

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

14 DECEMBER 2004

ECONOMIC REGENERATION & TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the progress of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

2. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

3. The review into the preparation of the Local Transport Plan has concluded with the final evidence gathering session that was held on 25 November. At that meeting the panel met with a representative from Government Office North East to receive evidence on the government guidelines for the development of the next Local Transport Plan. The panel will be agreeing its final report and recommendations on 15 December and the report will be submitted to OSB for approval in January 2005.
4. The panel also held an informal meeting on 2 December in order to agree the recommendations for the final report.
5. The members of the Panel were invited to attend the special Overview and Scrutiny Board that had been arranged to hear evidence from officers, the police and the Town Centre Company regarding the Council's draft licensing policy. At that meeting the Board were informed that officers were developing a Town Centre Strategy which would also include the vision for the town including developing the 24 hour economy.

6. As a result of that meeting, and as you know from the previous meeting of the OSB, it has been agreed that the panel would amend its work programme to enable them to embark on a review of the 24 economy. As such I will be meeting with the Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration to discuss the scope and terms of reference for the review.

COUNCILLOR MARTIN BOOTH
CHAIR OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL