

## **Regeneration and Transport Select Committee**

### **Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 25 October 2011**

#### **EIT Programme – Review of Regeneration and Economic Development**

##### **Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)**

The Committee considered a series of draft recommendations at the meeting of 24 October. These were based on the options considered at the meeting on 12 September. Draft recommendations include:

- creation of an economic intelligence function;
- transfer of the building management of The Shambles to Land and Property;
- undertake a detailed evaluation of the operational functions of the Stockton Business Centre;
- reduction in funding to the StocktonMiddlesbrough Initiative;
- developing specialisms within business engagement in order to concentrate on new and existing businesses, based on sectoral growth opportunities;
- downsized Major Projects Team in line with reduced workload;
- mainstreaming of the enterprise work with schools and young people, and provision of a more focussed enterprise coaching service for specific groups;
- tourism to be taken forward as part of the business engagement agenda, and with consideration given to transferring the Tourist Information Centre to the Customer Contact Centre;
- town centre businesses to be supported through the business engagement teams and an increased focus on economic development, with some functions (eg. operational elements of events, markets) transferred to more appropriate areas of the Council;
- develop a strategic leadership role in relation to employability and skills, in conjunction with Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU), to further understand the skills needs of the local economy, with better utilising the resources of Tees Achieve;
- closer working with TVU to ensure the delivery of the TVU Business Plan and Statement of Ambition, and to ensure the success of the Local Enterprise Partnership.

The Committee also considered the draft Equality Impact Assessment. This assesses the wider community impact of a review's recommendations.

##### **Timescales**

The review is due to report to Cabinet in December 2011. The meeting of 14 November has been arranged in order to agree the final report.

##### **EIT Task and Finish Review of Highways**

The review will report to the Committee on 14 November and 16 January. This officer-led review is due to report to Cabinet in March 2012.

##### **Other work**

The Committee will consider a more detailed presentation on the progress of the Events, Arts and Tourism EIT Review at the meeting of 5 December.