REGENERATION AND TECHNICAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE Monday 12th October 2009

PRESENT – Councillor McGarvey (in the Chair); Councillors Browne, Kay, K. Foster, Maxfield and Mulla.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr Cottam - Executive Member Regeneration
Adam Scott - Strategic Director for Regeneration

Tom Stannard - Lead Officer

Paul Conlon - Principal Scrutiny Officer

John Addison - Scrutiny Officer

RESOLUTIONS

18 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were received by Councillors Surve, Mike Johnson and Tapp.

19 Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th August 2009

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th August 2009 be received and signed.

20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

21 Work of the Executive

The Executive Member for Regeneration was invited to give the Committee a brief overview and update on performance data for his Portfolio, and to highlight any future decisions that he may be taking between this Committee and the Committee's next meeting to be held in December 2009.

Members were also provided with a budget position statement for the Regeneration portfolio, which included progress on the efficiency reviews and the overall budget position for the department from the last financial year.

The Committee considered the performance data for the Regeneration Portfolio, the forward plan relating to the portfolio and the current position in relation to the budget.

Members held a discussion with the Executive Member around performance indicators, in particular indictor NI198; Children Travelling to School KPI, as Members of the Committee felt that this indicator was likely to slip as a result of bus service cuts and increase in traffic at school times. The Executive Members accepted Members concerns and that if the indicator did slip a full report would be brought before the Committee.

In response to a question around identified investment by the Regeneration Department and why £706,000 had been spent out of £2 million, the Executive Member informed the Committee that he would look into the figures and would provide Members with a response.

After a detailed debate by the Committee on waste collection and recycling, Members praised the effort and achievements of the Regeneration on recycling collection figures.

In response to a question around the accuracy of figures in performance indicators NI166 AND LI019, the Executive Member informed the Committee that he would look into the figures and would provide Members with a response.

Members held a discussion with the Executive Member for Regeneration and Officers regarding the Christmas town centre activities for Blackburn and Darwen. The Executive Member agreed to provide Members with a break down costs of the big wheel in Blackburn and a full outline of planned events in both towns.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

22 Markets Update

The Executive Member for Regeneration then provided the Committee with an update on the relocation of Blackburn Market and progress on the town centre redevelopment.

Members were informed that a detailed report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Executive Board to be held on the 15th November 2009. It was reported that following the next meeting of the Executive Board, the Executive Member said he would be in a better position to provide the Committee with an update on Blackburn Market.

Members then held a debate with the Executive Member around the new Blackburn Bus station on Penny Street and Market trader concession on Blackburn Market.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

23 Worklessness

The Principal Scrutiny Officer provided Members with an update on the Committee's work to date on Worklessness and potential ways the Committee may wish to proceed its work on the topic.

RESOLVED:

That the update from the Principal Scrutiny Officer be noted.

Signed Chair of the meeting at which the Minutes were signed
Date