

At a meeting of the PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 16TH JUNE, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mordey in the Chair

Councillors Bell, I. Cuthbert, P. Gibson, Old, Snowdon, A. Wright and T. Wright.

Prior to the commencement of the formal business, the Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular Councillors P. Gibson, Snowdon and T. Wright who were attending their first meeting as members of the Committee. He paid tribute to the former members of the Committee for their dedication and contributions to the Work Programme, including Councillor Speding who had now taken up the Healthy City Portfolio and Councillor Rolph who had become the new Vice Chair of the Management Scrutiny Committee.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors D. Forbes, Howe and J.B. Scott.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings of the Committee held on 28th April, 2010 and 12th May, 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meetings of the Committee held on 28th April and 12th May, 2010 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

Annual Work Programme and Policy Review 2010-2011

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided background information to assist Members in determining the Committee's annual Work Programme for 2010/2011 and its main theme for a detailed policy review.

The Chairman introduced the item informing Members that the consensus at the Annual Scrutiny Conference had been that the Low Carbon Economy should provide the focus for the Committee's 2010/11 Policy Review. In this regard he invited Janet Snaith, Head of City Business and Investment Team, to brief Members on the current position regarding the development and use of low carbon technologies in Sunderland and the possible focus of any review.

Councillor Cuthbert welcomed the topic of the Low Carbon Economy and recognised its importance but suggested that the Committee should also address the regeneration of the City Centre. The Chairman responded that there would be provision within the Work Programme with regard to the Economic Master Plan where questions about the regeneration of the City Centre could be asked.

With regard to the appointment of a Policy Review Working Group, the Chairman was of the opinion that rather than having a fixed Group, the Committee at its meetings should appoint working groups on an ad hoc basis when issues generated a need.

Councillor A. Wright felt that this approach would work well with small pieces of work but for large pieces like last year's review of the Working Neighbourhood Fund, a dedicated group would be more appropriate. The Chairman advised that he would be happy to have a central group that would report back regularly to the Committee. Councillor P. Gibson confirmed that the Committee would need regular updates and Councillor Cuthbert suggested that perhaps this could become a standing item on the agenda.

The response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Members confirmed that they were happy to agree the Low Carbon Economy as the Committee's Policy Review for 2010/11. Councillor T. Wright added a proviso that the review should not be shackled by time constraints and if it needed to continue into 2011/12 then so be it.

The Chairman advised that he would ask Ms. Snaith and Mr. Diamond to submit a scoping report to their next meeting. This would include the terms of reference, definitions, links to corporate goals, partnerships, the national and local context and proposals for gathering evidence.

2. RESOLVED that the topic of the Low Carbon Economy be approved as the Committee's main theme for a detailed policy review for 2010/2011

Request to Attend Seminar – Centre for Public Scrutiny 8th Annual Conference and Exhibition

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which requested that the Committee consider nominating a delegate to attend the Centre for Public Scrutiny's 8th Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held at the Brewery, London on 30th June and 1st July, 2010.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor T. Wright expressed concern that the Committee was only being asked to nominate one representative to the Conference. He paid tribute to the excellent service provided by the Centre for Public Scrutiny and suggested that all Members, and especially new Members, should have been invited to attend. He suggested that a Conference rota should be devised to enable fair access for all.

3. RESOLVED that approval be given to the attendance of Councillor Diane Snowden at the Centre for Public Scrutiny's 8th Annual Conference and Exhibition to be held at the Brewery, London on 30th June to 1st July, 2010.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the period 1st June – 30th September, 2010

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st June – 30th September, 2010 which related to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

In response to a Member enquiry, Mr. Diamond confirmed that as the new Forward Plan was published in between the agenda being published and the date of the meeting, he would ensure an updated schedule was tabled at each meeting.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the following items that were outstanding from the previous year's Work Programme:-

- i) the Sunderland Arc draft Business Plan; and
- ii) an update on the Holmeside Triangle.

