steps for the County Durham Plan (CDP) being considered; the new County Durham Housing Group having recruited its Chief Executive and Directors. Members noted: refurbishment of Gypsy Roma Traveller sites; the roll out of the Digital Durham Programme; and enterprise initiatives including the launch of the 2014-15 Future Business Magnates competition.

It was added that the key performance issues for the theme were: delivery of 91 affordable homes this quarter, below target of 120; and the 208 potential jobs created or safeguarded through projects with existing businesses being below the quarterly target of 600. It was added the total since April being 1,058, below the profiled target of 1,200.

Members noted the Tracker Indicators set out within the report including: a slight increase in the employment rate, a slight reduction in the proportion of the working age population not in work who want to work; and an expected decrease in the number of visitors to core attractions in the April to September 2014 period from the previous year, noting the high visitor numbers last year as a result of Lindisfarne Gospels exhibition.

Councillors learned that Council Plan actions which had not achieved target included: the County Durham Plan, the Council still considering the Inspector's interim feedback; the development and implementation of real time travel information; and provision of new car park spaces at North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland delayed by one month, with a revised completion date of November 2015.

The Chairman thanked the Performance and Planning Manager and asked Members for their questions on the report.

Councillors asked questions in relation to: whether Developers were renegotiating the number of affordable homes throughout the County; more information in terms of JSA figures and "working age population not in work who wanted to work"; the "not known" figures in relation to NEETs; a breakdown as regards the areas where the 144 private sector properties brought back into use by DCC interventions; and information relating to the value of new jobs created, for example were they part-time or zero-hour contracts compared to full-time jobs that may have been lost.

The Performance and Planning Manager explained that while Developers would look to maximise profits on developments, the number of affordable homes delivered through specific schemes was greater than those gained through those within mixed developments. Members noted that the "working age population not in work who wanted to work" was a figure derived from a sample survey, while the JSA figures were based on raw data, although those undertaking training via the Work Programme would not be reflected in the JSA figures. Councillors noted that it was difficult to get information for "not knowns" and sometimes those "not known" in one quarter were then "known" the next, although the current figure of 4.4% was very good in comparison to figures from the recent past of around 10%.

The Performance and Planning Manager noted that Cluster Bid funding was used for getting properties back into use, and also for environmental works to improve the streetscape, and that re-profiling of environmental works and group repairs had led to some delays. Members noted that in respect of employment rate and the value of jobs being created, the Performance and Planning Manager thought it may be possible to obtain the sector codes to try and provide additional information. The Vice-Chairman, Councillor A Batey suggested that comparisons of NI contributions might be able to show the value of jobs that had been created. The Performance and Planning Manager noted he had not seen NI information used as a proxy indicator in that way, however, he would look into the issue.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Tourism Marketing undertaken by Visit County Durham

The Chairman asked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer, Diane Close to give a verbal update on the activities of the Working Group looking at Tourism Marketing undertaken by Visit County Durham.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that there had been three meetings to date, receiving information from Visit County Durham (VCD) and looking at the role and responsibilities of VCD. Members noted that there had been information received as regards national campaigns undertaken, performance of campaigns and how this was measured, together with information on future marketing activities. It was noted that the key findings coming from the review included: VCD had a small Marketing Team and a small marketing budget; VCD had been successful in delivering marketing campaigns as a result of Regional Growth Fund (RGF) monies however this had come to an end; a strong Strategic Marketing Partnership exists within the County and VCD will continue to work in partnership locally, regionally and nationally to ensure that their marketing activity continues to be effective with limited resources.

The Committee were reminded that VCD worked in partnership with the national tourism organisations, Visit England and Visit Britain and that there were several signature events to be held in 2015 such as Lumiere; Magna Carta; and events at Auckland Castle. Members noted the “Northern Futures” fund, to market tourism for the North of England internationally. Members noted a report as regards Tourism Marketing would be drawn together and reported back to Members in due course.

Councillor P Stradling noted the small team at VCD were continuing to do excellent work, however funding in the future could be an issue, notwithstanding the “Northern Futures” funding announced by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Resolved:

That the verbal update be noted.

10 Council Plan 2015-18 - Refresh of the Work Programme

The Chairman asked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer to speak to Members in relation to the Council Plan 2015-2018 - Refresh of the Work Programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (for copy see file of minutes).

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer explained that the report was the first opportunity for Members to comment in the usual annual process of setting the work programme for the Committee, in the context of the “Altogether Wealthier” priority theme as set out in the Council Plan 2015-2018.

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Committee would consider a draft work programme based upon the comments from Members brought forward at the meeting today. Councillors noted the “Altogether Wealthier” section of the Draft Council Plan was attached at Appendix 2 to the report in the agenda pack.

The Committee noted that the work undertaken by the Committee over the last year was set out within the report at paragraph 9 of the report and it was for Members to suggest topics for further investigation, taking on board issues raised from performance reporting, upcoming legislation and issues discussed at the Committee.

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer noted that Paragraph 11 highlighted gaps within the work programme with paragraph 12 setting out those issues that were cross-cutting with other “Altogether” themes. Members were reminded of the ongoing overview work of the Committee in terms of performance and budgetary review, issues carried forward from the 2014/15 work programme for inclusion in the future work programme such as EU Funding, work of Business Durham, Combined Authority, work of the County Durham Economic Partnership, Housing Strategy, Masterplans, County Durham Plan, Youth Employment Initiative, skills development and systematic reviews of the recommendations contained in two previous Scrutiny review reports.

The Chairman thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Officer and noted that any comments or suggestions for potential topics for future reviews could be forward to the Overview and Scrutiny Officer for inclusion in the report to be considered at the June meeting.

Councillor J Armstrong reminded Members that reviews would need to be taken in the context of capacity and in terms of being achievable and adding value. The Vice-Chairman, Councillor A Batey agreed and asked as regards mapping the progression of apprentices to see where they go after their apprenticeships are completed, or look at reasons why someone would leave an apprenticeship.

Councillor D Hall noted the rebranding of the Social Inclusion Strategy as an “Anti-Poverty Strategy” and suggested this as a topic for inclusion in the work programme.

Resolved:

- (i) That the information set out in the Council Plan 2015-2018 Altogether Wealthier theme be noted.
- (ii) That the Committee refresh the Work Programme considering the actions identified under the Altogether Wealthier theme.
- (iii) That the Committee consider a further report detailing the Work Programme 2015-2016 at its meeting 23 June 2015.

11 Minutes of the County Durham Economic Partnership

The Minutes of the meetings of the County Durham Economic Partnership held 3 February 2015 were received by the Committee for information.

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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

23 June 2015



**County Durham Economic
Partnership – 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 background information in advance of the discussion with Brian Tanner, Chair of the County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP) focusing on partnership priorities, measures of success, influencing partnership activity to make a difference and overcome continued economic challenges.

Background

- 2 The work programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee focuses on the priority areas identified within the context of the Council Plan, Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy, Partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in Government legislation.
- 3 In addition, the Committee invites on an annual basis the Chair or Vice-Chair of the County Durham Economic Partnership (CDEP) to discuss with members of the Committee the priorities of the partnership, activity undertaken and challenges to be faced within County Durham. This discussion has previously provided the ideal opportunity for collaboration, identifying areas of future focus for the Partnership and the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4 The work programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee is being refreshed for 2015 – 2016 and a report on this features later in this agenda. In view of this, the Chair of the CDEP has been invited to attend today's meeting to provide him with an opportunity to comment upon the work programme and identify any additional areas for inclusion.

Current position

- 5 The Chair of CDEP, Brian Tanner will provide the Committee with a presentation which will focus on:
- Partnership Priorities
 - Measures of Success
 - Making a difference, supporting growth and influencing partnership activity
 - Challenges Ahead

Recommendation

- 6 Members of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the information provided during the discussion and reflect upon any additional areas arising from the presentation for inclusion in the Committee's work programme for 2015 - 2016.

Background Papers

- Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Update on the County Durham Economic Partnership – 23 June, 2014.
- Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny report – Refresh of the work programme 2015-2016 – 31 March, 2015.

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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

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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**



23 June 2015

**Quarter 4 2014/15
Performance Management Report**

**Report of Corporate Management Team
Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive
Councillor Simon Henig, Leader**

Purpose of the Report

1. To present progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs), Council Plan and Service Plan actions for the Altogether Wealthier theme and report other significant performance issues for the 2014/15 financial year.

