

**At a meeting of the PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2011 at 5.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor Snowdon in the Chair

Councillors Cuthbert, P. Gibson, Old, A. Wright and T. Wright.

**Also Present:-**

Councillor D. Tate – Chairman of the Management Scrutiny Committee.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors Bell, Mordey and J.B. Scott.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2011**

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Low Carbon Task and Finish Group – Visit to Evolve Business Centre**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with feedback on a visit by the Task and Finish Group to meet with a number of technology companies based at the Evolve Business Centre.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

In addition the report included an updated work programme for the Low Carbon Task and Finish Group for the municipal year 2010-2011 and provided an introduction to Mr. Joe Olabode of PCI Services who was attending the meeting to inform Members

of the work of his firm and provide his views on the facilities on offer at the Evolve Centre.

Mr. Olabode proceeded to brief Members on the growth of his business career on Tyneside and his pride in being able to sell his share in that business and relocate to his home City, establishing a new business at Evolve in 2006. He reiterated the points made in paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7 of the report and in particular expressed how impressed he was with the new business development support provided by the staff at Evolve. He welcomed the arms length, unobtrusive nature of the support and knowing that it was there should the need arise was helpful. He advised that the Evolve Centre worked extremely well for his business both in terms of location and the facilities on offer.

Councillor Cuthbert asked what, in a 'money no option scenario', could the Council do at Evolve over and above what it was doing already. Mr. Olabode replied that although he fully understood the reasons why the Software City building was to be located at Tavistock he would have loved to have seen it built next to Evolve and to see the whole of that area transformed into a Silicon Valley style enterprise. He believed that Sunderland had yet to realise any tangible benefits of the Software City development and would welcome incentives being provided to bring well established software firms such as IBM or DELL to Evolve. One such big name company would act as a magnet to attract many others.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor P. Gibson, Mr. Olabode confirmed that he had encountered no problems from clients as to the location of Evolve. His business had excellent transport links being only 3 minutes from the A19 and 5 minutes from the A1.

There being no further questions for Mr. Olabode the Chairman thanked him for his attendance and it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the report and Mr. Olabode's comments be received and noted.

The Chairman advised that she would be taking item 6 on the Agenda (Local Enterprise Partnership Update) at this juncture to allow Mr. Taylor to leave thereafter.

### **Local Enterprise Partnership Update**

The Head of Strategic Economic Development submitted a report (copy circulated) which briefed Members on the establishment of the North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) which was to focus on delivering actions against the following four strategic economic priorities:-

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

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Vince Taylor, Head of Strategic Economic Development, presented the report advising Members that Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) were intended to bring together businesses and local authorities in order to set the strategy and vision of economic growth in an area. On Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2010, Business, Local Authorities, Higher Education, Further Education and the Voluntary and Community Sector had submitted a joint proposal to the Secretaries of State for Business, Innovation and Skills and Communities to establish a North Eastern LEP covering Durham County, Northumberland and the five Tyne and Wear authority districts.

In a statement to the House of Commons on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2011, Mark Prisk MP, Minister of State for Business and Enterprise, announced that the Government had approved the North Eastern LEP proposal, and was encouraging partners to move towards establishing the partnership and forming the LEP Board.

With regard to the next steps, initial discussion had focussed on the need to establish the LEP Board and to identify an Interim Chair of the Board to act as an advocate or spokesperson for the LEP. The Interim Chair would also provide a strategic interface with Government, and could help design a process for recruiting Business Board Members to the LEP Board.

A business plan is being prepared which will firm up a series of activities based around the four strategic economic priorities set out in the LEP proposals and the resources required to deliver these. Consideration was also being given to a wider stakeholder event to be held by the end of March 2011.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor P. Gibson as to who would be likely to fund the small team of officers required to support the LEP, Mr. Taylor advised that it was likely to be the local authorities. Businesses however had suggested they would be willing to second officers.

