

Regeneration and Transport Select Committee
Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 8 May 2012

EIT Programme

EIT Task and Finish Review of Highways

The review is scheduled to report to Cabinet in May.

Next Review

Review of Long Term Empty/Abandoned Properties

The tripartite meeting takes place on 14 May.

It is suggested that the review be undertaken in two phases, residential properties followed by commercial properties.

Consideration will be given to the impact of new government schemes in the Borough, the value-added by match funding, and the cost of problematic empty properties.

According to Council Tax records in March there were 2770 empty properties, including 700 empty commercial properties and 1089 long-term properties (empty for more than six months).

The Committee meet on 11 June to agree the scope and project plan and receive its first evidence.

Overview Meetings

The Committee received an overview of the services within its remit on 30 April.

REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EMERGING ISSUES

Regenerate the Borough

- Town Centre - vibrant Stockton and Billingham development;
- Northshore;

Promote prosperity and support economic recovery

- Culture of Enterprise, assisting new and existing businesses to settle and grow;
- Improve levels of employability and skills; young people – new industries / new skills;
- Develop a strategy for the Borough that delivers economic growth through environmentally sustainable opportunities;
- Identify land and sites for employment activity; and
- Support Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership.

PLANNING SERVICES

EMERGING ISSUES

- New National Planning Policy Framework;
- Strengthen Local Development Framework - Localism Act;
- Neighbourhood Planning;
- Community Infrastructure Levy;
- Core Strategy Review, Regeneration and Environment DPD Local Plan;
- Identify a supply of land and sites for all types of employment activity in the local plan;
- Identify new sites to provide a range of housing;
- Increase the supply of affordable homes;
- Ensure new developments are sustainable, address the impacts of climate change and meet secure by design and park mark standards;
- Improve the proximity, quantity and quality of green space in the borough; and
- Planning Act 2008 – guidance documents consultation.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

EMERGING ISSUES

- Council's Capital school building programme
- Academy Programme; Northshore, Thornaby and Freebrough
- Preston Park – completion of Phase Three
- Strategic road network enhancements
- Rationalisation of CT operations
- Continued delivery of major bus scheme facilities and Metro – Thornaby Station Footbridge
- Rail Devolution
- Management of the borough wide Car Parking Review.
- St Johns Crossing
- Billingham Town Centre inc' new contact centre
- Stockton Town Centre development