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GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

DATE: MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2010
TIME: 2.00 PM
PLACE: COUNCIL HOUSE, NEXT TO THE CIVIC CENTRE

Committee Members–

Councillor Nicholson, Chair
Councillor Nelder, Vice Chair
Councillors Berrow, K Foster, Martin Leaves, Roberts, Mrs Stephens, Wheeler and Wright

Substitutes–:

Any Member other than a Member of the Cabinet may act as a substitute member provided that they do not have a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter under review.

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

Members and Officers are requested to sign the attendance list at the meeting.

BARRY KEEL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

GROWTH AND PROSPERITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

PART 1 (PUBLIC PANEL)

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for non-attendance by panel members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

3. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 8)

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 October 2010.

4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

To receive reports on business which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. TRACKING RESOLUTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

(Pages 9 - 12)

The Panel will monitor the progress of previous resolutions and receive any relevant feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

6. WRITTEN AND VERBAL UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT POLICY CHANGES

(Pages 13 - 14)

The Panel will be provided with an update on Government Policy changes.

7. THE PLYMOUTH REPORT

(Pages 15 - 16)

The Panel will receive the Plymouth Report and identify any issues for possible inclusion in its work programme.

8. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 3

The Panel will be provided with an update on the Local Transport Plan 3.

9. EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY, PLANNING AND PROGRESS

The Panel will be provided with a presentation on Equality of Opportunity, Planning and Progress.

10. POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW OF DEVON HOME CHOICE

The Panel will be provided with a presentation on the Post Implementation Review of Devon Home Choice.

11. PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY HOMES PRESENTATION

The Panel will be provided with a presentation on Plymouth Community Homes.

12. WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 17 - 20)

To review the panels work programme 10/11.

13. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it (they) involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

PART II (PRIVATE PANEL)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

that under the law, the panel is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

Nil.

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Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Monday 18 October 2010

PRESENT:

Councillor Nicholson, in the Chair.
Councillor Mrs Nelder, Vice Chair.
Councillors Berrow, K Foster, Mrs Nicholson (substitute), Roberts,
Mrs Stephens, Wheeler and Wright.

Apologies for absence: Councillor Martin Leaves

Also in attendance: Gill Peele, Business Manager for Development and Regeneration, Anthony Payne the Director for Development, Councillor Fry, the Portfolio holder for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development, David Draffan, Assistant Director for Economic Development, Patrick Knight, Business Improvement District Manager, Ben Scheuregger, Spatial Planning Officer and Peter Hearn, Urban Planning Co-ordinator.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 4.45 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

39. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest in accordance with the code of conduct.

40. **MINUTES**

The Democratic Support Officer informed the Panel that the 12 July 2010 Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel's minutes were mistakenly attached to the agenda. Copies of the 13 September 2010 minutes were given to members at the meeting.

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2010 were confirmed as a correct record.

41. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

42. **TRACKING RESOLUTIONS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

The Chair updated the Panel on their tracking resolutions and feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.

With regards to tracking resolutions, the Panel was informed that –

- (i) the maximum Local Housing Allowance (LHA) payable for eligible properties in Plymouth was emailed to Panel Members; this item would therefore be greyed out as complete;
- (ii) the number of households expected to be affected by housing benefit and local housing allowance cuts was emailed to Panel Members; this item would therefore be greyed out as complete;
- (iii) responses to minute numbers 32 (i), 32 (iv), 32 (v), 32 (vii), 32 (viii), and 32 (ix) of 13 September 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP meeting were provided in the Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the agenda; these items would therefore be greyed out as complete;
- (iv) a response to the question regarding the scope of sustainability and climate change would be clarified in the November 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP meeting

With regards to feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, the Panel was informed that –

- (v) the format and the content of the quarterly scrutiny report could be amended.

43. **COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ROAD CLOSURE POLICY TASK AND FINISH GROUP UPDATE**

The Chair provided the Panel with an update on the Community Events and Road Closure task and finish group and directed members to the final report attached to the agenda.

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- i) event organisers were required to apply for a temporary traffic regulation order (TTRO) in order to close a road for an event; it would depend on the type of road as to whether a TTRO was required.
- ii) the Tamerton Foliot fete was on the recommended list of approved events in which it was suggested that no fees be charged to the organiser due to the historical longevity of the event.