With regard to an enquiry from Councillor Cuthbert on the requirement for the LEP Board to have at least 50% of its membership from the business sector, Mr. Taylor replied that this was currently being negotiated. The proposal from the North Eastern LEP had been for the Board to comprise the six local authority leaders together with the Elected Mayor of North Tyneside, six representatives from the business sector and one from the University sector. The response from the Secretary of State had been that this was not acceptable as the University sector was not recognised as being representative of business.

Members having expressed concern that there was a danger of the LEP becoming a Newcastle centric body, the Chairman thanked Mr. Taylor for his attendance and, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

## **Sunderland University – Carbon Agenda and Management Procedure**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which introduced a presentation from Claire Charles, Environment Co-ordinator at the University of Sunderland, who was attending the meeting to highlight measures implemented at the University to reduce their carbon emissions.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

With regard to progress made to date, Ms. Charles advised that:-

- The University completed its first Carbon Management Plan in 2006;
- January 2011 completion and publication of second Carbon Management Plan (CMP);
- The University commits to reducing direct electricity, gas and fuel consumption by 48% by 2010;
- University has achieved a 24.8% downturn in its direct electricity and gas consumption already;
- Project action plan and funding allocated;
- University has Executive level support. Carbon is now one of the University's key working themes and is reviewed annually.

Challenges to be faced included:-

- Funding restraints;
- Integrating the principles of Carbon Management into all aspects of the University;
- Ensuring all stakeholders were aware of Carbon Management and their impact i.e. Procurement and business travel;
- Maintaining momentum and motivation;
- Expanding into Scope 3 effectively, as reportable for universities by 2013.

These challenges, however, could be balanced against the following opportunities:-

- Reduced overheads outweighing up front investment costs;
- Reputational value: University was seen as a sector leader;
- Improved efficiencies;

- Maximising funding opportunities;
- Development of low carbon technology teaching programmes.

In conclusion Ms. Charles provided Members with the following examples of projects undertaken at the University to reduce their carbon emissions:-

- Energy Audits, including:-
  - Voltage optimisation (8% reduction);
  - Boiler replacement;
  - Ground Source Heat Pump;
- Space utilisation;
- Reduction in fleet vehicles/improve fuel efficiency;
- Reduction in waste to landfill.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the Climate Week Masterclass with Paul Mooney and Dr. Dennis Wheeler which was to be held at the University on 25<sup>th</sup> March and asked if the Committee could be represented at the event. Ms. Charles replied that the Committee would be more than welcome to attend and she would pass on the details to Mr. Diamond, should any Member wish to do so.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the targets faced by the University for carbon reduction and asked if there were any penalties for failing to meet them. Ms. Charles replied that there were not. It was currently felt that to impose penalties would not be fair on those institutions with a high percentage of older buildings such as the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge and Durham.

Given that the Council was undergoing its own measures to reduce its carbon footprint, Councillor Cuthbert suggested that one of the policy review's recommendations should be that closer working relationships were fostered between the Council and the University in this regard. This was agreed accordingly.

In response to an enquiry from the Chairman, Ms. Charles confirmed that the Student Accommodation was not included in the plan. A lot of the students' energy charges were accounted for in inclusive plans or via a key system and were therefore classed as domestic. It was, however, intended that Student Travel would be included in the Scope 3 Plan.

The Chairman having thanked Ms. Charles for her presentation it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-
  - i) the report and presentation be received and noted; and

- ii) the report of the Policy Review include a recommendation that closer working relationships be fostered with the University of Sunderland with regard to Carbon Management.

### **Urgent Item**

In accordance with Section 100(B) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Chairman stated that the following item was to be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgent business as the seminar it related to was to be held prior to the next meeting of the Committee.