The Chairman advised that he was yet to receive an update in respect of the Holmeside Triangle. Councillor Cuthbert suggested that an interim report should be submitted in the meantime.

4. RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be received and noted.

(Signed) M. MORDEY,
Chairman.

PROSPERITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14th July 2010

An Economic Masterplan for Sunderland

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1.0 Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the progress that has been made in developing an Economic Masterplan for Sunderland.
- 1.2 The development and delivery of a successful Economic Masterplan for Sunderland will make a significant contribution to the achievement of Strategic Priority 1: Prosperous City. The input of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee, as well as residents, businesses and others is required to increase the likelihood that the Economic Masterplan is successful in bringing about a transformation in the city.
- 1.3 In view of the cross cutting nature of the Economic Masterplan, the report will be considered by a joint meeting of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee and the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Progress

- 2.1 On the 16th December 2009, the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee received a report outlining the progress made up until that point on the Economic Masterplan.
- 2.2 A further report was submitted to the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee on 17 March 2010 which sought the views of the Committee on the final stages of its production.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 On 21 July 2010, Cabinet will consider a report seeking its agreement to the Economic Masterplan and the governance arrangements to deliver it.
- 3.2 In order to consider the content and implications of the Economic Masterplan, a presentation has been arranged for members of both the

Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee and Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 Members are recommended to note the report and raise comments or questions at the meeting.

5.0 Background Papers

5.1 Report of the Head of Strategic Economic Development, 16th December 2009 and 17 March 2010, Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committees: 'Developing an Economic Masterplan for Sunderland'.

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PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE – FUTURE OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

14 JULY 2010

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider nominating a delegate(s) to attend a conference being organised by the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) on the Future of Overview and Scrutiny.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Handbook contains a protocol for use of the Scrutiny Committees budget by members to attend training and conferences relevant to the remit of the Committee.

3. Conference Details

- 3.1 An invitation has been received for a LGC Conference on the Future of Overview and Scrutiny which is being held on 5 October 2010 at the America Square Conference Centre, London.

- 3.2 The conference will focus on the following questions:-

- What are the challenges facing scrutiny and how can we prepare to overcome them;
- How can you best implement scrutiny to improve efficiency in your locality;
- How can scrutiny be used as an integral part of partnership working;
- In what ways can you engage with your community and involve them in your scrutiny process.

- 3.3 The cost of the conference is £349 plus VAT.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider whether to send representation to the above conference to be funded from the budget of the Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background Papers

Conference Flyer

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PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14 JULY
2010

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC SCRUTINY 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE - FEEDBACK

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with verbal feedback from the Centre for Public Scrutiny (CfPS) 8th Annual Conference that was held on 30 June and 1 July 2010.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Handbook contains a protocol for use of the Scrutiny Committees budget by Members to attend training and conferences (Protocol 5 refers). This allows Members to gain specialist knowledge and expertise within a particular area of scrutiny and is in addition to the list of standing conferences and corporate development programme.
- 2.2 At its last meeting, the Committee agreed to send a delegate to the CfPS Annual Scrutiny Conference held on Wednesday 30 June and Thursday 1 July 2010 at The Brewery, London. The Conference was attended by Councillor Dianne Snowdon who will provide verbal feedback at this meeting.

3. Conference Programme

- 3.1 The theme for the annual conference was future accountability and transparency in public services.

Key issues included were:

- (a) Regaining public trust;
 - (b) Tackling Inequalities; and
 - (c) Addressing how to sustain outcomes in hard financial times:
- 3.2 At the end of the conference, it was envisaged that delegates would have:-
- (a) Heard directly from the government of the day about their vision for accountability in public service delivery;
 - (b) Explored how public empowerment is becoming central to scrutiny and accountability across local government, police and the health service;

- (c) Explored how scrutiny can tackle today's issues- ensuring the public receive value for money in critical economic times;
- (d) Learnt about innovative techniques and best practice from experts across the public sector;
- (e) Met and shared ideas and experiences with colleagues facing the same challenges; and
- (f) Discovered what is on the horizon for the CfPS.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to receive verbal feedback from the conference delegate.

