

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

18 OCTOBER 2011

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 3 October 2011.
3. At that meeting the Panel received an update from the Mayor on the progress which has been made to date in respect of the Gresham regeneration project following the Panel's previous review on the topic of the Older Housing Areas.
4. The Mayor agreed to provide a further update to the Panel in six months time, by which time the outcome and implications of the Council's bid to the Government's recently established Housing Market Renewal Transition Fund will be known.
5. In addition to the above the Panel also continued gathering evidence in relation to its current review on the topic of Enterprise Zones. The Chief Executive of Wynyard Park limited was in attendance at the meeting to present to the Panel the proposals for the development of an Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) on the South West Iron Masters (SWIM) site and the opportunities that this development will offer for Middlesbrough.
6. The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Business Engagement) at Teesside University was also present at the meeting to outline for the Panel the research links that will be developed between the businesses located on the SWIM site and Teesside University.

7. The Panel is next due to meet on 24 October 2011. At that meeting the Panel is scheduled to receive evidence from the Director of Resources on the possible financial implications for the Council of the business rates generated within the Enterprise Zone being retained and reinvested by the LEP for a period of 25 years.
8. Evidence is also to be received from the Council's Urban Policy and Implementation Manager in respect of the simplified planning regimes for Enterprise Zones sites and the impact that this could have in Middlesbrough.

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCILLOR M. WILLIAMS

CHAIR OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL

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