### **Request to Attend Seminar – Sustainable Procurement**

The Chairman advised that a free seminar entitled 'sustainable Procurement – Not Luxury, Simply Good Practice' organised by NEREO was to be held at Durham County Cricket Ground, Chester-le-Street on 17<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. She informed Members that any expressions of interest should be submitted to Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer. The Chairman confirmed that both herself and Councillor T. Wright would be attending.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

- 5. RESOLVED that approval be given for Members of the Committee to attend.

### **Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2011**

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 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2011 relating to the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Cuthbert having requested that items 01493 and 01403 be submitted to the Committee should they be of relevance, it was:-

- 6. RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be received and noted.

### **Work Programme 2010-11**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which attached for Members' information the Committee's current programme of work for the 2010-11 Council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

7. RESOLVED that the Committee's Work Programme for 2010-11 be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and wished them a safe journey home.

(Signed) D. SNOWDON,  
Chairman.

**LOW CARBON ECONOMY POLICY REVIEW – EVIDENCE GATHERING**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Strategic Priorities: SP1 Prosperous City**

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

**1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee with information on the potential skills requirements of a low carbon economy;
- 1.2 To receive an update from Nexus on the work going on to reduce carbon emissions from the regions public transport operators.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 On 18 June 2009, the Committee agreed to undertake a policy review into the development of a Low Carbon Economy in Sunderland.
- 2.2 As part of review, the Committee agreed to consider the potential skills requirements of a low carbon economy and the measures being taken to ensure that the City's working population are equipped to meet these demands.
- 2.3 The Committee also agreed to look at the action being taken to encourage public transport operators to reduce the level of their carbon emissions.

**3. Current Position**

*Skills*

- 3.1 Mick Brophy MD Business, Innovation and Development at Gateshead College will attend the meeting to discuss the work of the Gateshead College's Skills Academy for Automotive Manufacturing.
- 3.2 Gateshead College is developing the Skills Academy for Sustainable Manufacturing, Productivity & Innovation on the Nissan site. When it is completed in 2011, this will be the UK's first low carbon training centre.
- 3.3 The University of Sunderland has introduced an MSc in Low Carbon Vehicle Technology - the first qualification of its kind in the UK. The programme has been designed in consultation with the industry and is

for people already employed in the sector. Adrian Smith from the University has been invited to the meeting in order to provide further details.

- 3.4 Gary Cumisky, Head of Construction at City of Sunderland College has will also be in attendance in order to speak about the work going on at the College.

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*Nexus*

- 3.5 Finally, Helen Matthews, Head of Business Development at NEXUS will update the Committee the initiatives being taken to reduce the level of carbon emissions from public transport operating in the region.

#### **4 Recommendation**

- 4.1 That the report be received and the information incorporated into the policy review.

**Contact Officer:** James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
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# **PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

16<sup>th</sup> March 2011

## **LOW CARBON PLACE TASK AND FINISH GROUP, WORK PROGRAMME 2010-11**

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### **1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the current work programme for the Low Carbon Place task and finish group during the 2010-11 Council year.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 At the Committees meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010, it was agreed that a core task and finish group would be established to investigate the Low Carbon Place aspect of the Policy Review.
- 2.2 Councillors Bell, Cuthbert, P Gibson, Mordey, Snowdon and A Wright were nominated to serve on the group. It was agreed that a work programme would be developed and included on the main Committee agenda. All Members of the Committee are able to attend any evidence gathering sessions of interest.

#### **3. Progress update**

- 3.1 Members completed a visit to Narec on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011 Narec is the national centre for the UK, dedicated to advancing the development, demonstration, deployment and grid integration of renewable energy and low carbon generation technologies. Narec is located in Blyth.
- 3.2 A presentation was given to Members regarding the work of Narec and Members were given a guided tour around the site, visiting a house that had been retrofitted which was used as a training centre. They also visited the photovoltaic technology centre where Members observed a range of photovoltaic modules with coloured solar cells for improved aesthetics in and on buildings, testing facilities and the solar charging points for electric cars which are the Narec site.
- 3.3 The work programme is included as Appendix A of this report.

