

CITY OF PLYMOUTH DRAFT

Subject: Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel Quarterly Report
Committee: Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Date: 13 September 2010
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Part: Part I

Executive Summary:

This report sets out a review of the Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel for the period March 2010 to July 2010

Corporate Plan 2010-2013:

The Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel provide strategic scrutiny of the following Corporate Improvement Priorities and key areas:

- CIP5 - Providing better and more affordable housing
 - CIP11 - Improving access to the city
 - CIP12 - Delivering Sustainable Growth
 - The strategic and operational activities of the Department for Development & Regeneration
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Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications: Including finance, human, IT and land

None

Other Implications: e.g. Section 17 Community Safety, Health and Safety, Risk Management, Equalities Impact Assessment, etc.

None

Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

That the report is noted

Alternative options considered and reasons for recommended action:

N/A

Background papers:

Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny minutes and forward plan

Sign off: N/A

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel Report

March 2010 – July 2010

1. Introduction

1.1 This report describes the work of the Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel during the period March 2010 – July 2010. This includes the following meetings;

- a) Monday 22nd March 2010
- b) Monday 14th June 2010
- c) Monday 12th July 2010

2. Scope of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel

2.1 The Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel are primarily concerned with the strategic scrutiny of the following Corporate Improvement Priorities and key areas:

- CIP5 - Providing better and more affordable housing
- CIP11 - Improving access to the city
- CIP12 - Delivering Sustainable Growth
- The strategic and operational activities of the Department for Development & Regeneration

2.2 The detailed terms of reference for the panel are contained in Appendix 1.

2.3 As this report covers meetings held during two municipal years, the tables below show the membership and attendance of the panel separately.

March 2010	Name	Attendance
Councillor (Chair)	D.Viney	1
Councillor (Vice Chair)	M.Coker	1
Councillor	R.Ball	1
Councillor	M.King	0
Councillor	Martin Leaves	0
Councillor	D.Reynolds	1
Councillor	B. Roberts	1
Councillor	Mrs J.Nelder	0
Councillor	G.Wheeler	1
Councillor (substitute)	N.Wildy	1
Councillor (substitute)	Mrs P Nicholson	1
Lead Officer	G.Peele	1
Democratic Support	H.Rickman	1

June / July 2010	Name	Attendance (2 meetings)
Councillor (Chair)	P.Nicholson	2
Councillor (Vice Chair)	Mrs J.Nelder	2
Councillor	B. Roberts	2
Councillor	K. Foster	2
Councillor (substitute)	Beer	1
Councillor (substitute)	Browne	1
Councillor	Martin Leaves	1
Councillor	Mrs S.Stephens	1
Councillor	P. Berrow	2
Councillor	M. Wright	2
Councillor	G. Wheeler	2
Lead Officer	G.Peele	2
Democratic Support	H.Rickman	2

Task and Finish Groups did not meet during the period of this report.

- 2.4 The Panel, through effective strategic and operational scrutiny, supports the following cabinet members and CMT officers

Title	Name
Cabinet Member (Planning, Strategic Housing & Economic Development)	Ted Fry
Cabinet Member (Transport)	Kevin Wiggins
Director for Development & Regeneration	Anthony Payne

- 2.5 The panel has a budget of £2,000 to support the scrutiny work

3. Key achievements during this period

3.1 March 2010

- Growth & Regeneration for the city

This meeting focussed on understanding the priorities for the Development & Regeneration Department and what is needed to turn strategic planning of the Growth agenda for the city into the delivery of the vision. The new Director of Development & Regeneration gave a presentation on how the department has been restructured to help drive forward and support the delivery of growth & regeneration, and provided information on the previous years inward investment and successes. The panel considered and supported proposals for new governance arrangements, which are needed to achieve more efficient and effective coordination with partners both across the city and sub region. However the panel recommended that criteria be set for effective measurement of success and that an update and progress report against each programme Board is provided at a future meeting in the 2010/2011 work programme.

- Accessibility Planning

The panel scrutinised progress with the implementation of Accessibility Action Plans for Derriford Hospital and Young People. Although the panel were please that the Derriford

AAP has been adopted it expressed concern that work in support of the young people AAP had not progressed as far. It was agreed that a further review of Accessibility Planning take place in the new municipal year.