Agreed that the recommendations listed in the final report be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for their approval:

- 1) that representations be made to Central Government in relation to the medium used to advertise Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders e.g. Local Government Association, Department for Transport, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government;

- 2) that there be an approved list of events for which the Council will provide Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) free of charge and that this will be approved by the Cabinet Member for Transport. The list will include civic and other similar events that have been held across the city for at least the last 5 years. The list to be reviewed on an annual basis
- 3) that the department of the Council responsible for the decision to hold any event not included in the approved list, should provide the budget for the reimbursement of the cost of the Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) to Transport & Highways
- 4) that Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) continue to be advertised in the local newspaper for all events except those falling within the criteria for street parties and fetes (pending any Government response from the representation)
- 5) that a charging policy be implemented based on the proposed categories and charges, and be reviewed annually (or sooner if a change of law). Any changes to be approved by Cabinet member for Transport. The criteria are to be finalised by officers.
- 6) that officers be thanked for their efforts to recognise and support the organisers of smaller events
- 7) the panel also welcomes the investigation of parade and carnival routes and whether these can be standardised to simplify the TTRO process.

44. **GOVERNMENT POLICY CHANGES**

The Panel was provided with an update on Government Policy changes and noted the report.

45. **CIP 12 - DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

Anthony Payne the Director for Development and Councillor Fry, the Portfolio holder for Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development provided the Panel with an update on CIP 12 – Delivering Sustainable Growth.

The Panel was informed that –

- (i) in order to deliver sustainable communities the complete programme of Local Development Framework documents, which were formulated to drive forward city growth, were on target; the next Development Plan Documents (DPD) included the Derriford and Seaton Area Action Plan and the Sustainable Neighbourhoods DPD, are due to go to Cabinet;

- (ii) the delivery of strategic development in the City Centre, Devonport, Millbay, Sherford and Plymstock was on target; nine site planning statements had been produced to help developers interested in investing on these sites. 18 further planning statements were being considered for this year to try and stimulate the market;
- (iii) the implementation of market recovery measures were on target; the scheme itself was being actively implemented and was regularly the basis for negotiations over the development tariff; this scheme would be monitored;
- (iv) the delivery of the local economic strategy was on target – the Wealthy Theme Group had been reconstituted and now consisted of more private sector members. These meetings focused on the 5 key areas of business, skills, centres, participation and leadership;
- (v) the implementation of the Infrastructure Delivery Programme was on target – the draft plan would be ready by the end of November 2010; this programme would feed into the Local Investment Plan;
- (vi) the implementation of the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan was on target – this plan was considered a national exemplar and was endorsed by 19 organisations including neighbouring authorities and statutory agencies. Officers were seeking to extend the project for a further five years;
- (vii) the draft master plan for Saltram Park was to go out to consultation on 1 November 2010 with a final draft likely in January 2011;
- (viii) a six week consultation was due to start on 18 October 2010 for the Central Park master plan;
- (ix) the Stepping Stones to Nature project was becoming an exemplar of community involvement in decision making with a number of successful improvements to local green spaces already delivered. It was calculated that 42% of Plymouth was green space;
- (x) the Planning Services Business Improvement Plan had been published;
- (xi) the majority of programme boards had been set up and were meeting on a regular basis;
- (xii) the delivery of the local investment programme which optimised external funding and secured best value from the Plymouth Development Tariff was on target. The Local Investment Plan aligned investment behind the city's priorities and was being revised. This plan would assist with any bids made to the Regional Growth Fund;

- (xiii) marketing in Plymouth in order to resource regional and national funding streams was currently on target; the Local Investment Plan would be used to help justify bidding for funds such as the Regional Growth Fund and the New Homes Bonus. Plymouth City Council was working with the Chamber and other partners in order to focus on marketing and investment and specific projects in Plymouth;
- (xiv) the Regional Spatial Strategy had been revoked by the Secretary of State with the intention being that it is abolished;
- (xv) the delivery of effective sub regional partnership working had been completed;
- (xvi) the delivery of low/zero carbon development was on target; the Language & Sherford District Energy Reports completed;
- (xvii) addressing of natural resource management implications on the growth agenda was on target; the Shoreline Management Plan was due to go to Cabinet in October 2010;

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (xviii) the verbal briefing report would be emailed to the Democratic Support Officer in order to be circulated to all members of the Panel;
- (xix) Plymouth was approximately 11th out of several hundred authorities in delivering major planning applications.