3.1 This is a flexible document and can be added to or amended throughout the course of the year.

#### **4 Recommendation**

4.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme and progress to date.

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**Contact Officer:** Claire Harrison, Acting Scrutiny Officer  
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|                                   | OCTOBER   | NOVEMBER  | DECEMBER      | JANUARY   | FEBRUARY  | MARCH   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Meetings</b>                   | <p>20<sup>th</sup> October 2010<br/>3pm-4pm</p> <p>Low Carbon Homes- the Challenges and Opportunities of retrofit- Catherine Pope</p> <p>Future work of Task and Finish Group</p> |   |               | <p>Council Buildings- Progress and future opportunities (AA)</p> <p>Update on low carbon homes and mapping (CP)</p> | Task and Finish Group with relevant council officers. |   |
| <b>Visits</b>                     |   | <p>Visit to schools:<br/>Portland School<br/>Washington School<br/>Richard Avenue Primary School</p> <p>Visit to Great Eppleton Wind Farm</p> |               | Visit to Evolve   | NAREC- National Renewable Energy Centre               | <p>Visit to retrofit scheme in North Tyneside and site in Sunderland.</p> <p>Visit to low carbon business</p> |
| <b>Feedback to main Committee</b> | Update report   | Update report   | Update report | Update report   | Update report   | Update report   |

**FORMER VAUX BREWERY SITE – SUNDERLAND CITY  
CENTRE**

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Strategic Priorities: SP1 Prosperous City, SP5 Attractive City**

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

**1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on the former Vaux Brewery site.

**2. Current Position**

- 2.1 Mr Keith Lowes Head of Planning and Environment will be in attendance to provide the Committee with a verbal update.

**3 Recommendation**

- 3.1 That Members note the update report on the former Vaux Brewery Site.

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**Contact Officer:** james diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
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# **PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

16 MARCH 2011

## **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**Strategic Priority: SP5 - Attractive and Inclusive City**

**Corporate Priorities: CI01 – Delivering Customer Focused Services, CI04 – Improving Partnership Working To Deliver ‘One City’**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the contents of the draft Annual report of the Committee as part of the overall scrutiny Annual Report 2010/11.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In previous years each scrutiny committee has published an individual account of the work conducted by the committee in an annual report, and was presented to Council. The annual report reflected the committees work programme and included achievements, highlights and policy review work.
- 2.2 This will be the second year that the Annual Report will be a single combined report of all seven Scrutiny Committees. The annual report will outline the development in the scrutiny function and provide snapshots of the outcomes achieved during the last 12 months.
- 2.3 In June 2010, the members of the Scrutiny Committee agreed their annual work programme for the municipal year 2010/11. The Work Programme brought together the issues raised by members as the major priorities and challenges facing the city for the year ahead.

#### **3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1 The draft content of the annual report of the Committee is set out in Appendix 1.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 The Committee has delivered a busy work programme in 2010/11, which is reflected in the annual report. The Scrutiny Committee has worked with elected members, council directorates, partner organisations and voluntary and community representatives to deliver the work programme and has tackled a number of key issues making suggestions for improvements to services delivered across the city.

## **5. RECOMENDATION**

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider and comment on the draft end of year report of the Committee.
- 5.2 That the report, together with the comments of members, be submitted to the Management Scrutiny Committee on 14 April 2011.

## **6. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Sustainable Scrutiny Committee Agendas 2010/11

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**Contact Officer:** James Diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
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## Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee

At the start of the year – when the Committee was considering which issues to include in its work programme – we had pretty much unanimous support to focus on the development of a low carbon economy in Sunderland. For this reason, and in view of the breadth of the issues involved, the Committee chose to make this the subject of its policy review for the year.

The development of the low carbon economy is a central component of the Sunderland Economic Masterplan – the document that sets out the blueprint for the future economic development of the city.