5. Background Papers

Seminar Programme

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PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2010 – 31 OCTOBER 2010

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

14 JULY 2010

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 July – 31 October 2010.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Forward Plan contains matters which are likely to be the subject of a key decision to be taken by the Executive. The Plan covers a four month period and is prepared and updated on a monthly basis.
- 2.2 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of a decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 Members requested that only those items which are under the remit of the Committee be reported to this Committee. The remit of the Committee covers the following themes:-

Inward Investment and Business Support; Regeneration; Improving employability; Encouraging economic prosperity; Boosting the skills and knowledge level of the workforce; City Centre; and Marketing & Tourism.

- 2.4 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee considers the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 July – 31 October 2010.

4. Background Papers

4.1 There were no background papers used in preparation of this report.

Contact Officer: Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer
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**Forward Plan -
Key Decisions for
the period
01/Jul/2010 to
31/Oct/2010**



**R.C. Rayner,
Chief Solicitor,
Sunderland City
Council.**

14th June 2010

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01360	To agree the transfer of responsibility for 16-19 funding from the Learning Skills Council to the Local Authority in April 2010	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	LA in sub regional group, 14-19 Partnership	Meetings and distribution of draft reports for comment	To the contact officer by 21 May 2010 - Children, Young People and Learning	ASCL Act, November 2009, REACT Briefing notes	Lynda Brown	5611410
01402	To adopt the Household Alterations and Extensions Document as Supplementary Planning Document.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	General Public, internal stakeholders (planning policy, development control) and external stakeholders	Letters and memos sent to statutory and non-statutory consultees. Public exhibition.	To contact officer by end of June - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee -	Household alterations and extensions supplementary planning document.	Allan Jones	5612545
01393	To consider the recommendations of the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee following a review of allotment provision.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Council Officers, Allotment Holders and Associations	Evidence at Allotment Provision Working Group	Via the Contact Officer by 21 June 2010 - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Working Group minutes	Jim Diamond	5611396

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01401	To recommend Council to adopt the 2010-2011 Youth Justice Plan, prior to submission to the Youth Justice Board	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Youth Offending Service Board	Meetings of the Youth Offending Service Board	To the contact officer by end of June 2010 - Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee	YJB Guidance, Sunderland Strategy, CIP	Kelly Davison - Pullan	5663048
01403	Accessible Bus Network Design Project - Outcome of Public Consultation (March - June 2010)	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City; Nexus; Chief Solicitor; Director of Financial Resources	Briefings; Meetings; e-mails	To contact officer by end of June - Environmental and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Bob Donaldson,	5611517
01415	To approve the prioritisation and spend of the Highways Maintenance contingency funding for 2010/11.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City; Gentoo	Report; Briefings	To contact officer by end of June - Environment and Attractive City	Report	Graham Carr	5611298

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01090	To approve submission document & sustainability appraisal for development in the Hetton Downs area to form part of the Council's Local Development Framework.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Local residents, stakeholders, service providers, community reference group, Members	Meetings, briefings, letters, email, public exhibition, sunderland.gov.uk	Via contact officer by the end of June 2010 - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report, report on preferred option consultation responses, submission document for Hetton Downs Area Action Plan, formal sustainability report.	Keith Lowes	5611564
01379	To approve a capital equipment grant to Company B to support economic development and job creation	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Portfolio holder	correspondence	To contact officer by end of June - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Janet Snaith	5611166
01343	To approve the draft Sunderland City Council Community Asset Policy	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Corporate Capital Strategy Group; Portfolio Holder	Meetings	Via the Contact Officer by 21 June 2010 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Report; Policy Document	Julie Gray	5617574

