

**SUB NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND THE NORTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE
BOARD**

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP3: PROSPEROUS CITY

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, C102: Being 'One Council', C103: Efficient and Effective Council, C104: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To confirm arrangements for a special meeting of the Committee on Sub National Economic Development and the role of the North Eastern Local Enterprise Board.

2 Background

- 2.1 In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee agreed to include an update on Sub National Economic Development and the role and progress of the North Eastern Local Enterprise Board.

3 Current Position

- 3.1 In view of the scale and importance of the issues involved, a special meeting of the Committee has been arranged for 1.30 pm on Tuesday 13th March 2012 in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Sunderland.

- 3.2 A detailed programme for the event is currently being developed, but confirmed speakers to date include:-

Gill Southern MBE, Director of Wessington Cryogenics (LEP Board Member)

Angela O' Donoghue, Principal of Sunderland College (LEP Board Member)

Dr Gill Bentley, University of Birmingham

Vince Taylor, Head of Strategy and Performance, Sunderland Council

- 3.3 The North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership covers seven local authority areas across Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland. With a population of two million and an economy valued at £32 billion per annum, it is the fourth largest of 28 Local Enterprise Boards in the UK.

- 3.4 The Partnership brings together local authorities, businesses, universities, colleges and the voluntary and community sector. The Board comprises nine employers,

seven council leaders and two education chiefs. The Partnership is chaired by Paul Woolston, senior partner at accountants PwC.

3.5 The LEP's vision is to rebalance the economy and create Europe's premier location for low carbon, sustainable, knowledge-based private sector growth and jobs. The Partnership will work to achieve four strategic priorities:

- Supporting Enterprise and Private Sector Business Growth
- Building on Key Economic Strengths
- Improving Skills and Performance
- Strengthening Transport, Connectivity and Infrastructure

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the arrangements for the proposed special meeting of the Committee.

5. Background Papers

None

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