

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

6 APRIL 2010

ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND 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 work of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. The Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny panel last met on 8 March 2010, where it considered the University Residents Parking Scheme and the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan. The Panel also received further evidence in respect of its current review of the Older Housing Areas.

University Residents Parking Scheme

3. The panel had been asked by the Overview and Scrutiny Board to consider whether the recently introduced Residents Parking Scheme in University Ward had been enforceable and workable for all parties.
4. The panel held a discussion with the Executive Member for Transport, the Head of Transport and Design Services, the Parking Solutions Manager, the local Ward Councillor, a representative from the University Ward Residents Association and a representative from Teesside University. A site visit to see the University Residents Parking Scheme in operation was also undertaken.
5. In terms of achieving the scheme's objectives the Panel heard that the scheme had been successful in removing students and commuters vehicles from the residential streets within the zone. The park and ride scheme had also surpassed all expectations.

6. The panel heard that there had been some issues in terms of displaced vehicles both in the streets to the east of Park Vale Road and into Gresham Ward. Reference was made to the proposed extension of the scheme and the associated costs. The Panel will present its full findings on the introduction of the Residents Parking Scheme to the next meeting of OSB.

Rights of Way Improvement Plan

7. The Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) was considered by the panel prior to the plan being considered by the Executive Member for Transport. The panel heard that the assessment, to look at the extent to which local rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public, was completed in July 2006. A Statement of Action has been produced, which contains proposals on how to take the identified areas for improvement forward.
8. The panel heard that a steering group is to be set up and the group will prioritise the conclusions from the ROWIP. In the next financial year the department will be producing a series of maps to help make people aware of public rights of way within the town.

Older Housing Areas

9. The panel had decided that having received substantial information in respect of its current review it would be beneficial to undertake a site visit. A visit to the Older Housing Areas and key regeneration sites including North Ormesby, Gresham, Grove Hill, Whinney Banks, West Lane and Middlehaven / St Hilda's was undertaken.
10. At the panel's next meeting, which is scheduled for 13 April 2010 the panel will undertake its final evidence gathering session in relation to its review of the Older Housing Areas. The Mayor has been invited to attend that meeting to discuss the revised proposals for Gresham.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report and the updated position.

COUNCILLOR JOHN COLE

**CHAIR OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION
AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL**

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