

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

19 OCTOBER 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. Since the last update report to OSB the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel has met on one occasion, on 13 September 2010.
3. At that meeting the panel continued gathering evidence as part of its review into social housing.
4. Members received evidence from the Housing Strategy Team Leader in respect of how social and affordable housing is currently provided within the town and the level of demand / availability of social housing. The Head of Housing from Endeavour Housing Association also attended the meeting to provide information on the social housing offer provided by Endeavour.
5. The panel will continue with its evidence gathering on this topic at its next meeting on 18 October 2010 where the panel will receive evidence from the Head of Area South for the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) on the issue of funding for social and affordable housing.
6. The Housing Strategy Team Leader and Housing Needs, Homelessness and Advice Co-ordinator will also be in attendance to outline how applicants for social housing are prioritised and allocated vacant properties within Middlesbrough.

7. Finally, the panel will receive an update on the Preventing Repossessions Campaign and the work being undertaken by the Middlesbrough Partnership's Financial Inclusion Group.

RECOMMENDATION

8. 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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