Overall Council Performance

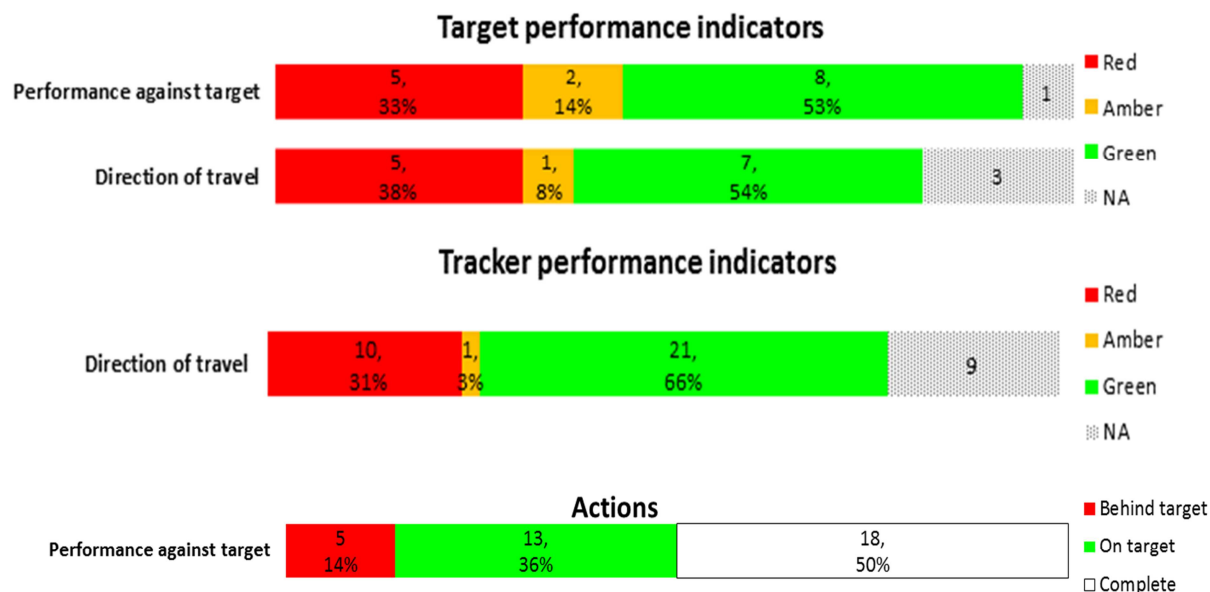
2. Since 2010, the council has made significant financial savings following reductions in government grants and have delivered just under £137 million savings to date and have plans in place to make a further £16 million of reductions in 2015/16.
3. Demand over the year has increased for some of our key services such as children in need referrals, looked after children cases, people requiring rehousing, and freedom of information requests received. However, it is encouraging to note that there have been some notable reductions in demand placed on some of our services in line with council strategy. The number of incidents of fly-tipping being reported is starting to come down after a concerted effort to tackle the perpetrators. All contact through our customer services team whether through face-to-face, telephone or via electronic means is generally reducing in line with our customer first strategy, which aims to answer queries at first point of contact and reduce the need to contact the council again. There has been a large spike in terms of telephone calls received in the last quarter of the year which is predominantly as a result of the introduction of the new garden waste service which has generated a number of additional calls around the time of implementation, some of which have been new customers wanting to join the scheme.
4. Against this backdrop of reducing resources and increasing demand it is critical that the council continues to actively manage performance and ensures that the impact on the public of the difficult decisions we have had to make is minimised.

Altogether theme Performance

5. The report sets out an overview of performance and progress for the Altogether Wealthier priority theme. Key performance indicator progress is reported against two indicator types which comprise of:

- a. Key target indicators – targets are set for indicators where improvements can be measured regularly and where improvement can be actively influenced by the council and its partners (see Appendix 3, table 1); and
 - b. Key tracker indicators – performance will be tracked but no targets are set for indicators which are long-term and/or which the council and its partners only partially influence (see Appendix 3, table 2).
6. The report continues to incorporate a stronger focus on volume measures in our performance framework. This allows us to better quantify productivity and to monitor the effects of reductions in resources and changes in volume of activity. Charts detailing some of the key volume measures which form part of the council's corporate set of performance indicators are presented in Appendix 4.
7. A corporate performance indicator guide has been produced which provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources. This is available to view from the intranet or can be requested from the Corporate Planning and Performance Team at performance@durham.gov.uk.
8. Work has been carried out by officers and members on developing the proposed indicator set and targets for 2015/16 (see Appendix 5) to ensure that our performance management efforts continue to stay focused on the right areas.

Altogether Wealthier: Overview



Council Performance

9. Key achievements this quarter include:

- a. 197 private sector properties have been improved through local authority intervention bringing the total since April 2014 to 476. As the definition for this indicator has changed for 2014/15, past data are not comparable.
- b. Also as a result of council intervention, 55 empty properties were brought back into use during quarter 4, which exceeds the in-quarter target of 47. This brings the total since April to 199, exceeding the annual target of 120. This is an 81% improvement on last year (110) and is a direct result of the investment of funds from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the council's capital programme and the changes to council tax charging for empty properties. In relation to the Council Plan action to bring 25 empty homes back into use through a programme of targeted support in the north of the county (South Moor – environmental works), the target completion date has been delayed from April to October 2015 due to delays in the energy efficiency and environmental improvement works. This action was also delayed in quarter 2. A residents consultation event to gauge appetite for participation and meetings with our delivery partner Warm up North (British Gas) to obtain final scheme costs and anticipated Energy Company Obligation Funds have been held. Depending on resident sign up, it is anticipated that energy efficiency works will commence within quarter 1 of 2015/16.
- c. The number of affordable homes delivered in quarter 4 was 246, which exceeded the target of 140. This brought the total during 2014/15 to 494, in comparison to 661 during 2013/14. The target for 2014/15 (400) has been exceeded. There has been a good appetite amongst registered providers to continue to invest in affordable housing within County Durham. HCA grant has also been available to ensure schemes are financially viable.

- d. There were 321 apprenticeships started through Durham County Council funded schemes between April and December 2014. This is well above the target (135) and performance for the corresponding period in 2013/14 (196). Additional money has been allocated to this programme, which continues to support local businesses and local people looking for support in the labour market.
- e. During this quarter Business Durham engaged with 320 businesses, which exceeded the target of 180. The annual number of businesses engaged increased 95% from 581 in 2013/14 to 1,134 in 2014/15. The number of business enquiries handled this quarter has fallen to 265 from 297 the previous quarter and failed to achieve the quarterly target (300). However during 2014/15, 1,202 enquiries were handled, achieving the target for 2014/15 of 1,200 and performance in 2013/14 (1,151).
- f. The transfer of Durham County Council's Housing Stock has been a major feature of 2014/15 with a programmed transfer date of the end of March 2015. Some legal technicalities meant that the transfer was delayed into mid-April. Those issues were resolved and the stock has now been transferred to the new County Durham Housing Group. As well as completing one of the largest stock transfers in the country performance has been improved in the following areas:
 - i. The proportion of council owned housing that is empty has improved from 1.15% in quarter 3 to 1.03% this quarter (190 properties), achieving the target of 1.5%. This is a significant improvement compared to 2013/14 when 1.63% of housing was void. The proportion of council owned housing that is not available to let and has been empty for more than 6 months has improved from 0.14% last year to 0.10% this quarter but the target (0.05%) has not been achieved.
 - ii. The proportion of council owned properties currently meeting decency criteria has increased from 91.7% in 2013/14 to 99.8%, although this was below the target of 100%. 42 properties were handed back to East Durham Homes in quarter 4 by their contractor, who was unable to complete all works by year-end. Decent homes works to these properties will be undertaken in the first quarter of 2015/16. Despite this small shortfall, East Durham Homes made 1,414 homes decent in 2014/15 and the council were able to attain full Decent Homes Backlog Funding from the HCA.
 - iii. Current tenant arrears as a percentage of the annual rent debit reduced from 1.99% in 2013/14 to 1.97% (£1.39m) in 2014/15 exceeding the target of 2.45%.
- g. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. The number of people claiming Job Seeker Allowance (JSA) has decreased throughout the year from 9,385 at quarter 1 to 7,640 this quarter. Of the 7,640 people, there were 2,190 claimants aged 18-24 years (28.66% of all JSA claimants). This represents a decrease of 36% from 3,415 last year. Further investigation into the increase in JSA claimants is being carried out.

