

## (f) PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT

### REPORT OF CHAIR OF THE PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform the Members of the Management Scrutiny Committee of the progress made to date by the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee.

#### 2. Progress of the Scrutiny Committee

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Committee has a new remit and is building up its knowledge and information about the service areas covered by its scope. Since the start of the Council year the Scrutiny Committee has :

- Scoped a review of how Sunderland is coming out of the recession, focusing on physical regeneration and economic regeneration (through addressing worklessness);
- Set up a working group to examine the implementation and use of the Working Neighbourhood Fund to meet the requirements of the policy review of addressing worklessness;
- Set up a working group to consider the marketing and promotion of Sunderland as a tourist destination;
- Scrutinised the development of the Economic Masterplan;
- Taken a performance report on indicators around economic development and worklessness;
- Considered the health of the retail sector across the city, including outlying areas;
- Been consulted on the Council's review of industrial property in the city.

- 2.2 The Scrutiny Committee has also used its budget to fund member attendance at a national conference on the economic wellbeing of high streets and at the North East's first Grand Committee which debated the recession.

#### 3. Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Management Scrutiny Committee notes the progress of the Scrutiny Committee.

#### 4. Background Papers

Prosperity and Economic Development Work Programme 2009/10

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