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01391	To consider the recommendations of the Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee following a review of the action being taken by the Safer Sunderland Partnership to tackle Anti Social Behaviour.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Council Officers and LSP Partners	Evidence at Scrutiny Meetings	Via the Contact Officer by 21 June 2010 - Community and Safer City Scrutiny Committee	Scrutiny Committee minutes	Jim Diamond	5611396
01392	To consider the recommendations of the Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee following a review into the introduction of 20 mph zones in the City.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Council Officers, Police, Northumbria Road Safety Initiative, other local authorities	Evidence at Scrutiny Meetings and findings of Traffic Working Group	Via the Contact Officer by 21 June 2010 - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Working Group minutes	Jim Diamond	5611396
01427	To approve the Partnership proposal between Sunderland City Council and SAFC Foundation	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	SAFC Foundation, SCC Legal and Financial Services	Meetings	To the contact officer by 7 July 2010 Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report of March 2010, Partnership Toolkit	Sandra Mitchell	5611432

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01418	To approve the Sustainable Modes of Transport Strategy (SMOTS) for travel to schools.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Portfolio Holders; Children's Services; Nexus; Scrutiny Committee	Workshops; Briefings; Report	To contact officer by end of June - Attractive and Inclusive Children, Young People and Learning	Report	Andrew Jackman	5611569
01412	To approve the procurement of specialist vehicles to be used in the waste and cleaning service.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Corporate Procurement; Director of Financial Services; Chief Solicitor; Member with Portfolio for Attractive and Inclusive City	Report; Briefings	To contact officer by end of June - Environment and Attractive City	Report	Les Clark	5614540
01421	To agree the Economic Masterplan and governance arrangements to deliver it and to recommend it to Council for adoption as the Economic Prosperity Chapter for the Sunderland Strategy, replacing the current version of the Prosperity Chapter.	Cabinet	21/Jul/2010	Cabinet, Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee, Partners on the Economic Masterplan Steering Group, the Sunderland Partnership	Meetings and emails	Via the Contact Officer by 20 June 2010 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Draft Economic Masterplan	Vince Taylor	5611114

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01426	To agree Moving from Contracting to Personalised Budgets (Day Care Services - OP)	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Cabinet Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 August 2010 - Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	John Fisher	5661876
01431	To consider and approve the draft Seaburn Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document for the purposes of consultation.	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Local residents, stakeholders and statutory consultees	Website, public exhibitions and letters.	Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee. Planning and Highways Committee.	Draft Seaburn Masterplan report and draft sustainability appraisal and appropriate assessment	Ben Winter	5612549
01433	To approve the Enforcement Policy	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Cabinet, Service Users, Ward Members and Portfolio holders	Briefings / meetings	To contact Officer by 20 August 2010 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01425	To agree Advice Services Contracts	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Cabinet Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 August 2010 - Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	Graham King	5661894
01423	To agree Neighbourhood Renewal Block Improvements in Hetton Downs	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Housing Portfolio Holder, Ward Members, Residents and Owners of Property	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 August 2010 - Sustainable Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01424	To agree the Review of the Sunderland Private Landlords Self Accreditation Scheme	Cabinet	08/Sep/2010	Housing Portfolio Holder, Ward Members, Residents and Owners of property	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 August 2010 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01428	To consider the Review of Job Linkage, including the options for the ongoing provision of a Council-led Employability Service. To agree the preferred option.	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Council officers, LSP partners and relevant stakeholders, delivery providers, service users.	Meetings, briefings, emails	To contact officer by 15 September 2010 - Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee.	Cabinet report and Review of Job Linkage	Karen Alexander	5611339
01430	To formally endorse the Wearmouth-Jarrow World Heritage Site Nomination file prior to presentation to the Secretary of State (DCMS)	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Portfolio Holder Safer City	Report to Portfolio Holder/EMT	Through submission of Cabinet Report	Submission Draft Nomination File	Michael King	5618474
01416	To consider any key decisions arising from the Revenue Budget Second Quarterly Review 2010/2011	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Directors and third parties affected by the virement proposals	Report will be made available on the Intranet and e-mailed to Directors	To Contact Officer by the end of September - Management Scrutiny Committee	None	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Jul/2010 to 31/Oct/2010