The Economic Masterplan identifies a number of important challenges that the City must overcome, in particular that Sunderland's economy remains too reliant on a narrow range of industries. The city has successfully moved from ships and coal to cars and contact centres, but does not have the variety of industries and career opportunities, nor the volume of well-paid jobs necessary to retain more of the younger population and to ensure a resilient economy.

The Committee chose to divide its study into two main themes:-

*the low economy place* - which encompasses the physical infrastructure and local projects aimed at reducing the city's carbon footprint and:

*low carbon business* - comprising ultra low carbon vehicles, offshore wind/energy generation and software city.

The study has involved the Committee taking evidence from and visiting some of the key players in the field – including Nissan, the University of Sunderland, the Chamber of Commerce, a number of the local IT firms based at the Council's new Evolve Centre and the Managing Director of the Port of Sunderland. We have also visited NAREC based at Blyth which is the national centre for the development and deployment of low carbon technology.

Our study has shown us that there are new opportunities for Sunderland in the low carbon economy, particularly given the identification of Sunderland as the focus for the North East Low Carbon Economic Area for Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles. This provides Sunderland with potential economic opportunities for the development and manufacture of new local carbon technologies (including electric vehicles) and low carbon building design and construction, sustainable transport choices and the development of new low carbon energy sources, particularly in terms of the national drive to develop offshore wind energy.

However, much still needs to be done and it is important that the impetus is maintained into the future in order that Sunderland can take full advantage of the potential benefits for the city.

Last year, the Committee was regularly consulted on the progress being made on the Council's Economic Masterplan. The Economic Masterplan was formally approved by the Council in July 2010 and once again the Committee had the opportunity to be consulted on its contents prior to its final approval.

A unique selling point for Sunderland is being a City by the Sea. The Committee was therefore consulted on and endorsed the draft Seaburn Masterplan. The Masterplan sets out key principles and parameters to guide the future redevelopment of Seaburn as a family focused resort offering high quality indoor and outdoor facilities for both residents and visitors.

The Committee has also monitored the progress being made in establishing the North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). This body will bring together businesses and local authorities in order to set the strategy and vision of economic growth in an area. The North Eastern LEP proposal sets out a vision for the LEP area to become Europe's premier location for low carbon, sustainable, knowledge-based private sector growth and jobs. Again, we intend to closely monitor the development of the LEP in the year ahead.

All in all, another very busy and productive year for the Committee. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my colleagues for all their hard work and enthusiasm and I feel sure that the progress we have made can be built upon in the year ahead.

Councillor Michael Mordey  
Chair of the Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee

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**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 C104 (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.

|  | JUNE   | JULY  | SEPTEMBER   | OCTOBER   | NOVEMBER  | DECEMBER   | JANUARY   | FEBRUARY  | MARCH   | APRIL   |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Cabinet referrals and responses</b> |  |   | Progress on Policy Review - Working Neighbourhoods Fund (Cllr Charlton/A Patterson)           | Progress on Policy Review – Tourism and Marketing (Jane Hall/Cllr D Wilson)   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
| <b>Policy Review</b>                   | Proposals for policy review (Scrutiny Officer) | Scope of review (Scrutiny Officer)  | Approach to review (Scrutiny Officer/Janet Snaith) / Low Carbon Place – (Katheryn Warrington) | Progress on Review - Report of Working Group (Scrutiny Officer)<br><br>Employers Survey (Janet Snaith)                            | Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer) – Low Carbon Industry (Software)<br><br>Update on Task and Finish Group (Claire Harrison) | Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer) – Low Carbon Industry (Port)<br><br>Port Offshore Wind (Matthew Hunt Port Director)<br><br>Update on Task and Finish Group (Claire Harrison) | Progress on Review (Scrutiny Officer) – Low Carbon Industry (Vehicles)<br><br>North East Chamber of Commerce (Andrew Sugden)<br><br>Update on Task and Finish Group (Claire Harrison) | Progress on Review – University (Scrutiny Officer)<br><br>Update on Task and Finish Group - Software City (Jim Diamond) | Progress on Review – Skills University/College (Scrutiny Officer)<br><br>Nexus – Low Carbon Emissions (Helen Matthews)<br><br>Update on work of Task and Finish Group (Claire Harrison) | Draft Final Report  |
| <b>Performance</b>                     |  |   | Performance & VfM Assessment (Gillian Robinson)   |   |   | Performance Framework Q2 including Progress on policy reviews (Gillian Robinson)   |   |   |   | Performance Framework Q3 including progress on policy reviews (Gillian Robinson)                                  |
| <b>Scrutiny</b>                        | Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan     | Economic Masterplan (Vince Taylor)<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan<br><br>Request for Conference (J Diamond)<br><br>Centre for Public Scrutiny Annual Conference - Feedback | Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan  | Seaburn Masterplan (Ben Winter)<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan<br><br>Feedback from Conference – (Cllr Mordey) | Regional Update (Vince Taylor)<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan  | Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan   | Employment Strategy (Vince Taylor)<br><br>Council Led Employment Service (Karen Alexander)<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan  | Local Enterprise Partnership (Vince Taylor)<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan                           | Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan<br><br>Draft Annual Report   | Annual Report<br><br>Work Programme 2010/11<br><br>Forward Plan<br><br>Employers Survey – Feedback (Janet Snaith) |

|                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CCFA/Members<br>items/Petitions |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

# PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 MARCH 2011 – 30 JUNE 2011

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

16 March 2011

#### 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 March 2011 – 30 June 2011.

#### 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 March 2011 to 30 June 2011.

#### 4. Background Papers

- 4.1 Forward Plan for the period 1 March 2011 – 30 June 2011.

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**Forward Plan -  
Key Decisions for  
the period  
01/Mar/2011 to  
30/Jun/2011**



**E Waugh,  
Head of Law and Governance,  
Commercial and Corporate Services,  
Sunderland City Council.**

**14 February 2011**

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--------------------|---------|
| 01491 | To approve the arrangements for admissions to schools in Sunderland for the academic year 2012/2013                                   | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | All Sunderland Schools, CE & RC Diocese, neighbouring authorities  | Distribution of draft documents and publication of website  | To the Contact officer by 16 February 2011 - Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee | DfE Guidance on school admissions                   | Val Thompson       | 5611372 |
| 01494 | To agree an invitation to tender for the erection of a wind turbine (subject to planning approval) at St Robert of Newminster School. | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | School Children Services, Corporate Procurement, Land and Property | Circulation of draft cabinet paper and meetings with relevant stakeholders. Consultation on-going through the planning process. | To contact officer by 21 February - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee                      | Cabinet Report                                      | Kathryn Warrington | 5611535 |
| 01487 | To approve and adopt the Internal Waste Plan  | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | All Council Directorates   | Circulation of draft cabinet paper and the draft Internal Waste Plan document.  | To the contact officer by 21 February - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.                 | Internal Waste Plan and accompanying Cabinet Report | David Henry        | 5612434 |

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 01452 | To agree the revised Financial Assistance Policy                  | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders   | Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties   | Via the contact officer by 21 February - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee        | Report                     | Alan Caddick    | 5662690 |
| 01483 | To approve the 2009/2010 based LDF Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Head of Law and Governance, Director of Financial Services   | Circulation of draft cabinet paper  | To the contact officer by 21 February - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee | Cabinet Report             | Neil Cole       | 5611574 |
| 01453 | To adopt the Community Assets Policy for Sunderland City Council  | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Corporate Capital Strategy Group; Head of Land and Property; Voluntary and Community Sector; Portfolio Holder for Responsive Services & Customer Care; Elected Members | Draft Community Assets Strategy via Consultation Database; e-Newsletters; Report; Focus Groups; Forums; Area Networks | Via the Contact Officer by 21 February - Management Scrutiny Committee                     | Report and Strategy        | Julie Gray      | 5617574 |

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|--|----------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------|---------|
| 01484 | To approve the Local Development Framework Core Strategy revised preferred option for public consultation.   | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Head of Law and Governance, Director of Financial Services  | Circulation of draft cabinet paper                              | To the contact officer by 21 February - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee          | Core Strategy revised Preferred Option  | Neil Cole       | 5611574 |
| 01492 | To approve the annual report on the delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan (09/10)   | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Children's Trust partners   | Meetings with partners, circulation of draft report for comment | To the contact officer by 16 February 2011 - Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee | CYPP 2009-2010                          | John Markall    | 5661866 |
| 01493 | To agree the Green Infrastructure Strategy Framework as the basis for production of a Green Infrastructure Strategy for Sunderland and to agree the provisional 'Vision' and 'Principles' as included in the document. | Cabinet        | 09/Mar/2011                  | Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services. Office of the Chief Executive. Landscape and Reclamation. Implementation. City Services - Environmental Services - Sport and Leisure. Highways Maintenance. Childrens Services. Health Housing | Email   | To the contact officer by 21st February - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny committee        | Green Infrastructure Strategy Framework | Neil Cole       | 5611574 |

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| 01438 | To agree the Social Care Contributions Policy for Personalisation   | Cabinet        | 06/Apr/2011                  | Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders                                   | Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties   | via the Contact Officer by 21 March - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee    | Report                     | Neil Revely     | 5661880 |
| 01479 | To approve the Appointment of Frank Haslam Milan and Three Rivers Housing Association as development partners to develop a Core & Cluster scheme on Council owned land at Redcar Road, Sunderland | Cabinet        | 06/Apr/2011                  | Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders                                   | Briefings and/ or meetings with interested parties. | Via the contact officer by 21 March - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee | Report                     | Alan Caddick    | 5612690 |
| 01400 | To agree the Access to Housing Project - Allocations Policy   | Cabinet        | 06/Apr/2011                  | 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 March - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee | Full Report                | Alan Caddick    | 5662690 |

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|--|----------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------|------------------|---------|
| 01403 | To consider the outcome of Public Consultation (March - June 2010) in relation to the Accessible Bus Network Design Project  | Cabinet        | 22/Jun/2011                  | Portfolio Holder for Attractive and Inclusive City; Nexus; Appropriate Chief Officers       | Briefings; Meetings; e-mails               | Via the contact officer by 20 May - Environmental and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee | Cabinet Report             | Bob Donaldson    | 5611517 |
| 01412 | To approve the procurement of specialist vehicles to be used in the waste and cleaning service.  | Cabinet        | 22/Jun/2011                  | Procurement; Appropriate Chief Officers; Portfolio holder for Attractive and Inclusive City | Report; Briefings                          | Via Contact Officer by 20 May - Environment and Attractive City                          | Report                     | Les Clark        | 5614540 |
| 01489 | To consider any key decisions arising from the Capital Programme and Treasury Management Outturn 2010/2011 and First Quarterly Review of the Capital Programme 2011/2012 | Cabinet        | 22/Jun/2011                  | Directors and third parties affected by the proposals                                       | Report available and e-mailed to Directors | Via Contact Officer by 26 May 2011 - Management Scrutiny Committee                       | None                       | Sonia Tognarelli | 5611851 |

## Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2011 to 30/Jun/2011

| 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  |
|-------|--|----------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|----------------------------|------------------|---------|
| 01490 | To consider any key decisions arising from the Revenue Budget Outturn 2010/2011 and First Quarterly Review of the Revenue Budget 2011/2012 | Cabinet        | 22/Jun/2011                  | Directors and third parties affected by the proposals | Report available and e-mailed to Directors | Via Contact Officer by 26 May 2011<br>Management Scrutiny Committee     | None                       | Sonia Tognarelli | 5611851 |