3.2. June / July 2010

- Hoe Foreshore Maintenance

A task and finish group had been actively meeting on site visits during the municipal year 2009/2010 to review the health & safety improvement works being carried out on the Hoe foreshore. As it was not possible to arrange a final meeting with the task and finish panel members during March 2010, the panel arranged for officers to present a final report and risk assessment to evidence that improvements carried out have reduced the health & safety risk rating to amber from red, as required by the Audit Committee.

- Growth & Regeneration for the city

Due to the changes in the panel membership, the first meeting of the new municipal year the panel focussed again on the Growth & Regeneration priorities and the key challenges namely; to deliver the Local Economic Strategy, Local Transport Plan 3 and to develop a fit for purpose Strategic Housing service to improve the quality of private sector housing and to increase the supply and mix of housing and regeneration of key neighbourhoods. This briefing provided a firm base from which the panel were able to plan their work programme effectively.

- Economic growth

The Chair of LSP Wealthy theme group attended and discussed the planned new approach for the Wealthy theme group to become private sector led and delivery focussed, and that meetings would be based around the delivery of the five Local Economic Strategy themes; Skills, Business, centres, Participation and Leadership. It was agreed that minutes of WTG meetings be circulated and that the work programme will include an update on the themed action plans in the autumn. The panel will then consider any specific area of work or theme that they feel requires closer scrutiny.

- Port of Plymouth Study

The panel requested that officers provide an update on the Port of Plymouth Study, which was to provide an evidence base for a port master plan, the Local Development Framework, Core Strategy review, the Local Economic Strategy review and the Local Transport Plan 3. The members were keen to know how far this study had got. The panel considered the SWOT analysis and the possible next steps with an appreciation that targeted diversification or major step change / reuse of waterfront land are preferred by stakeholders. An update report was requested during the year.

- Private Sector Housing : Peer Challenge

This was the first of the service reviews provided by Strategic Housing and was centred on the Improvement Plan completed following an Idea peer challenge review. The panel requested that the officers report back on progress against the Improvement Plan and plans for 2011/2012 later in the work programme.

- Plymouth Community Homes

The panel hosted an all member event to receive a progress report on Plymouth Community Homes, as part of the agreement at transfer. The panel were satisfied at this stage post transfer but look forward to hosting and receiving a further update report in November 2010. The panel will be particularly interested in the Government funding commitments and how Plymouth Community Homes plan to improve opportunities for resident involvement and scrutiny.

- Task and Finish groups

Task and Finish groups have been established for reviews of Highways Maintenance and Events Management & Road Closure Charging Policy. Meetings will take place from August onwards.

4. On the Horizon

- 4.1 The work programme has been agreed in principle but the actual content needs to be flexible depending upon the impact of future announcements on Government funding. The panel will continue to maintain an oversight of progress on long term growth targets/projects, but are specifically interested in maximising revenue opportunities and the emerging role of the new Economic Development service. The panel receive a briefing note from officers at each meeting explaining the impact of the Government policies and will be wishing to understand how the Local Enterprise Partnerships will set alongside the proposed new governance arrangements for the Growth & Regeneration agenda.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the progress of the Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny panel is noted by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Gill Peele

Lead Officer Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

23rd Aug 2010

Growth & Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference

- To review new and existing policies and consider how they may be improved and developed;
- To monitor the budget and performance of the Cabinet Member, Department and partners to ensure that the priorities for the area are being delivered upon;
- To monitor performance against the relevant Corporate Improvement Priorities;
- To review Policies within the Budget and Policy Framework;
- To consider Equality Impact Assessments against new and existing policies;
- To investigate local issues to find out how the council and its partners can improve to meet the needs of local people;
- To make recommendations about service delivery to the Cabinet (via the Board)
- To review and scrutinise the performance of partner organisations
- To set up Ad-Hoc Working Groups as and when required;
- To produce quarterly progress reports to go to the management board

Cabinet Members

- Transport
- Safer and Stronger Communities (until Housing Stock Transfer)
- Planning, Strategic Housing and Economic Development
- Customers Services (Street Scene, Waste and Sustainability) formally Street Scene, Waste and Sustainability

Directorate

- Development and Regeneration
- Planning
- Transport
- Strategic Housing
- Economic Development
- Sustainability and Climate Change

Corporate Improvement Priorities (CIPs)

- Better Homes (CIP 5)
- Waste and Recycling (CIP 10) (This is first part only, i.e. long term waste disposal solution)
- Transport (CIP 11)
- Sustainable Growth (CIP 12)

LSP Link

- Wealthy Theme Group