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01396	To agree the Re-procurement of Home Care Services	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 20 September 2010 - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Report	Graham King	5661894
01400	To agree the Access to Housing Project - Allocations Policy	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff and Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 21 September 2010 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01417	To consider any key decisions arising from the Capital Programme and Treasury Management Second Quarterly Review 2010/2011	Cabinet	06/Oct/2010	Directors and third parties affected by the virement proposals	Report will be made available on the Intranet and e-mailed to Directors	To Contact Officer by the end of September - Management Scrutiny Committee	None	Sonia Tognarelli	5611851

WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Priorities: SP3 – Prosperous City

**Corporate Priorities: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4:
Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'.**

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the current work programme for the Committee's work during the 2010-11 Council year.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priorities of a Prosperous City, support delivery of the related themes of the Local Area Agreement, and, through monitoring the performance of the Council's services, help the Council achieve its Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and CIO4 (improving partnership working to deliver 'One City').

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. The work programme allows Members and officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that have taken place at the 8 June 2010 Scrutiny Committee meeting. The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2010-11.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

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PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11

Appendix 1

	JUNE	JULY	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Policy Review	Proposals for policy review (Scrutiny Officer)	Scope of review (Scrutiny Officer)	Approach to review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer)	Draft report (Scrutiny Officer)	Final Report
Scrutiny		Economic Masterplan (Vince Taylor)	Port Business Plan (Matthew Hunt Port Director)	North East Chamber of Commerce (Andrew Sugden) Sunderland Arc						Annual Report (Review Coord)
Scrutiny (Performance)			Performance & VfM Assessment Progress on Policy Review				Performance Framework Q2 including Progress on policy reviews			Performance Framework Q3 including progress on policy reviews
Ref Cabinet										

Committee business	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan	Work Programme 2010/11 (Review Coord) Forward Plan
CCFA/ Members items/Petitions										
Information										

PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

14th JULY
2010

LOW CARBON ECONOMY - POLICY REVIEW 2010/11: DRAFT SCOPING REPORT

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP: PROSPEROUS CITY

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: C101: Delivering Customer Focussed Services, C102: Being 'One Council', C103: Efficient and Effective Council, C104: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to put forward proposals and seek agreement from Members in relation to the forthcoming policy review into Low Carbon Economy.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Annual Scrutiny Conference was held at the Marriott Hotel on 20th May 2010. During the Scrutiny Café sessions a number of viable policy reviews were formulated for discussion by Members of the Committee. At the meeting on 8th June 2010, following discussions regarding the Work Programme, the Committee agreed to focus on the theme of the Low Carbon Economy.
- 2.2 Members agreed that the study should focus on a number of key themes. The review will explore the definition the potential for further growth of these industries. It will examine the action so far taken to encourage low carbon industries in the city and involve business and residents. It will also look forward to help inform Council policy in the future..
- 2.3 On the 8 June 2010, the Committee also agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to consider in detail a specific aspect of the review.
- 2.4 The low carbon economy is a central component of the Economic Masterplan. Main areas include car production, offshore wind and software (expand).

3. The Scrutiny Review Process

- 3.1 Scrutiny reviews will carry out a number of stages in undertaking and completing a review. The stages broadly are:

Stage 1 Scope	The initial stage of the review identifies the background, issues, potential outcomes and timetable for the review.
Stage 2 Investigate	The Committee gathers evidence using a variety of tools and techniques and arranges visits where appropriate.
Stage 3 Analyse	The key trends and issues are highlighted from the evidence gathered by the Committee.
Stage 4 Clarify	The Committee discusses and identifies the principal messages of the review from the work undertaken.
Stage 5 Recommend	The Committee formulates and agrees realistic recommendations.
Stage 6 Report	Draft and final reports are prepared based on the evidence, findings and recommendations.
Stage 7 Monitor	The Committee monitors recommendations on a regularly agreed basis.