The Chair thanked Councillor Fry for his open invitation to attend informal meetings with himself and Anthony Payne and also praised officers from the Development and Regeneration directorate that had previously attended Panel meetings for their depth of knowledge and effort in compiling reports.

46. **SECTION 106 REVENUE - PLANNING OBLIGATIONS MONITORING**

Paul Barnard, Assistant Director for Planning Services, Ben Scheuregger, Spatial Planning Officer and Peter Hearn, Urban Planning Co-ordinator, provided the Panel with a further update on Planning Obligations following the first report to the 13th September 2010 meeting.

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (i) Panel members were advised to contact case officers in the planning department if they required more information on individual section 106 clauses or the relevant spending department as appropriate;
- (ii) a section 106 database was used to analyse and monitor section 106 revenue; and whilst this was currently fit for purpose new requirements associated with the Plymouth Development Tariff and the Community Infrastructure Levy necessitated investment in new software;

- (iii) building control officers and the planning compliance team were a useful contact in monitoring section 106 funds;
- (iv) if within five years of the legal agreement the section 106 money had not been spent, there was a possibility that the funds would need to be returned to the developer with interest;
- (v) developers have the responsibility to make the section 106 payment to the Council once the trigger point had been reached;
- (vi) planning permission was normally granted for a three year period but was only required to commence construction during that timescale, and not necessarily to complete the whole scheme;
- (vii) the Assistant Director for Planning Services would provide Panel Members with an update on recent government legislative changes relating to houses in multiple occupation and advise on how this related to properties within conservation areas;
- (viii) section 106 projects were required to go through the Capital Delivery Board as section 106 funds often related to Capital Programme Delivery

The Chair thanked the officers for the fantastic thoroughness and detail provided in the report and recognised that officers had done their utmost to answer the Panel's questions.

Agreed that –

- 1) the Panel welcome the Planning Obligations report and circulate it to all elected Members of the Council for their information;
- 2) the Panel support the recommendation from Planning Services regarding the requirement of new software that would improve the monitoring of Section 106 funds.

47. **LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (LSP) WEALTHY THEME GROUP UPDATE**

David Draffan, Assistant Director for Economic Development provided the Panel with an update on the Local Strategic Partnership, Wealthy Theme Group.

The Panel was informed that –

- (i) the membership of the wealthy theme group had changed so that 8 of 12 members were now from the private sector;
- (ii) the wealthy theme group was responsible for delivering the local economic strategy;

- (iii) a review had been commissioned to analyse the economic balance of jobs in Plymouth;
- (iv) it was considered that Plymouth was currently over-dependent on public sector jobs

The Panel noted the update and thanked David Draffan for his attendance.

48. **TOURISM / VISITOR STRATEGY AND PLACE MANAGEMENT**

David Draffan, Assistant Director for Economic Development and Patrick Knight, Business Improvement District Manager, provided the Panel with an update on the Visitor Strategy and Place Management.

The Panel was informed that –

- (i) the Place Management Strategy was approved by the City Council in April 2010;
- (ii) the aim of the strategy was to attract more visitors to Plymouth and drive the economy by capitalising on main attractions such as the Waterfront;
- (iii) the visitor economy consist of pubs, shops, attractions, marinas as well as signage, the heritage, gateways and the environment;
- (iv) currently 7,500 jobs in Plymouth relate to the visitor economy;
- (v) there is an aim to create 7,000 new jobs over the next 15 years;
- (vi) visitors want a well managed visitor experience that is welcoming clean, safe, easy to get around and well marketed;
- (vii) the Place Management Strategy encouraged partnership working to address issues in the area that business trade;
- (viii) Destination Plymouth had been created as part of the strategy to aid marketing, share administration duties and produce websites;
- (ix) the Waterfront Partnership had been created as part of the strategy to build consensus and agree an agenda for improving the area;
- (x) the City Centre company would continue to empower business and attract investment;
- (xi) Destination Plymouth would begin to develop a Visitor Strategy for Plymouth

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (xii) the Place Management Strategy would provide a single organisation partnership between the city and the community;

- (xiii) the new waterfront manager would undertake a comprehensive audit of business in the waterfront area;
- (xiv) the Cambridge model was used to identify the approximate number of visitors to Plymouth;
- (xv) Officers were continuing to pursue opportunities for deep water mooring in Plymouth;
- (xvi) it was not yet decided how far the scope of the plans for the waterfront Business Improvement District would span;
- (xvii) the Assistant Director for Economic Development would update members on the prime tourism assets which were currently under utilized.

