

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

27 JULY 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 21 June 2010 where the panel received its final evidence in respect of its Older Housing Areas review.
3. Celia Weldon, Director of Corporate Development for NHS Teeswide attended the meeting to discuss the potential for a joint Council/PCT 'healthy homes' initiative to be launched in Middlesbrough. The initiative, which would be modelled on a scheme designed in Liverpool, would make use of the Health Housing and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) to address poor housing conditions, particularly within the private rented sector, with a view to improving health outcomes in the most deprived areas of the town.
4. Garry Toulouse, Director of Support Services at the University of Teesside also attended the meeting to provide the panel with an insight into the work the University has undertaken with private sector landlords in order to improve housing conditions and management standards within the town.
5. The panel has now completed its review on the Older Housing Areas and the panel's final report is on the Overview and Scrutiny Board's agenda for consideration.

6. The next meeting of the panel is scheduled to take place on 26 July 2010 where the panel is due to consider its first review topic from the 2010/11 work programme, namely, social housing.
7. The panel is initially interested in finding out about the progress made since the Council's Stock Transfer of homes to Erimus in November 2004. The Managing Director of Erimus has therefore been invited to attend the meeting to provide this update along with the Chair of Erimus Board and the Council's Strategic Housing Services Manager.
8. At its next meeting the panel will also revisit the topic of Matchday Parking. Representatives from Middlesbrough Football Club, Teeside University, Cleveland Police and Middlesbrough Council have been invited to attend the meeting to discuss potential solutions to this issue.
9. Following that meeting a report will be brought to the Board in respect of this topic.

RECOMMENDATION

10. 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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