- ii. The number of JSA claimants that have claimed for 12 months or more continues to fall, decreasing from 31.5% (2,145) of all JSA claimants in quarter 3 to 27.8% (2,125) this quarter. The proportion of long term claimants has fallen 20% from the corresponding period in 2013/14 (3,980 claimants). The County Durham rate is higher than the national rate of 23.1% but lower than the North East (29.9%) and nearest statistical neighbour rates (30.3%).
- iii. Homeless indicators show a mixed picture compared to quarter 3, as follows:
 - The number of presentations to the Housing Solutions Service has improved from 2,320 to 2,096 this quarter. During 2014/15 there were 9,403 presentations.
 - The number of statutory homeless applications has declined from 133 to 123. This equates to 5.9% of presentations. During 2014/15 there were 630 applications (6.7% of all presentations).
 - The level of acceptances of a statutory duty has declined from 35 to 39. This equates to 2% of presentations. During 2014/15 there were 187 acceptances (1.99% of all presentations).
 - The number of preventions has improved from 328 to 338. This equates to 16.1% of presentations. During 2014/15 there were 1,379 preventions (14.7% of all presentations).

It is not possible to compare performance to 2013/14 due to changes in the indicator definitions.

- iv. During quarter 4 there were 1,345 applicants registered on the Durham Key Options system who were rehoused, which is an increase on the previous quarter (1,317). The year-end figure was 5,180 compared to 5,045 in 2013/14. This increase in lets can be attributed to greater numbers of new builds from full partners and other registered providers in 2014/15 (see appendix 4, chart 2).
- v. Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres have increased in eight of the 12 town centres, with only Consett, Crook and Newton Aycliffe declining (see following table). Newton Aycliffe has seen the highest percentage fall in occupancy (-5.6%), although this figure is inflated as some of the vacancies are due to future planned demolition and regeneration works. Compared to the national average occupancy rate of 89.6%, ten town centres have higher or close to national occupancy levels, as detailed in the following table.

Town Centre	% occupancy at March 2015	% occupancy at March 2014	% change
Seaham	94	91	+ 3.3
Consett	93	94	-1.1
Barnard Castle	91	89	+ 2.2
Durham City	91	89	+ 2.2
Crook	90	92	-2.2
Shildon	89	89	0
Stanley	88	86	+2.3
Spennymoor	88	85	+3.5
Peterlee	86	85	+ 1.2
Bishop Auckland	80	79	+ 1.3
Chester-le-Street	87	84	+ 3.6
Newton Aycliffe	67	71	- 5.6

- vi. As reported in the Altogether Better Council theme, the occupancy of Business Durham premises increased steadily during 2014/15. This resulted in £3,254,000 being generated, an increase from same time last year (£2,513,000).
- vii. The number of registered businesses has increased from 14,785 in 2013/14 to 15,155 in 2014/15, which represents a 2.5% increase. This is now above the number of businesses recorded in the early stages of the recession (15,035 in 2010).
- viii. During quarter 4, 244,331 people visited the thisisdurham website to bring the total number of visitors during 2014/15 to 977,000, the highest total to date and an increase of 19.5% from 2013/14 (818,000). Visit County Durham will continue to monitor progress to expand the reach of the website to an even wider audience. Visit County Durham now engage with 250 more tourism businesses than they did last year.
- ix. Data for November 2014 to January 2015 (national measuring period) indicate that 6.7% of 16 to 18 year olds were not in education, employment or training (NEET), which relates to approximately 1,111 young people. This is an improvement when compared to the same three month period last year (7.1%) and is better than the regional (7%) average but worse than the national figure of 4.7% and statistical neighbours of 6.6%.
- The percentage of 16 to 18 year olds whose status in relation to education, employment or training (EET) is not known was 4.6% during the national measuring period. This is an improvement on last year (7.5%) and is better than the November 2014 to January 2015 averages for England (9%) and the North East (5%) but worse than the statistical neighbours average (3.6%).
- x. Progress has been made with the Council Plan action for refurbishments of the Gypsy Roma Traveller sites at Stanley, Birtley, West Rainton and Bishop Auckland. These are now complete, bringing to conclusion a significant capital project, improving individual pitches and facilities across all the sites.

10. The key performance improvement issues for this theme are:

- a. Six inward investment projects have been secured in 2014/15, below the annual target of 10. There have been 1,567 potential jobs created and/or safeguarded between April 2014 and March 2015 which has not met the annual target of 2,400. A new plan has been developed for attracting and developing inward investment over the coming years.
- b. The percentage of overall planning applications determined within deadline has shown a steady decrease every quarter for the last six quarters from 88.6% down to 84% at the year-end. This deterioration in performance is also against a backdrop of falling numbers of planning applications albeit with a spike in the quarter four rolling year figure (see appendix 4, chart 1).
- c. Tracker indicators show:
 - i. The proportion of the working age population in employment has increased from 68.1% last quarter to 68.7% (229,700 people) this period (January to December 2014). This is lower than the national (74.1%) and nearest statistical neighbour rates (70.7%) but higher than the North East rate (68.2%). An additional 5,000 people are now in employment than at the same time last year, when the employment rate was 66.1%. The proportion of the working age population currently not in work who want a job during the same period has improved from the previous quarter (13%) to 12.4% this period. Performance is better than the corresponding period in 2013/14 (14.6%) and the North East rate (12.7%) but worse than the England (10.5%) and nearest statistical neighbour rates (10.49%).
 - ii. The number of net homes completed this quarter was 243, a decrease from the previous quarter (272) although the total of completions during 2014/15 (1,083) shows an increase of 97 compared with 2013/14 (986). The proportion of homes completed in and near all major settlements was 35% (99 homes) this quarter. Overall 41% (474) of homes completed in 2014/15 were in or near major settlements, compared to 52.6% during 2013/14. This quarter there were 19 new homes in Durham City. This is an improvement on quarter 3 (4) and quarter 4 last year (8). This brings the annual total to 40, 11 less than 2013/14 (51).
 - iii. In 2013/14, 6,954 people started a full-time first degree. This equates to 18 per 1,000 population aged 18 and over. Although this is an increase from 17.3 in 2012/13, it is lower than the North East (19.7) and national (24.5) rates. Between 2001/2 and 2013/14 the proportion of people starting first degrees increased at a greater rate (37.8%) than in the North East (31.3%) but considerably less than nationally (52.2%).

- d. The key Council Plan actions which have not achieved target in this theme include:
- i. The council has been considering the inspector's interim report on the County Durham Plan and is expecting to respond to it during quarter 1. An outline of how to proceed will be set out once a response has been sent to the inspector. This has also impacted on the timescale for the Council Plan action to obtain planning consent for the Western Relief Road which has been delayed from December 2015 to April 2016. It has also affected progress of the service plan actions to expand Sniperley Park and Ride and review the County Durham Housing Strategy.
 - ii. The development and implementation of a Real Time Travel Information System across the county, which was behind target in quarters 2 and 3, has been delayed further from February 2015 to December 2015, as more development of the display management system was required for the roll out to be successful. The electronic sign upgrade is due to commence in May 2015.
 - iii. The completion date for delivery of the first Durham County Council market housing scheme for rent and sale has been revised from January 2017 to January 2018, as the process of agreeing a suitable contractor took longer than anticipated. Detailed site work has progressed to form a programme to deliver four sites within County Durham. The business plan will be presented to Cabinet in July 2015 with an intended start on site scheduled for November 2015.

11. There are no key risks which require any mitigating action in delivering the objectives of this theme.

Recommendations and reasons

12. That the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the report and consider any performance issues arising there with.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

Staffing - Performance against a number of relevant corporate health PIs has been included to monitor staffing issues.

Risk - Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly monitoring report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - Corporate health PIs are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Accommodation - Not applicable

Crime and Disorder - A number of PIs and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

Human Rights - Not applicable

Consultation - Not applicable

Procurement - Not applicable

Disability Issues - Employees with a disability are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

Legal Implications - Not applicable

Appendix 2: Key to symbols used within the report

Where icons appear in this report, they have been applied to the most recently available information.