The Chair thanked the officers for their attendance.

49. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Panel noted their work programme for 2010/2011. Under this item the membership for the Highways Maintenance Task and Finish Group was discussed. It was agreed that Councillor Nicholson would chair the task and finish group and that Councillors Nelder, Wright, Berrow and Foster would be on the Panel. The Democratic Support Officer would circulate dates to members in the near future.

50. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.

TRACKING RESOLUTIONS
Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date / Minute number	Resolution	Explanation / Minute	Officer	Progress	Target date
Minute 30 (i), 13 September 2010	the maximum Local Housing Allowance (LHA) payable for eligible properties in Plymouth would be provided to Panel Members via email before the next Panel meeting;	Government Policy Changes	Stuart Palmer	The response to this question was emailed to Panel Members on 16.09.10	Before 18.10.10
Minute 30 (ii), 13 September 2010	the number of households expected to be affected by housing benefit and local housing allowance cuts would be provided to Panel Members via email before the next Panel meeting;	Government Policy Changes	Stuart Palmer	The response to this question was emailed to Panel Members on 16.09.10	Before 18.10.10
Minute 32 (i), 13 September 2010	the list of outstanding planning obligations, including information on progress in actioning these, would be presented to the next meeting;	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10
Minute 32 (iv), 13 September 2010	officers welcomed feedback from Councillors regarding the governance arrangements and opportunity for member engagement in the planning obligation process, and would provide further information to the next meeting on this matter	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10

Minute 32 (v), 13 September 2010	if project developers failed to make section 106 payments to the council, officers would seek to recover the money as debt. If a developer went bust it was thought that the section 106 obligation was tied to the site and the obligation would be sold with the site, however further information would be provided in response to this question at the next meeting;	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10
Minute 32 (vii), 13 September 2010	officers would provide a flow chart to Panel Members detailing the spending process of 106 money and would highlight the different levels of process involved in getting funds spent;	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10
Minute 32 (viii), 13 September 2010	officers would provide a list of improvements made to the section 106 funds data base which monitors and records all clauses in all Section 106 agreements, and provide more information on the administration of the planning obligations process;	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10
Minutes 32 (ix), 13 September 2010	officers would provide an explanation to the next meeting of the gap between financial contributions negotiated and secured as identified in Table 1 of the report.	Section 106 - Planning Obligations Monitoring	Jonathan Bell	The response to this question was submitted to the Panel in the Section 106 Revenue – Planning Obligations Monitoring report attached to the 18 October 2010 Growth and Prosperity OSP agenda.	18.10.10

Minute 36, 13 September 2010	<u>Agreed</u> that the scope of sustainability and climate change be clarified by the Director for Development & Regeneration.	Work Programme	Anthony Payne	The Business Manager for Development and Regeneration informed the Panel at their 18 October 2010 meeting that a response to this question would be provided at 8 November 2010 meeting.	8 Nov 2010
Minute 45 (xviii), 18 October 2010	<u>Agreed</u> the verbal briefing report would be emailed to the Democratic Support Officer in order to be circulated to all members of the Panel.	CIP 12 – Delivering Sustainable Growth	Anthony Payne	The briefing report was emailed to Panel members on 21.10.10	
Minute 48 (xvii)	<u>Agreed</u> the Assistant Director for Economic Development would update members on the prime tourism assets which were currently under utilized.	Tourism/Visitor Strategy and Place Management	David Draffan		

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Date/min number	Resolution / Recommendation	Explanation / Minute	Response	Explanation
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Minute 37, Quarterly Scrutiny Report / Review	<u>Recommended</u> to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board that the format and layout of future reports be amended to add interest and better highlight effective scrutiny.	The Panel considered the quarterly reports currently did not effectively show how scrutiny added value.	<u>Agreed</u> that – 1.there should be consistency in the way Members were addressed across all reports; 2.the format and content of the quarterly reports be reviewed. Panel Chairs, in liaison with Lead Officers, to work toward developing a new and interesting format and style for future reports, examples of which to be trialled when the next quarterly update s were due.	
Minute 43, Community Events and Road Closure Policy Task and Finish Group Update	<u>Recommended</u> that the list of recommendations as set out in the final task and finish group report be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.	The Community Events and Road Closure Policy Task and Finish Group report has been completed and therefore sent to the 27.10.10 Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.		

