

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 10 (c)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

1 MARCH 2016

<p>ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL - PROGRESS REPORT</p>
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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 (ERT) Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. The ERT Scrutiny Panel's last meeting was held on 18 February 2016. At that meeting, the panel considered an update on a previous scrutiny topic - 'Wifi Town' - that was investigated in 2014.
3. Information was submitted on the recommendations made by the scrutiny panel and progress made in implementing these.
4. The panel was informed that; free public wifi will be provided in central civic buildings, including the Town Hall, as well as in a number of other buildings such as libraries and community hubs; discussions are ongoing with potential providers of the system, with full details still to be worked out; buildings have been surveyed and infrastructure needs have been identified.
5. Members were also updated on associated timescales and possible budget implications.
6. The panel's next meeting is scheduled for 9 March 2016 and will consider:
 - An update on the previous scrutiny topic of Business and Job Creation.
 - Information from local bus operators following previous discussions at the scrutiny panel in respect of local services.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:
 - Agenda and meeting papers - Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel - 18 February 2016.

COUNCILLOR NAWEED HUSSAIN

CHAIR - ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL

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