Performance Indicators:

Direction of travel

Performance against target

Latest reported data have improved from comparable period

GREEN

Performance better than target

Latest reported data remain in line with comparable period

AMBER

Getting there - performance approaching target (within 2%)

Latest reported data have deteriorated from comparable period

RED

Performance >2% behind target

Actions:

WHITE

Complete. (Action achieved by deadline/achieved ahead of deadline)

GREEN

Action on track to be achieved by the deadline

RED

Action not achieved by the deadline/unlikely to be achieved by the deadline

Benchmarking:

GREEN

Performance better than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

AMBER

Performance in line with other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

RED

Performance worse than other authorities based on latest benchmarking information available

Appendix 3: Summary of Key Performance Indicators

Table 1: Key Target Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Wealthier											
1	REDPI75a	Overall proportion of planning applications determined within deadline	84.0	2014/15	85.0	AMBER	87.2	RED			
2	REDPI10a	Number of affordable homes delivered	246	Jan - Mar 2015	140	GREEN	246	AMBER			
3	REDPI29	Number of private sector properties improved as a direct consequence of local authority intervention	476	2014/15	Not set	NA [1]	NA	NA [1]			
4	REDPI30	Number of empty properties brought back into use as a result of local authority intervention	199	2014/15	120	GREEN	110	GREEN			
5	REDPI95	Proportion of council owned properties currently meeting decency criteria	99.77	Jan - Mar 2015	100.00	AMBER	91.69	GREEN			
6	REDPI82	Proportion of council owned housing that is empty	1.03	Jan - Mar 2015	1.50	GREEN	1.63	GREEN			
7	REDPI82a	The proportion of council owned housing that is not available to let and has been empty for more than six months	0.10	Jan - Mar 2015	0.05	RED	0.14	GREEN			
8	REDPI62	Apprenticeships started through Durham County Council funded schemes	321	Apr - Dec 2014	135	GREEN	196	GREEN			

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Period target	Current performance to target	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
9	CASAW2	Overall success rate of adult skills funded provision	87.0	2013/14 ac yr	86.0	GREEN	87.5	RED	84.6 GREEN		2013/14 ac yr
10	REDPI64	Number of passenger journeys made on the Link2 service	7,283	Jan - Mar 2015	7,500	RED	8,167	RED			
11	REDPI81	Percentage of timetabled bus services that are on time	89.0	Jan - Mar 2015	85.0	GREEN	86.0	GREEN			
12	REDPI41c	Percentage of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks	72.2	2014/15	71.0	GREEN	72.3	RED	70.0 GREEN	78** RED	2013/14
13	REDPI93	Number of business enquiries handled by Business Durham	265	Jan - Mar 2015	300	RED	296	RED			
14	REDPI94	Number of inward investment successes	6	2014/15	10	RED	New indicator	NA			
15	REDPI66	Number of businesses engaged with Business Durham	320	Jan - Mar 2015	180	GREEN	111	GREEN			
16	REDPI92	Number of gross potential jobs created and/or safeguarded	1,567	2014/15	2,400	RED	New indicator	NA			

[1] Due to changes to the definition data is not comparable

Table 2: Key Tracker Indicators

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
Altogether Wealthier											
87	REDPI3	Number of net new homes completed in Durham City	19	Jan - Mar 2015	4	GREEN	8	GREEN			
88	REDPI24	All homes completed in and near all major settlements, as defined in the County Durham Plan, as a proportion of total completions	35.00	Jan - Mar 2015	49.00	RED	48.86	RED			
89	REDPI22	Percentage of households within County Durham that can access Durham City market place by 8.30am, using public transport with a total journey time of one hour, including walking time	75.00	As at Mar 2015	77.00	RED	73.76	GREEN			
90	REDPI38	Number of passenger journeys recorded by the operator of the three Durham City Park and Ride sites	255,039	Jan - Mar 2015	279,618	RED	258,703	RED			
91	REDPI80	Percentage annual change in the traffic flow through Durham City	Not reported	Jan - Mar 2015	6.44	GREEN	New indicator	NA			
92	NS01	Number of visitors to theatres	220,519	2014/15	174,965	GREEN	235,244	RED			
93	NS02	Number of visitors to museums	41,027	Jan - Mar 2015	46,578	Not comparable [2]	New indicator	NA			

Page 28 Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
94	NS03	Number of visitors to leisure centres	1,200,780	Jan - Mar 2015	1,039,348	GREEN	New indicator	NA			
95	NS12	Percentage of food establishments rated as three star or above (Food Hygiene Rating System)	94.5	As at Mar 2015	94.5	AMBER	94.0	GREEN			
96	REDPI97 a	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Barnard Castle	91	As at Mar 2015	89	GREEN	89	GREEN	90 GREEN		As at Jan 2015
97	REDPI97 b	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%)– Bishop Auckland	80	As at Mar 2015	79	GREEN	79	GREEN	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
98	REDPI97 c	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Chester-le-Street	87	As at Mar 2015	84	GREEN	84	GREEN	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
99	REDPI97 d	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%)– Consett	93	As at Mar 2015	94	RED	94	RED	90 GREEN		As at Jan 2015
100	REDPI97 e	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Crook	90	As at Mar 2015	92	RED	92	RED	90 GREEN		As at Jan 2015
101	REDPI97 f	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Durham City	91	As at Mar 2015	89	GREEN	89	GREEN	90 GREEN		As at Jan 2015
102	REDPI97 g	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Newton Aycliffe	67	As at Mar 2015	71	RED	71	RED	90 RED		As at Jan 2015

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
103	REDPI97h	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Peterlee	86	As at Mar 2015	85	GREEN	85	GREEN	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
104	REDPI97i	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Seaham	94	As at Mar 2015	91	GREEN	91	GREEN	90 GREEN		As at Jan 2015
105	REDPI97j	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Shildon	89	As at Mar 2015	89	AMBER	89	AMBER	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
106	REDPI97k	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Spennymoor	88	As at Mar 2015	85	GREEN	85	GREEN	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
107	REDPI97l	Occupancy rates for retail units in town centres (%) – Stanley	88	As at Mar 2015	86	GREEN	86	GREEN	90 RED		As at Jan 2015
108	REDPI10b	Number of net homes completed	243	Jan - Mar 2015	272	RED	179	GREEN			
109	REDPI34	Total number of applications registered on the Durham Key Options system which let to the household being successfully rehoused	1,345	Jan - Mar 2015	1,317	GREEN	1,363	RED			
110	REDPI36d	Total number of housing solutions presentations	2,096	Jan - Mar 2015	2,320	GREEN	New indicator	NA [1]			
111	REDPI36b	Number of statutory homeless applications as a proportion of the total number of housing solutions presentations	5.87	Jan - Mar 2015	5.73	RED	New indicator	NA [1]			

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
112	REDPI36c	Number of homeless acceptances (of a statutory duty) as a proportion of the total number of housing solutions presentations	2.00	Jan - Mar 2015	1.51	RED	New indicator	NA [1]			
113	REDPI36a	Number of preventions as a proportion of the total number of housing solutions presentations	16.13	Jan - Mar 2014	14.14	GREEN	New indicator	NA [1]			
114	REDPI96	The number of people in reasonable preference groups on the housing register	4,978	As at Mar 2015	4,704	RED	New indicator	NA			
115	REDPI40	Proportion of the working age population defined as in employment	68.7	2014	68.1	GREEN	66.1	GREEN	74.1 RED	68.2* GREEN	2014
116	REDPI73	Proportion of the working age population currently not in work who want a job	12.36	2014	13.05	GREEN	14.58	GREEN	10.49 RED	12.74* GREEN	2014
117	REDPI8b	Proportion of all Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants that have claimed for one year or more	27.81	As at Mar 2015	31.52	GREEN	34.75	GREEN	23.10 RED	29.9* GREEN	As at Mar 2015
118	REDPI7a	Number of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants aged 18-24	2,190	As at Mar 2015	2,245	GREEN	3,415	GREEN			
119	REDPI28	Number of apprenticeships started by young people resident in County Durham as recorded by the National Apprenticeship Service	Data no longer available	2013/14 ac yr	1,372	NA	1,372	NA			

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Previous period data	Performance compared to previous period	Data 12 months earlier	Performance compared to 12 months earlier	National figure	*North East figure **Nearest statistical neighbour figure	Period covered
120	REDPI87	Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita in County Durham (£)	12,875	2012	12,661	GREEN	12,661	GREEN	21,937 RED	16091* RED	2012
121	REDPI88	Per capita household disposable income (£)	14,151	2012	13,522	GREEN	13,522	GREEN	17,066 RED	14393* RED	2012
122	ACE018	People who were resident in County Durham the year before they started a full-time first degree (per 1,000 population aged 18+)	18.0	2013/14 ac yr	17.3	GREEN	17.3	GREEN	24.5 RED	19.7* GREEN	2013/14 ac yr
123	REDPI72	Number of local passenger journeys on the bus network	6,154,696	Oct - Dec 2014	5,949,139	GREEN	6,210,395	RED			
124	REDPI89	Number of registered businesses in County Durham	15,155	2014/15	14,785	GREEN	14,785	GREEN			
125	REDPI32a	Percentage of tourism businesses actively engaged with Visit County Durham	65	As at Mar 2015	81	RED	81	RED			
126	REDPI90	Percentage change in the number of visitors to the core attractions in County Durham compared to the previous year	-9.7	Apr - Sep 2014	33.6	RED	33.6	RED			
127	REDPI91	Number of unique visitors to the thisisdurham website	244,331	Jan - Mar 2015	219,285	GREEN	192,774	GREEN			