Grey = Completed (once completed resolutions have been noted by the panel they will be removed from this document)

Red = Urgent – item not considered at last meeting or requires an urgent response

GROWTH & PROSPERITY OVERVIEW SCRUTINY PANEL**Briefing Note: Government Policy Changes****Nov 2010****1. Preventing Homelessness Grant 2011/12 – 2015/16****Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announcement;**

Because of the excellent value for money secured from homelessness grant and the key role it plays in supporting the vulnerable, Ministers have decided to protect this grant, holding it at this year's level of investment this year which totals £100million. Ministers attach particular priority to work to prevent single homelessness and rough sleeping.

As part of work to simplify funding for local authorities, Preventing Homelessness Grant will be paid as Area Based Grant from April 2011. This grant will be paid directly to all local housing authorities including district councils. Smaller funding lines for housing management activities such as fraud and under-occupation will also be rolled into this single Preventing Homelessness Grant. The total grant funding over the next 4 years will exceed £400 million: £109m in 2011/12, £109m in 2012/13, £108m in 2013/14 and £107m in 2014/15.

We have carefully reviewed the funding we retain at national level to support work with the voluntary sector, so that we can allocate as much as possible to local authorities. £19m each year will be retained nationally, with a total of £90m in 2011/12, £90m in 2012/13, £89m in 2013/14 and £88m in 2014/15 being allocated to local authorities through Area Based Grant. By comparison, we only allocated £55m in grant to local authorities at the beginning of the current financial year. Detailed allocations by authority are to be published as part of the local government finance settlement in early December. I hope that this information will help you to start planning your resources for future years.

Other key elements of the settlement which will impact on your work include:

- Cuts to the Supporting People programme have been minimised, with £6 billion to be invested and a gradual reduction of 12% over the next 4 years.
- Supporting People funding will be rolled into formula grant as part of measures to simplify local government funding.
- Capital funding totalling £37.5m has been secured to launch a second round of the Places of Change hostels improvement programme, with this additional investment starting in April 2012.

- More than £200m has been secured to continue the Mortgage Rescue Scheme to support vulnerable homeowners and prevent homelessness as a result of repossession.
- CLG has protected funding for Council budgets and spending on frontline services. CLG is reducing revenue funding for Local Government by 22%, compared with 33% for CLG as a whole.

2. Planning for Schools Development

I wish to draw your attention to a public consultation on 'Planning for Schools Development', which the Government launched on 14 October.

This consultation document invites views on the Government's proposals to make changes to the General Permitted Development Order (GPDO) to give a permitted development right for change of use planning permission for schools development, to complement the Government's 'free schools' policy. This consultation follows the Ministerial Statement made to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 26 July.

The consultation document is available at the attached link:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningschoolsconsultation>.

The closing date for responses is **Friday, 10 December 2010**.

Plymouth Report Summary



General observation

9 The growth agenda makes Plymouth distinct and touches all aspects of partnership activity, which is not surprising given its scale. For example, it interweaves with health as both a vehicle for planning healthy communities, with better quality housing, services and improved access to specialist facilities, which can help reduce inequalities and prevent poor health; and, is a means of attracting more high value jobs and companies to the city, with the development of the medical sciences, hospital and university. It can, therefore, be the thread that binds a range of activities together in a highly focused way.

The city and its customer

10 Although residents feel positive about Plymouth as a place, the city is near the average across a number of service satisfaction areas. There is no shared single contact point or customer management strategy across agencies evident. Some services, like health care, are provided to a single customer in many different settings by many organisations. The city is perceived as being comparatively isolated and lacking in a dynamic image, despite its discovery heritage, though these are issues that are being addressed. Visitors within its catchment area have a reasonably good view of the city and there is scope to build on the existing visitor base.

