

Regeneration & Transport Select Committee

A meeting of Regeneration & Transport Select Committee was held on Monday, 8th November, 2010.

Present: Cllr Maurice Perry(Chairman), Cllr Dick Cains(Vice-Chair), Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Bill Noble, Cllr Mrs Jean O'Donnell(Vice Cllr Kirton), Cllr Fred Salt

Officers: David Newton(NOVA International), Sue Daniels, Tara Connor, Simon Milner(DNS), Tony Beckwith(CESC), Graham Birtle, Kirsty Wannop(LDS)

Also in attendance: Cllr Mary Womphrey

Apologies: Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Michael Smith, Cllr Steve Walmsley

RTS 53/10 Declarations of Interest

Cllr John Fletcher declared a personal non prejudicial interest in item 5 entitled Progress Updates on Previously Agreed Recommendations as he was the Chair of Stockton Borough Bus Users Forum.

RTS 54/10 EIT Review of Events, Arts and Tourism

The Committee received a presentation from David Newton of NOVA International who spoke to Members about the events the company ran and what made it so successful.

NOVA International organised the Great North Run, Great Manchester Run, open water swimming and other sporting events. The key factors which made the events so successful was the mass participation, television coverage on the main terrestrial channels such as BBC, and popular athlete's taking part who also work with children in the community by visiting schools and college's.

His main recommendation for what action SBC needed to undertake was the increased promotion of its signature events, not just regionally but nationally, but this could not be done easily and the need to grow the events more and develop a 5 year strategy would help with the promotion of events. Members thanked David Newton for the presentation and the information provided.

Members then received information from Abi Kelly Head of Communications about how the communications team were promoting the events in Stockton.

The Committee were informed that the communications team was trying to provide residents with as much notice as possible about upcoming events using free media outlets including social networking sites whenever possible. Members expressed the need for the signature events to be publicised more widely as this was where it needed most improving.

Members were informed about ongoing work that would introduce greater uniformity to the publicity material used to promote events which would improve residents' awareness of the variety of events provided or supported by Stockton Council. The Committee supported the work that was being undertaken.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

RTS 55/10 Monitoring of Previously Agreed Recommendations - Initial Progress Report

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress contained within the provided Progress Report on the implementation of the recommendations from the Efficiency, Improvement, and Transformation (EIT) Review of Commissioning and Provision of Public and Community Transport.

Members agreed with the assessments except those regarding the Dial A Ride service and requested that further reports to include information about taxi drivers dealing with wheelchairs, and collecting patients from hospital be presented at the next meeting.

CONCLUDED that

1. Further reports on the Dial A Ride service be brought to the Committee's attention.
2. The information be noted.

RTS 56/10 Progress Updates on Previously Agreed Recommendations

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress contained within the provided Progress Updates on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations. There were outstanding recommendations from the reviews of Highway Network Management, Pavement Parking, Street Lighting and Sustainable School Travel.

Highway Network Management
All recommendations were fully achieved.

Pavement Parking
Members requested further explanation on recommendation 8 including the level of use and support for the mediation service.

Street Lighting
All recommendations were now fully achieved but Members requested clarification regarding the consultation mentioned for recommendation 4.

CONCLUDED that

1. Further information where requested be sought.
2. The information be noted.

RTS 57/10 Work Programme

Members were reminded that the next meeting was 20th December 2010 in which they would consider the options for draft recommendations.

RTS 58/10 Chairs Update

The Chair had nothing to report to the Committee.