[1] Due to changes to the definition data is not comparable

[3] Not comparable due to seasonal variations

Appendix 4: Volume Measures

Chart 1 – Planning applications (12 month rolling total)

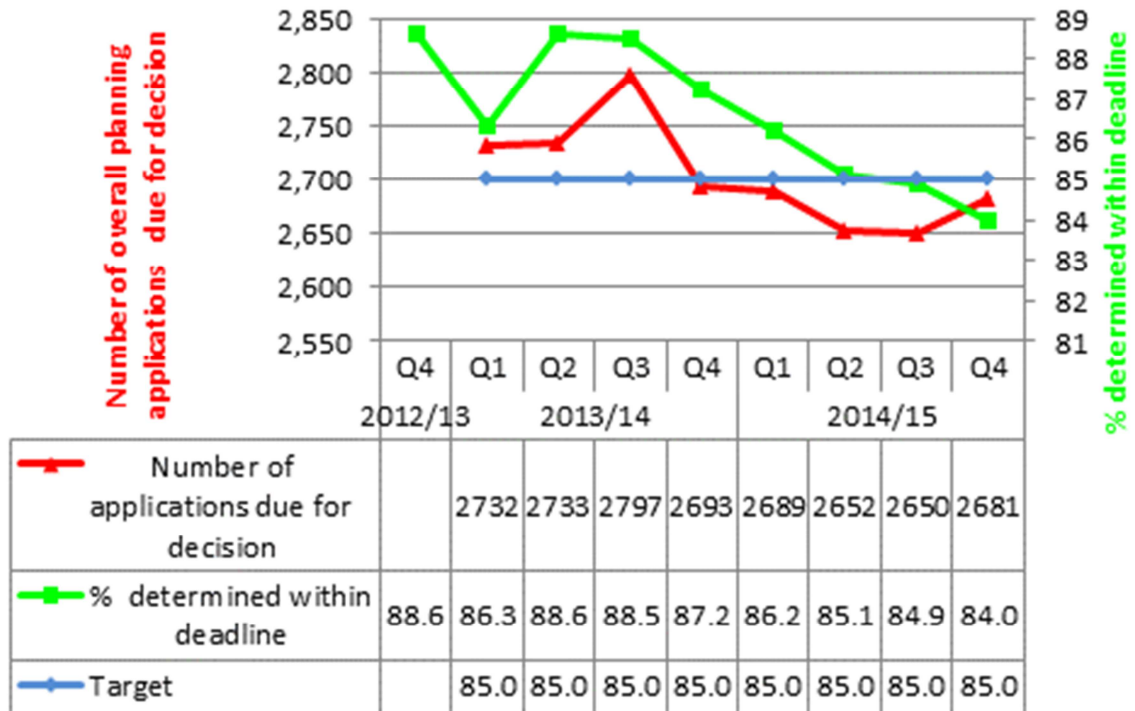
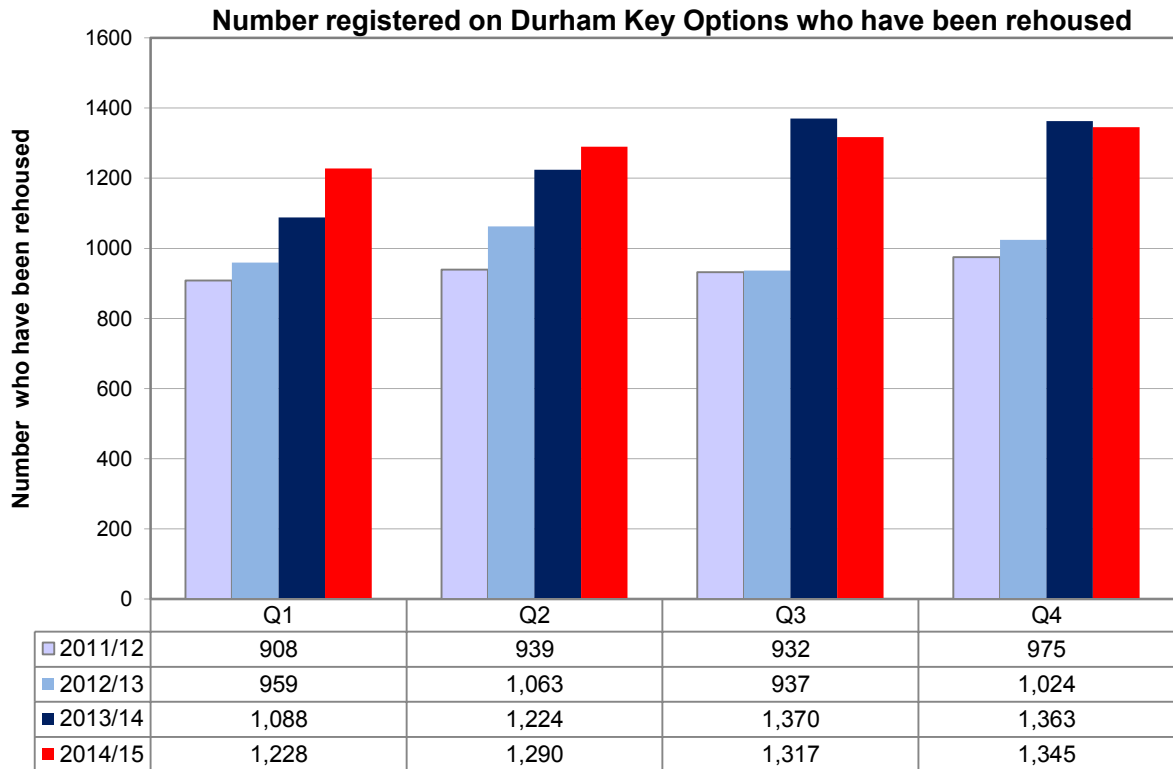


Chart 2 – Durham Key Options - total number of those registered on the Durham Key Options system who have been rehoused (includes existing tenants and new tenants)



Appendix 5: Proposed 2015/16 Corporate Indicator set and 3 year targets

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Wealthier											
Tracker	REDPI3	Number of net new homes completed in Durham City	RED	Quarterly	51	21					
Tracker	REDPI22	Percentage of households within County Durham that can access Durham city market place by 8.30am, using public transport with a total journey time of 1 hour, including walking time.	RED	6 monthly	73.76	77					
Tracker	REDPI38	Number of passenger journeys recorded by the operator of the three Durham City Park and Ride sites	RED	Quarterly	1,160,850	798,706					
Tracker	REDPI80	Percentage annual change in the traffic flow through Durham City	RED	Quarterly		6.4					
Tracker	REDPI100	Number of visitors to County Durham	RED	Annual Q3	17.8m	17.9m					
Tracker	REDPI101	Number of jobs supported by the visitor economy	RED	Annual Q3	10,643	10,899					
Tracker	REDPI102	Amount (£m) generated by the visitor economy	RED	Annual Q3	708	728					
Target	REDPI106	Percentage of properties let from DCC's retail, commercial and investment portfolio	RED	Quarterly	90 (Not comparable)	82	80	80	80	80	
Target	REDPI33	Percentage of Business Durham business floor space that is occupied	RED	Quarterly	73.9	79.3	77	79	81	Not set	

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Target	REDPI76	Income generated from Business Durham business space (£)	RED	Quarterly	2.513m	2.37m (3.25m @ Q4)	3.03m	3.08m	3.13m	Not set	
Tracker	REDPI97 a	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Barnard Castle	RED	Annual Q1	89	91					86
Tracker	REDPI97 b	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Bishop Auckland	RED	Annual Q1	79	80					86
Tracker	REDPI97 c	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Chester-le-Street	RED	Annual Q1	84	87					86
Tracker	REDPI97 d	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Consett	RED	Annual Q1	94	93					86
Tracker	REDPI97 e	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Crook	RED	Annual Q1	92	90					86
Tracker	REDPI97 f	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Durham City	RED	Annual Q1	89	91					86
Tracker	REDPI97 g	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Newton Aycliffe	RED	Annual Q1	71	67					86
Tracker	REDPI97 h	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Peterlee	RED	Annual Q1	85	86					86
Tracker	REDPI97 i	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Seaham	RED	Annual Q1	91	94					86
Tracker	REDPI97 j	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Shildon	RED	Annual Q1	89	89					86
Tracker	REDPI97 k	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres – Spennymoor	RED	Annual Q1	85	88					86

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Tracker	REDPI97 l	Occupancy rates – retail units in town centres - Stanley	RED	Annual Q1	86	88					86
Target	REDPI64	Number of passenger journeys made on the Link2 service	RED	Quarterly	33,126	25,040 (32,323 @ Q4)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	
Tracker	REDPI72	Number of local passenger journeys on the bus network	RED	Quarterly	24,125,971	12,087,072 (Apr-Sep 14)					
Target	REDPI75	Overall proportion of planning applications determined within deadline	RED	Quarterly	85	84.7	85	87	90	95	
Target	REDPI10 a	Number of affordable homes delivered	RED	Quarterly	661	248 (494 @ Q4)	400	250	Not set	Not set	
Tracker	REDPI10 b	Number of net homes completed	RED	Quarterly	986	840					
Tracker	REDPI24	All homes completed in and near all major settlements, as defined in the County Durham Plan, as a proportion of total completions	RED	Quarterly	52.60	49					
Target	REDPI29	Number of private sector properties improved as a direct consequence of local authority intervention	RED	Quarterly	NA (definition change)	279 (476 @ Q4)	Not set	599	Not set	Not set	
Target	REDPI30	Number of empty properties brought back into use as a result of local authority intervention	RED	Quarterly	110	144 (199 @ Q4)	120	120	Not set	Not set	

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Tracker Page 36	REDPI34	Number of applications registered on the Durham Key Options system, which led to the household being successfully rehoused	RED	Quarterly	5,045	3,835					
Tracker	REDPI36d	Number of clients accessing the Housing Solutions Service	RED	Quarterly	NA (definition change)	NA (definition change)					
Tracker	REDPI36c	Number of clients who have accessed the Housing Solutions Service where there has been an acceptance of a statutory homelessness duty	RED	Quarterly	NA (definition change)	148					
Tracker	REDPI36a	Number of clients who have accessed the housing solutions service and for whom homelessness has been prevented	RED	Quarterly	NA (definition change)	NA (definition change)					
Tracker	REDPI96a	Number of new applications registered for housing with the Durham Key Options Scheme who meet the criteria for the Government's reasonable preference groups	RED	Quarterly							
Tracker	REDPI40	Proportion of the working age population defined as in employment	RED	Quarterly	66.2	68.1 (Oct 13-Sep 14)					74
Tracker	REDPI73	Proportion of the working age population currently not in work who want a job	RED	Quarterly	14.58	13.05					10.57

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Tracker	REDPI8b	Proportion of all Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants that have claimed for one year or more	RED	Quarterly	34.75	31.52					25.1
Tracker	REDPI7a	Number of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants aged 18-24	RED	Quarterly	3,415	2,245					
Tracker	CAS CYP16	Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) (Also in Altogether Better for Children and Young People)	CAS	National measure (Nov-Jan average) reported Q4. Quarterly averages reported Q1- Q3	7.1	6.5 (Oct-Dec 14)					
Target	REDPI62	Number of apprenticeships started through County Council funded schemes	RED	Quarterly	290	219 (Apr-Sep 14)	180	200 To review when funding confirmed	220	Not set	
Tracker	REDPI 105	Number of local authority funded apprenticeships sustained at least 15 months	RED	Quarterly	112	255 (314 @ Q4)					
Tracker	ACE018	County Durham residents starting a first degree in an academic year (per 100,000 population aged 18+)	ACE	Annual Q2	161.9 (11/12)	162.2 (12/13)					218.2
Target	CAS AW2	Overall success rate of Adult Skills Funded Provision	CAS	Annual (Q2 provisional, Q3 validated)	87.5 (12/13 Ac yr)	87.0 (13/14 Ac yr)	86.0 (13/14 Ac yr)	88% (14/15 Ac Yr)	88.5% (15/16 Ac Yr)	89.0% (16/17 Ac Yr)	84.6 (13/14 Ac yr)

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Tracker	REDPI103	Number of full time equivalent jobs created through business improvement grants	RED	Annual Q4	65.5 (Not comparable)	8.5 (Not comparable)					
Tracker	REDPI87	GVA per capita in County Durham (£)	RED	Annual Q3	12,661 (2011)	12,875 (2012)					21,937
Tracker	REDPI88	Per capita household disposable income (£)	RED	Annual Q1	13,522 (2011)	14,151 (2012)					17,066
Target	REDPI81	Percentage of timetabled bus services that are on time	RED	Quarterly	86	86.6 (89 @ Q4)	85	88	88	88	
Target	REDPI41b	Percentage of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks	RED	Quarterly	72.7	64.9 (68 @ Q4)	71	75	78	80	70 (13/14)
Tracker	REDPI89	Number of registered businesses in County Durham	RED	Annual Q4	14,815 (12/13)	14,785 (13/14)					
Tracker	REDPI66	Number of businesses engaged with Business Durham	RED	Annual Q4	581	814	720				
Tracker	REDPI93	Number of business enquiries handled by Business Durham	RED	Annual Q4	1,151	937	1,200				
Target	REDPI92	Number of gross jobs created or safeguarded as a result of Business Durham activity	RED	Quarterly		1,068 (1,567 @ Q4)	2,400	2,400	2,400	Not set	
Target	REDPI104	Number of businesses supported through business improvement grants	RED	Annual Q4	44 (Apr 13-Mar 14)	11 (31 @ Q4) (Not comparable)		52	Not set	Not set	
Tracker	REDPI32a	Percentage of tourism businesses actively engaged with Visit County Durham	RED	Annual Q4	81 (13/14)	81 (13/14)					

Indicator Type	PI ref	PI Description	Service Grouping	Frequency	Performance		2014/15 Target	Proposed targets			National Comparison
					2013/14	2014/15 Q3		2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
Tracker	REDPI90	Percentage change in the number of visitors to the core attractions in County Durham compared to the previous year	RED	Annual Q3	33.6 (Apr - Sep 13)	-9.7 (Apr-Sep 14)					
Tracker	REDPI91	Number of unique visitors to the thisisdurham website	RED	Quarterly	817,717	732,723					

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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

23 June 2014



RED Investment Planning 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 RED Investment Planning approach prior to a presentation by Andy Palmer, Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance, Regeneration and Economic Development.

Background

- 2 The Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee identified as part of the refresh of the work programme for 2014/15 overviews of both the RED Investment Planning approach and the RED Capital Programme. An overview of the RED Capital Programme was provided to members at the meeting held on the 6 October, 2014.
- 3 Arrangements have been made for Andy Palmer, Head of Strategy, Programmes and Performance, Regeneration and Economic Development to attend the meeting on the 23 June, 2015 and provide a presentation to the Committee focusing on:
 - Strategic and Policy Context
 - Our Investment Planning Approach
 - 2015/16 council led investments aligned to Regeneration Statement ambitions
 - Opportunities Ahead

RED Investment Planning

- 4 The RED approach to investment planning ensures that our strong ambitions for growth support infrastructure development, address market failure, support job creation and stimulate economic growth. Working in partnership the council works with others to help realise our Regeneration Statement ambitions.
- 5 As part of this wider approach, the RED Service Grouping has identified specific council projects that are being delivered within 2015/16 to deliver key aspects of the longer term investments and ambitions.

Recommendation

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

Background Papers

- RED Investment Planning approach documentation
- Identified Investment projects 2015/16

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance –None

Staffing – None

Risk – None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation – None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None

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**Economy and Enterprise
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

23 June 2015



**Refresh of the Committee's Work
Programme 2015-16**

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide for Members' consideration an updated work programme for the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny for 2015-2016.

Background

- 2 At the meeting on the 31 March 2015, the Committee considered the actions identified within the Council Plan 2015-2018 for the Altogether Wealthier priority theme and agreed to refresh its work programme to include a number of these actions. In addition, topics have also been identified that are in-line with the Council Plan, Cabinet's Notice of Key Decisions, Sustainable Community Strategy, partnership plans and strategies, performance and budgetary control data and changes in Government legislation.

Detail

- 3 In accordance with this decision, a work programme for 2015-2016 has been prepared and attached in Appendix 2.
- 4 Members are also asked to identify an area for future Scrutiny investigation (in depth review) from the work programme.

Recommendation

- 5 Members of the Committee are asked to discuss and agree the new work programme as detailed for 2015-2016.

Background Papers

Council Plan 2015-2018, Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee report-Refresh of the work programme-31 March, 2015.