Wealth

11 The city is successfully implementing a spatial framework and developing the infrastructure to meet its very ambitious vision of becoming one of Europe's major waterfront cities. Many major schemes and investments are already delivered or in progress and the changes to the city are visible. There are clear strategies in place around the economy, health, housing, transport and culture. Annual monitoring of the Local Development Framework shows that it is progressing strongly and it is seen as a national exemplar. However, the city's current profile does not meet that level of ambition, as the population is in the main not yet sufficiently entrepreneurial or skilled in the right areas. For instance, self-employment is significantly lower than the regional and national average; occupationally the city is under represented in managerial, senior official, professional and associate occupations, as well as in the finance, IT and other business industrial classification; there is an over-representation in public sector employment, while

Plymouth Report August 2010 - Executive Summary

Key challenges

- The growth agenda is what makes Plymouth distinct and it can be the thread that binds a range of activities together.
- The city is successfully implementing a spatial framework and developing the infrastructure to meet its very ambitious vision, but its current profile does not match that ambition as in the main it is not sufficiently entrepreneurial or skilled in the right areas.
- Health is improving but health inequalities are wide and are linked to a range of other inequalities that tend to converge around the western edge of the city.
- Educational attainment is improving well, but entry to higher education is relatively low when compared to other cities and performance around vocational qualifications could be better.
- The voluntary and community sector in Plymouth is not as large as in comparable cities at a time when there is likely to be increasing demands made on it.
- The same customers are often dealt with by many agencies in many places, but there is no shared contact point and customer management strategy across agencies.
- There is currently no resource plan for the LSP covering people, finance and assets, while there is growing pressure on how more limited resources can be used across the partnership and risks and impacts assessed

recent employment growth has been in part-time work; whilst not lacking skills, relatively low numbers of people are skilled to Level 4 and above; it does comparatively poorly for young people going onto higher education and has a comparatively low gross value added score - which is a means of measuring the output of the local economy and productivity. It is not certain that the city will achieve its desired population increase to time, though estimates that have just come out show a rise, and a lot will depend on the composition of that increase if it is to be the dynamic, vibrant waterfront city with cutting edge industries and a strong cultural offer.

Health

12 Health has improved across the population with life expectancy increasing and now standing at 81.9 years for women and 76.8 years for men, which is a slight widening of the gender gap and just above the national average for women (81.8yrs) and a below that for men (77.7yrs). Health inequalities feature strongly in Plymouth and together with crime, educational attainment, housing quality and deprivation levels generally converge around the western boundary of the city, with multiple demands on multiple services. At the extreme there is a 12 year gap between neighbourhoods at the top and bottom end of the spectrum. When comparing the bottom and top 20% of areas the gap is 7 years for men and nearly 3 years for women. Health in the city is significantly worse than the national average in

17 of the 32 comparative health categories. For example, estimated rates for smoking, healthy eating and obesity in adults are worse than average; physical activity is similar, as is childhood obesity. Teenage pregnancy and hospital stays for alcohol related harm are both higher than average. Early deaths from cancer, heart disease and stroke are falling, though new cases of malignant melanoma are amongst the highest in England. The proportion of the population that is elderly is below average, but is growing numerically and there are consequently rising demands for care packages.

Safe/strong

13 Plymouth is a comparatively safe city when compared to other urban conurbations, with falling overall crime, particularly acquisitive crime, such as theft of and from vehicles, domestic burglary and robbery. Offending linked to the night time economy and alcohol remains problematic for the city with drunkenness, alcohol related violence and offences such as sexual assaults and domestic abuse main issues. Violence against the person has reduced over the past few years, though the city still performs poorly against its national comparative group for assault related crimes. Whilst violence and drunkenness impact on the economy and health, there is currently no shared city-wide approach to addressing it or joint commissioning in place. There is a strong focus on safeguarding children and adults and supporting the most vulnerable in communities. There are excellent examples of partnership working in relation to emergencies and critically sensitive events, where the city received a green flag under the former CAA inspection. Safeguarding will always be a concern, particularly at a time of public sector cutbacks, and there are large numbers of children and young people in care or with child protection plans. The environment is relatively clean and the city has undergone a major change in the collection of waste. Satisfaction results for waste compare well with other public services in Plymouth, though not so well with some national figures. Success has been achieved around social cohesion and the city has been officially classed as 'low' for tension for some years, though it is recognised that the city's expansion will need to be managed in a cohesive way. The voluntary and community sector, though making good progress from the mid-nineties, is not as developed as in comparable cities according to the local Whitfield study and National Study of the Third Sector. This needs to be seen in the context of the national drive for a bigger role for the sector.

