

AGENDA ITEM: 11e

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**3 MAY 2005**

**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.

**BACKGROUND**

2. Since the last update to the Board the panel has continued with its the review of the development of the night time economy. The final evidence gathering meeting was held on 20 April, the panel had invited a selection of representatives from the business community. The panel discussed the relevant issues and sought their views on the current provision and how the council could assist in developing the night time economy to benefit the town.
3. I visited Hartlepool Council along with a number of members of the panel in order to gain an insight into Hartlepool Council's development of the town's night time economy. The visit involved a presentation by the Assistant Director of Planning and Economic Development, the Head of Public Protection and Housing and the Chair of the Licensing Committee and the panel heard a number of useful areas of good practice.
4. The panel will discuss the final report at an informal meeting scheduled for 27 April. The report will then be formally agreed at an additional meeting scheduled for 9 May.

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

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