

**Minute/Decision Summary**  
**Meeting- Regeneration Sub Group**  
**Date – 09/01/07**

**Present:** Cllr Coleman (Renaissance), Paul Thomas (Renaissance), Paul McGee, Tina Williams, Stewart Tagg  
**Officers:** Adam Grey (Pathfinder), Kelly Smith (SBC), Roland Todd (SBC), Kirstine Da (SBC)

ITEM/ISSUE	DOI	DECISION	ACTION	CONTACT
<p><b>1. Apologies</b></p> <p>Bob Gibson, Martin Clinton, Kellie Hopkins, Peter Seller</p>		Noted		
<p><b>2. Minutes of Meeting held 9th December 2007.</b></p> <p>The Group was informed that the approval for £450,000 retrospective ERDF to be used as match funding for Stockton Town Centre: Southern Gateway: Land Acquisition Phase One, had been made as a delegated decision by the Chair and Vice Chair.</p> <p>Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>The Group discussed future representation from the Stockton Learning Partnership, which no longer exists as previously, and it was agreed to await the outcome of the LSP review.</p> <p>Stewart Tagg was welcomed to the Group as the representative for Tees Valley Housing.</p>		<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p>		<p>Kirstine Da            Funding and            Programmes Officer            01642 527567</p>
<p><b>3. Worklessness – Presentation by Roland Todd</b></p> <p>The presentation outlined the regional, sub-regional and local context as well as NRF funded initiatives to combat worklessness.</p> <p>A lively debate ensued around the difficult challenge of combating worklessness in the hardest to reach groups and the fact that being out of work, especially long-term, is one of the most dominant contributors to social problems such as crime, substance abuse and health deficiencies. It was acknowledged by the group that a lot of good work has taken place over the past 18 months, but additional support is still needed for the 'hardest to help'. It was generally</p>				<p>Roland Todd            Labour Market Co-ordinator            01642 52 6184</p>

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<p>agreed that this issue has never been successfully tackled in spite of the numerous initiatives to combat social problems over the years relying more on self referral, rather than proactively engaging with individuals and that an innovative, focused effort is needed. It was pointed out that resources were currently invested in solving problems associated with deprivation, e.g. health, community safety, physical regeneration and skills shortages, but that there is no real effort placed on the engagement of the hardest to reach groups. It was argued that the exclusion of this group is very much the root cause of these issues and that investing resources in engaging people on long-term benefits may be the most effective way of solving the problems facing the most deprived wards. It was also pointed out that some training providers and colleges as a result of some funding mechanisms are favouring those more capable when supporting skills initiatives and that this runs the risk of further marginalising the 'hardest to help'. The Group decided that tackling worklessness should be prioritised to ensure that the people in need are offered training and sustainable job opportunities locally. However, it was also borne in mind that there are other groups looking at this issue and that duplication of effort should be avoided.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Agreed</p>	<p>The Chair will bring the Group's concerns to the Renaissance partnership with a view to bringing actions forward.</p>	
<p><b>4. Any other Business</b>          Kelly Smith requested that the date for the next meeting could be moved forward one week to accommodate decisions on NRF underspend for 07/08.          DC / KD will work with KS to find suitable date.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Agreed</p>	<p>KD to let Members know of change of date.</p>	
<p><b>7. Date and Time of Next Meeting</b>          Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2007, 10 a.m., Town Hall, Ground Floor Committee Room, Stockton</p>				