Wise

14 The city has a cultural strategy and is trying to improve its cultural and sporting offer through the development of initiatives like the Life Centre, Plymouth Report August 2010 - Executive Summary

World Cup bid and major events like the Pilgrim 400 anniversary and British Art Show. The creative industries sector is one of the six priority growth sectors. Both the University of Plymouth and City College are focused outwards on business and skills. There is a strong focus on educational attainment and improving learning environments, though progress with the schools building programme is affected by current national cutbacks. Attainment, together with safeguarding, is going to be a priority for the new coalition government. Progress with educational attainment has been good and needs to be maintained. The Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and 4 have all continued to improve; the city does better than nationally for getting 5 GCSEs A*-C, but is below the national average when English and Maths are included. Although the geographic attainment gap has been narrowed, it is still significant; while girls consistently out perform boys. Comparatively low number of young people are going into higher education when contrasted with other cities and keeping or attracting those who already have such qualifications is recognised as necessary. The city could also think how it compares internationally on attainment and other matters, given its ambitions and desire to raise aspirations.

Capacity

15 Although performance is generally good and finances managed well it should be noted that the resource management element of the 2009 Use of Resources assessment only met minimum requirements across each of the partners inspected – i.e. Primary Care Trust (PCT), Council, Police and Fire and Rescue Service. In the current climate there is likely to be a sharper focus on the need for further enhancing joint commissioning activity, shared service provision and support functions, as a means of more effective delivery, improved value for money and cost savings. The first draft of an investment plan for the city has been completed, though there is no LSP resource plan as such that would include the strategic use of resources like people, assets and finance across the partnership. There is a wealth of data, numerous needs analysis and multiple strategies and plans across the agencies. They are, however, not always aligned in their scheduling, can contain contradictory data and do not always demonstrate shared high level objectives. Staff survey data from some public agencies, though containing many positive findings, shows that staff do not feel they are being sufficiently involved in the improvement agenda. This should be seen in the context of partners needing to do more with less available resources, with innovation increasingly likely to be valued.■

Work programme	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
Economic Development											
LSP Wealthy theme group minutes and updated themed action plans	14			13	18			10		7	
Tourism/Visitor Strategy and Place Management					18						
Worklessness										7	
Transport & Highways											
LTP3 (15 year Strategy and 3 year Implementation plan)				13		8		10			
Equality of opportunity planning and progress (new name for Accessibility Planning)				13		8					
Eastern Corridor Briefings		12		13							
Community Events/ Road Closures; initial report on work in progress to improve event safety and policy development for recovery of costs		12									
Planning Services											
Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report								10			
S106 Revenue; (September) Initial report outlining latest situation regarding revenue (October) Follow up presentation by Officers.				13	18						
Port of Plymouth Study; presentation on initial findings		12						10			

Work programme	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
Future Waste Disposal											
Waste PFI (Joint scrutiny PCC/Torbay/Devon)		16/ 18									
Other Topics not yet included in work programme											
Enterprise and Skills											
Commercial Property Asset Management Strategy											
Joint Finance and Performance Monitoring including LAA Performance Monitoring (subject to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board referring issues to the Panel)											
Monitor CIPs that the Panel is responsible for – CIP 5 (Providing better and more affordable housing) CIP 10 (Disposing of waste and increasing recycling) CIP 11 (Improving access across the city) CIP 12 (Delivering sustainable growth) <i>CIPs have been replaced with four priorities and terms of reference will be amended to reflect changes.</i>		12 21 12		13 13		8 8		10 10			
Quarterly Scrutiny Reports				13				10		7	
Task and Finish Groups (brought forward)											
Highways Maintenance (including Transport Asset Management Plan)						8/ 17	7				

Work programme	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
Community Events and Road Closure Policy			26		6						
Driving Speeds on the Hoe (held pending Councillor Call for Action)											
South West Devon Waste Partnership (Joint Scrutiny Review)			16/ 18								

Key

New item