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Tel:	03000 268 141 E-mail: diane.close@durham.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Implications (The following implications are taken directly from the report to Cabinet on the 18 March 2015, re the Council Plan and Service Plans 2015-2018)

Finance - The Council Plan sets out the corporate priorities of the Council for the next 3 years. The Medium Term Financial Plan aligns revenue and capital investment to priorities within the Council Plan

Staffing - The Council's strategies are being aligned to achievement of the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

Risk - Consideration of risk is a key element in the corporate and service planning framework with both the Council Plan and Service Plans containing sections on risk.

Equality and Diversity - Individual equality impact assessments have been prepared for each savings proposal within the Council Plan. The cumulative impact of all savings proposals in total has also been presented to Council and will be updated as savings proposals are further developed. In addition a full impact assessment has previously been undertaken for the Council Plan. The actions in the Council Plan include specific issues relating to equality and aim to improve the quality of life for those with protected characteristics. The Plan has been influenced by consultation and monitoring to include equality issues. There is no evidence of negative impact for particular groups.

Accommodation – The Council's Corporate Asset Management Plan is aligned to the corporate priorities contained within the Council Plan.

Crime and Disorder - The Altogether Safer section of the Council Plan sets out the Council's contributions to tackling crime and disorder.

Human Rights – None

Consultation - Council and partnership priorities have been developed following an analysis of available consultation data including an extensive consultation programme carried out as part of the development of the interim Sustainable Community Strategy and this has been reaffirmed by subsequent consultation on the budget. Results have been taken into account in developing our resourcing decisions.

Procurement – None

Disability Discrimination Act – None

Legal Implications – None

<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2015 TO 2016 Economy and Enterprise OSC Lead Officer: Stephen Gwillym Overview and Scrutiny Officer: Diane Close IPG Contact: Andy Palmer</p>		<p>Note: O/S Review - A systematic 6 monthly review of progress against recommendations/Action Plan Scrutiny/Working Group – In depth Review Overview/progress – information on an issue; opportunity to comment, shape, influence, progress with a scrutiny review Performance – ongoing monitoring (quarterly) performance reports/budgets</p>		
O/S Review	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
<p>Members Reference Group – Impact of changes in Govt funding and policy on the economy of County Durham.</p>	<p>Special meeting in Nov 2015</p>	<p>Andy Palmer/Ray Brewis (RED)</p>	<p>Members had the opportunity to examine how the funding and policy changes introduced by Govt were impacting upon County Durham compared to nationally and regionally.</p> <p>The report was considered by Cabinet on the 7 May, 2014 with the systematic review of recommendations considered by Committee at the meeting on 8 January, 2015. A further update on recommendations is scheduled for Nov 2015.</p>	<p>Members have a clear understanding of the impact of changes in Government funding and policy on the economy of County Durham.</p> <p>Members will be updated on the progress made against the recommendations within the report.</p>
<p>Tourism - marketing activity undertaken by VCD.</p>	<p>29 March, 2016</p>	<p>Sarah Johnson (RED)</p>	<p>Members have had the opportunity to look at the work of Visit County Durham including detail of performance and how they market the County as a tourism destination.</p> <p>The report will be considered by Cabinet in Sept with the first update on recommendations scheduled for the 29 March 2016.</p>	<p>Members have an understanding of how marketing is used to promote County Durham as a tourism destination, with a view to increasing the length of stay within the County.</p> <p>Members will be updated on the progress made against the recommendations within the report.</p>

O/S Review	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Topic to be identified.				
Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Masterplans for County Durham – Annual update.	During 2013/14 the E&E OSC was provided with several updates giving detail of individual Masterplans. An annual update is to be provided highlighting project delivery throughout the County at meeting on 29 Sept 2015.	Chris Myers Wendy Benson (RED)	Members are provided on an annual basis with detail of project delivery throughout the County including identifying any challenges.	Members will have knowledge on an annual basis of the delivery of projects throughout the County via the Masterplan process.
Combined Authority – Update.	Several updates have been provided to E&E OSC during 2013/2014 with the last update provided at the meeting on the 8 Jan 2015. Further updates are planned for 29 Oct & 23 Feb 2016.	Maria Antoniou (RED)	Members will be kept updated on the development of the Combined Authority.	Members will be aware of the progress made in the development of the Combined Authority.

Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
European Funding Programme (ESIF – 2014 – 2020 - Updates.	E&E OSC have received 3 updates in 2014/15. Further updates are scheduled for 29 Sept 2015 & 8 Jan 2016.	Andy Palmer (RED)	Members will be kept updated on the opportunities available via the ESIF programme.	Members will be aware of the opportunities for County Durham as a result of the ESIF programme.
County Durham Plan – Update.	O&S has provided comments on each consultation stage in relation to the CDP. A further update on the progress of the CDP was provided to E&E OSC on 6 Oct, 2014. Further updates are scheduled for 29 Oct 2015 and 23 Feb 2016.	Stuart Timmiss/ Mike Allum (RED)	Overview and Scrutiny members have contributed to each consultation stage of the CDP via O&S workshops. Members will continue to be updated on the development of the CDP during 2015.	Members have fed into each consultation stage of the CDP and will continue to be kept informed of its development.
Anti-poverty strategy – Overview.	E&E OSC will receive an overview of the strategy at a special meeting in Nov 2015.	Graham Wood/John Tindale/Marie Smith (RED)	Members will receive detail of the Anti-poverty strategy for County Durham.	Members will be aware of the Anti-poverty strategy for County Durham.

Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Apprenticeship development within County Durham – Overview.	E&E OSC will receive an overview focusing on the apprenticeship offer at a special meeting in Dec 2015.	Graham Wood/John Tindale (RED)	Members will receive detail of how the apprenticeship strategy/offer within County Durham has been developed including detail of the number of apprentices, sectors, number of apprenticeships completed, detail of reasons for not completing apprenticeship, number of training providers and how apprenticeships funded, role of NAS and DCC apprenticeship scheme.	Members will have knowledge of the apprenticeship offer within County Durham.
NETPark – Update	E&E OSC 29 Oct, 2015.	Dr Simon Goon (RED)	The committee will receive an overview on the proposals for the future development of NETPark.	Members will be aware of the plans for the future development of NETPark.
Overview of the work of the CDEP provided by the Chair of CDEP on an annual basis.	E&E OSC 23 June, 2015.	Brian Tanner (Chair CDEP)	Members will be provided with detail of the priorities of the CDEP together with future challenges and opportunities identified for the County.	Members will have detail of the priorities of the CDEP, future opportunities and challenges to be faced within County Durham helping the committee to identify areas of focus within the future work programme.
Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) – Update.	Last update to E&E OSC on 30 Oct 2014. Further update scheduled for 29 Sept 2015.	Linda Bailey (CAS)	Members will be provided with an update on the development of the Youth Employment Initiative within County Durham.	Members will be aware of the development of the initiative within County Durham and the opportunities provided.
Business Durham – Update.	Last update to E&E OSC on 30 Oct 2014. Further update scheduled for 29 Oct 2015.	Dr Simon Goon (RED)	Members will be aware of the work undertaken by Business Durham in supporting the County Durham Business community.	Members will have knowledge of the business support provided by Business Durham to the business community. The committee will also be aware of any issues or challenges.

Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Digital Durham Programme - update.	Last update to E&E OSC on 15 Dec 2014. Further update scheduled for 23 Feb 2016.	Phil Jackman (RED)	Members have received detail of the progress of the Digital Durham Programme.	Members will be aware of the development and delivery of the Digital Durham Programme within County Durham.
RED Investment Plan – Overview.	E&E 23 June, 2015.	Andy Palmer (RED)	Members will have received an overview of the RED Investment Plan including detail of how it is developed.	Members will have an understanding of the RED Investment Plan including the process used to develop the plan.
Skills development within County Durham – Update.	Last update to E&E OSC on 20 Feb, 2015. Further update scheduled for special meeting in Nov 2015.	Graham Wood/John Tindale (RED)	The committee will be updated on the work being undertaken within the County to develop skills.	Members will be aware of the work being undertaken by DCC and partners in relation to skills development within County Durham.
Hitachi site and Merchant Park 2 – Overview.	E&E OSC 23 Feb 2016.	Andy Palmer/ DR Simon Goon (RED) and developer.	Members will receive detail of the development of the project together with future plans.	Members will have an understanding of the current development of the project and future development plans.
Regeneration Statement – Update.	Special E&E OSC in Nov 2015.	Andy Palmer (RED)	The committee will be provided with an update on the Regeneration Statement.	Members will be reminded of the importance of the Statement, the areas of focus and how the statement has been developed and refreshed to reflect priorities.
Finance programme to support County Durham businesses - Overview	E&E OSC 29 Oct 2015.	Dr Simon Goon (RED)	Members will have received an overview on the finance programme to support County Durham businesses.	Members will be aware of the detail of the finance programme to support County Durham businesses.
Homelessness Strategy – Update.	E&E OSC 23 Feb, 2016.	Andrew Burnip (RED)	Members will continue to be updated on the development of the Homelessness Strategy.	Members will have a clear understanding of the Homelessness Strategy and progress made in relation to the delivery of the action plan.

