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Growth and Prosperity Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Monday 13 June 2011

PRESENT:

Councillor Nicholson, in the Chair.

Councillor Coker, Vice Chair.

Councillors Berrow, Churchill, K Foster, Martin Leaves, Murphy, Mrs Nelder, Wheeler, Williams and Wright.

Also in attendance: Anthony Payne – Director for Development and Regeneration, Gill Peele – Business Manager for Development and Regeneration, Clive Perkin – Assistant Director for Transport and Councillor Wigen – Cabinet Member for Transport.

The meeting started at 2.00 pm and finished at 4.00 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.

1. TO NOTE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The panel noted the appointment of Councillor Nicholson as Chair and Councillor Coker as Vice Chair for the municipal year 2011/12.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED REPRESENTATIVES

Agreed that co-opted representatives would be co-opted to the panel as and when necessary.

4. MINUTES

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2011 are confirmed as a correct record.

Under this item panel Members raised the protocol for sending out 'to follow' reports as discussed under minute 78 'Chair's Urgent Business' at the 7 March 2011 meeting. The Democratic Support Officer advised the panel that it was best practice for reports to be attached to the agenda and despatched five clear working days before the meeting. It was highlighted however that 'to follow' reports could be circulated in exceptional circumstances.

5. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

6. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The panel noted its Terms of Reference.

7. **OVERVIEW OF PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION**

Anthony Payne, the Director for Development and Regeneration, gave a presentation together with Councillor Wiggins, the Cabinet Member for Transport, and Clive Perkin, the Assistant Director for Transport, on the key areas of work of the department and how it linked with the panel.

The panel was informed that –

- (a) the service areas within the department consisted of Planning Services, Transport, Strategic Housing and Economic Development;
- (b) key issues for the Planning Services department included the Localism Bill, Local Enterprise Partnerships, Travel to Work areas, Flood and Water Management Act, Connectivity agenda, Plymouth Plan and City Centre Regeneration;
- (c) key issues for the Economic Development department included the Growth Board, the New Visitor Plan, Business Support, Positively Plymouth Technology Innovation Centres and Marine and Advanced Engineering;
- (d) key issues for the Strategic Housing department included the Plymouth Housing Plan, Regeneration Projects, Homelessness and Prevention and Affordable Housing;
- (e) in 2010/11 the Transport department delivered the majority of projects in the capital programme, ensured that car parking fees had been kept at a competitive level, delivered major investment in the road network across the city, increased the road surfacing budget and continued to work on the East End Transport Scheme to ensure its completion in November 2011;
- (f) a new bus lane was incorporated near Derriford Hospital;
- (j) the camera car had been a great success;
- (k) officers were working hard trying to deliver earlier morning train arrivals from London to Plymouth;

In response to questions raised it was reported that –

- (l) the development enquiry service was one example of how the Economic Development department were raising money for the council;
- (m) utility companies are required to give three months advance notice of works to be done in the city; they are also responsible for communicating with local businesses and public transport operators;
- (n) there had been an 8-10% increase in the use of the Theatre Royal renovated car park; this was expensive to introduce and the car park had physical constraints;

The Chair thanked Anthony Payne, Clive Perkin and Councillor Wiggins for their attendance. Praise was also given in relation to the residents meetings and newsletters linked with the East End Transport Scheme.

Agreed Anthony Payne would circulate a briefing note to panel members highlighting the key issues for the Development and Regeneration department.

8. **DRAFT WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12**

The panel noted the previous work programme for 2010/11 and agreed to recommend to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board the following items for inclusion for 2011/12 Growth and Prosperity OSP work programme:

- Director briefing on priorities and delivery programmes;
- Government policy updates – written update;
- Localism Bill – written update;
- Local Enterprise Partnerships – written report and officer attendance;
- South West Regional Development Agency – written update;
- Strategic Housing – Housing of Multiple Occupancy update;
- Local Housing Allowance;
- Plymouth Community Homes presentation – to be hosted by this panel;
- Planning services – Review of Core Strategy Update;
- Implementation of Planning Service Policy Reviews;
- City Centre Development Projects – Colin Campbell Court update;
- Waterfront Partnership - BID

- Connectivity Issues – trains;
- Concessionary/Subsidised routes/ fares scheme – look at criteria, to see if it is fit for purpose;
- Highway Maintenance Task and Finish Group update;
- Technology Innovation Centres – written update;
- Employment opportunities and retention of jobs status report – written report.

The Chair advised panel members that the work programme would detail in which format they required specific items to be presented them (written report, verbal update or Powerpoint presentation); this would give officers an indication of what was expected of them to provide to the panel and would also aim to negate the need for 'to follow' agendas.

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

The panel was informed that there were no tracking resolutions or feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to note.

10. **FUTURE DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS**

The panel noted the dates and times of future meetings as set out in the agenda and agreed that the start time be postponed from 2pm to 3pm for all meetings.

11. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.