

AGENDA ITEM: 15c

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**6 MARCH 2007**

**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, the panel has concluded their main review of the West Middlesbrough Neighbourhood Trust.
3. Due to the forthcoming elections, the panel has discussed their work programme for the remainder of the municipal year. Rather than undertake any new reviews because of the time constraints the panel has agreed to receive a number of updates of past reviews from the service areas.
4. In the first of the updates the panel will receive information from the Economic Development Manager on the actions arising from the panel's review of the issue of Worklessness.
5. A number of the recommendations from the review had been completed and the panel received an update on how Middlesbrough Works had made significant steps in bringing together the strategic objectives of co-ordinating employment initiatives.
6. Although the panel were informed that at a local level unemployment has continued to rise and that it was still too early for the initiatives that had been put in place to be making an impact on performance. Although it was reported that a more positive progress update would be made within the coming year.
7. At the panel's next meeting they will be receiving an update on the Marton Road Traffic Experiment.

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

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

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