Housing - Overview/Progress	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
DCC market housing scheme for rent and sale – Overview.	E&E OSC 29 March 2016.	Richard Roddam (RED)	The committee will have received detail of the scheme.	Members will be aware of how the marketing housing scheme will operate within County Durham.
Housing Strategy – Update.	E&E OSC 8 Jan 2016.	Graeme Smith/Marie Smith (RED)	Members will receive information on the Housing Strategy and be able to provide comment in relation to the consultation.	Members will have knowledge of the Housing strategy for County Durham and will have provided comments to be fed into the consultation.
Housing – Role of E&E OSC (Performance of providers) - Overview.	Special meeting TBC	Sarah Robson/ Lynn Hall (RED)	Members will receive options for engaging with housing providers in County Durham and monitoring of objectives within Stock Transfer Contract.	Members will be aware of the options available for the role of the E&E OSC in engaging with housing providers and monitoring objectives within the Housing Stock Transfer Contract.
Performance Report	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Quarter 4	23 June, 2015.	Graham Tebbutt	Members using performance management information to inform the work programme and possible review activity.	Summary information to Members.
Quarter 1	29 Sept, 2015.			
Quarter 2	8 Jan, 2016.	(RED)		
Quarter 3	29 March, 2016.			
Budget Report	When	Who	Outcome	Comment
Quarter 4 & Quarter 1	29 Sept, 2015.	Azhar Rafiq	Update on budget	Summary information to Members.
Quarter 2	8 Jan, 2016.	(RED - Finance)		
Quarter 3	29 March, 2016.			



MINUTES

Meeting	County Durham Economic Partnership Board
Date of Meeting	Tuesday 28th April 2015
Time	13.00 – 16.00
Venue	Hitachi, Merchant Park, Aycliffe Business Park

Attendees:

Brian Tanner	Chair
Simon Hanson	FSB
Cllr Eddie Tomlinson	Chair of Rural Working Group
Cllr Neil Foster	Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Regeneration, DCC
Mike Allum	Spatial Policy, DCC
John Gluyas	Durham University
Tarryn Lloyd Payne	Strategy & Partnerships, DCC
Ian Thompson	Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, Strategy, Programmes & Performance, DCC
Andy Palmer	Derwentside Homes
Geraldine Kay	Job Centre Plus
Carol Daniell	Chair of the Housing Forum
Sarah Robson	Chair of the BES Group
Sue Parkinson	Merchant Developments
Geoff Hunton	Strategy & Partnerships, DCC
Angela Brown	

1. Merchant Park 1 and 2: Current Status and Future Growth – Geoff Hunton

Geoff welcomed the Board members to Merchant Park & the Hitachi Rail Vehicle Manufacturing facility and gave a presentation to the Board. He mentioned that in early 2009 work began for Merchant Place Developments and Merchant Park with the submission of the site in Newton Aycliffe for the planned Hitachi Rail Vehicle Manufacturing Facility which would deliver the next generation of high speed rail carriages to the UK and Europe. There are two sites, Merchant Park 1 & Merchant Park II. Work commenced on site in November 2013 when Shepherd were appointed as the contractors for the development. Hitachi will be fully operational from January 2016 with 750 staff on site with further jobs being created across the supply chain.

Action: AB to circulate presentation

2. & Hitachi Site Tour – Shepherd Construction

The Board members were given a guided tour of the Hitachi Site

3. Brian Tanner welcomed everyone to the meeting and initiated round table introductions

4. Apologies

Simon Goon	Business Durham
Edward Twiddy	Atom Bank
Barbara Gubbins	County Durham Community Foundation
Neil Graham	Chair of Durham City Board
Jonathan Walker	NECC

5. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

6. Economic Update – Andy Palmer

AP presented an Economic update to the Board. Building on the context set by the tour of Hitachi the strength and ambition for the local economy was emphasised. In understanding how as an Economic Partnership we can measure our success & impact across future investments and partnership working, AP reiterated that the CDEP the agreed five measures of success which are:-

- Employment Rate
- GVA
- Numbers of Businesses
- Household Disposable Income
- Index Deprivation

The board received an update on the measures, which generally pointed towards a more optimistic economic picture. However, the board did discuss the nature of the recovery and concerns in regards of the emerging structure of the labour market. This is in particular reference to understanding the full and part time nature of employment and overall household income.

As part of the wider North East Combined Authority economic plan, there are 12 asks being discussed at the moment in terms of future Devolution proposals and how they could support our overall ambition for growth. AP reminded the Board that the CDEP & partners should have a strong influencing role in shaping and supporting the proposals.. AP also informed the Board that there will be a refresh of the Regeneration Statement to reflect the changing economic and political environment. This will ensure that the Durham position is clear and that partners are signed up to its support going forward.

Action: It was agreed that an Economic Update would be discussed at every other CDEP Board meeting.

- 7. County Durham Plan: Update and understanding impact – Mike Allum**
Mike Allum gave a presentation to the Board updating them in relation to the County Durham Plan.
The plan was submitted on 25th April and Examination in Public held in October/November 2014

The inspector's Interim Report was received on 18th February 2015 with the following points:

- The vision for a successful local economy incorporates unrealistic assumptions about job growth
- The Strategic Economic Plan is 'evidently very ambitious'
- The objective assessment of housing needs is too high
- The spatial distribution is not justified, particularly for Durham City
- The process and evidence relating to the proposed amendments to the Green Belt boundary are flawed
- The proposed Western and Northern Relief Roads are not justified, deliverable or environmentally acceptable
- There are concerns about the content and soundness of policies in relation to House in Multiple Occupation and Student Accommodation

The preparation of the plan commenced in 2008 and during the 7 years the only objection that was received was from English Heritage. All of the other comments were positive and there were no fundamental issues.

BT reminded the Board members that the County Durham Plan was a County Council plan but produced in Partnership and he also reminded the Board that the CDEP had agreed to support the overall objectives of the plan. He asked if the Board were still happy with this approach to which the Board agreed. It was also suggested that Board members could draft letters of support to the Planning Inspector.

Action: AB to circulate presentation

- 8. EU Structural Funds: Update – Sue Parkinson**

A presentation was received from SP to update on EU Structural Funds
She reminded the Board members of the following

- The County Durham Transition Region Allocation is €156.7m and that the ERDF split is 64/36
- Estimated spend has been allocated against EU Thematic Objectives and areas of minimum allocations have been set at a national level
ERDF – minimum 20% low carbon
ESF – minimum 20% social inclusion
- Youth Employment Initiative, from the Cohesion Fund, a further €9m for County Durham only

SP mentioned that in relation to Governance arrangements she is the representative for CDEP on the ESIF Committee.

The first round for calls for the NELEP was launched at end of March. These calls focused on a number of themes to meet the need for funding in specific areas. Further calls will be launched in summer 2015 after the Operational Programme is approved.

AB to circulate presentation

9. Working Group Chairs Update

Rural, Cllr Eddie Tomlinson:

- The Rural Working Group met in April. Both LEADER programmes have now been approved, as North Pennines won their appeal. Still awaiting guidelines for programme, but the first call for projects is expected June/July 2015.
- The Rural Working Group held two seminars one at the Witham Barnard Castle and one at Greenhill's Centre at Wheatley Hill to promote the RDPE which is a £5m pot. It was indicated that 12 potential schemes have been received since holding the seminars.
- Cliff Duff gave an update to the group on Affordable Warmth Strategy.

Housing Forum, Geraldine Kay

- The Housing Forum have not met since the last CDEP Board meeting,
- A joint seminar took place with Public Health which was well attended.
- Housing have completed the largest Housing Stock Transfers to the Housing Group that has been created. They intend to build 700 houses in the first year.

10. Partners Update

Durham University – Jon Gluyas

- The University has now appointed Stuart Corbridge as Vice Chancellor (Stuart is from the London School of Economics)

11. Any Other Business

Nothing was raised

12. Date and Time of next meeting

Tuesday 14th July 2015 @ 1pm