4. Overall Aim of the Scrutiny Policy Review

- 4.1 To examine issues relating to the promotion of a low carbon economy.

5. Proposed Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny Policy Review

- 5.1 The draft Terms of Reference for the policy review are proposed:-
- (a) To gain an understanding of what we mean by the term low carbon economy;
 - (b) To consider the difference between the concept of a low carbon industry and a low carbon place;
 - (b) To investigate the land and infrastructure requirements of a low carbon city;
 - (c) To consider the potential skills requirements of a low carbon economy and the measures that can be taken to ensure that the city's working population are equipped to meet the demand;
 - (d) To explore the number of low carbon industries in operation in the city;

(e) To consider the role of the Council in providing community leadership and championing the low carbon economy;

(f) To consider how best to market the city in order to attract new low carbon industries and consider the promotion of flagship schemes;

(g) To consider how best to involve individuals in making low carbon choices – eg through energy conservation or generation measures;

(h) To look at the action being taken by the city as a whole (businesses and residents) and the work being done to encourage businesses and residents to sign up to the low carbon agenda;

(i) To consider the role of the University in providing research into the development of low carbon industries and meeting the likely skills demands. How can we make courses more attractive to young people and ensure that their skills are transferable?

(j) To map those low carbon businesses already in the city to provide a benchmark for moving forward;

(k) To look at the work being done in schools and other Council buildings to reduce carbon emissions

6. Potential Areas of Enquiry and Sources of Evidence

6.1 The Scrutiny Committee can invite a variety of people, key stakeholders and interested parties to provide written or oral evidence in order that a balanced and focused range of recommendations can be formulated. A list of potential witnesses, though not exhaustive, is included for Members information:

(a) Relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders;

(b) Head of Strategic Economic Development;

(c) Appropriate Officers of the Council;

(d) Representatives from City Services

(e) Key Stakeholders and partner organisations (eg. University, One Northeast, Government Office North East, Chamber of Commerce, Arc

(f) Local residents;

(g) Representatives of minority communities of interest;

(h) Ward Councillors;

- (j) Local MPs;
- (k) Local Strategic Partnership, and
- (l) Local Authorities of good practice.

6.2 Community engagement plays a crucial role in the scrutiny process. Consideration will be given to how involvement can be structured in a way that the Committee encourages those views. If felt appropriate the Committee is able to co-opt an additional member to the Committee for the duration of the policy review.

6.3 In addition, diversity issues have been considered in the background research for this enquiry under the Equality Standards for Local Government. As such the views of local diversity groups will be sought throughout the inquiry where felt appropriate and time allows. Consequently, consideration has been given as to how the views of people from minority communities of interest or heritage (for example, people with disabilities, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health problems, black and minority ethnic people, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people), which may not be gathered through the usual community engagement routes, can be included over the course of the inquiry.

7. Funding from the Dedicated Overview and Scrutiny Budget

7.1 Consideration has been given, through the background research for this scoping report of the need to use funding from the committee's dedicated Overview and Scrutiny budget to aid Members in their enquiry.

7.2 At this stage it is suggested that funding may be necessary to support the following activities:

- (a) Key witnesses;
- (b) Engagement with voluntary and statutory organisations;
- (c) Delegates for expert jury, or a public event;
- (d) General publicity;
- (e) Visits (as necessary) to deliver effective scrutiny; and
- (f) Task and Finish activities.

7.3 Additional working group meetings are likely to be necessary to complete the evidence gathering.

8. Recommendations

8.1 Members are recommended to discuss and agree the scope of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee's policy review for 2010/11 as outlined in the report.

8.2 Members are also asked to decide upon the membership of any Task and Finish Group they might wish to establish.

Background Papers

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