



ECONOMIC REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

DATE: 27/03/2013

PRESENT MEMBERS

Councillor Liz Monk in the Chair.

Councillors Tony Harrison, Mathew Isherwood, Marcus Johnstone, Arif Khan and Lian Pate

OFFICERS

Mike Cook	Director of Economic Regeneration
Paul Gatrell	Head of Housing and Development Control
Ryan Gifford	Support Officer
Imelda Grady	Democracy Officer

32. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Anne Kelly

33. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2013 were approved as a correct and signed by the Chair.

34. The Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings

Members gave consideration to the Notice of Key Decisions and Private Meetings for the period April to July 2013 and were invited to comment on those items relating to the remit of the committee.

Members asked for information on

- the options for the Burnley Market Programme
- progress on the Burnley Wood CPO
- the consultation on the effectiveness of Selective Licensing Pilot
- the timetable for the completion of the Manchester Road Station

Officers responded as follows

- the options for Burnley Market were still being finalised prior submission to the Executive
- Burnley Wood CPO had slipped to July 2013
- A report would be submitted to the Executive on 22nd April seeking approval to consult in the Trinity area for its re-designation as a

selective licensing area

- The timetable of works for the station were on target

35. State of the Local Economy

Members received a report on the state of the local economy in Burnley which showed emerging trends at the local, regional and national level in respect of job vacancies and support for businesses.

Members noted that the number of JSA claimants during January and February had increased, however the number of claimants remained lower than 12 months ago.

There number claiming out of work benefits had increased by 140 over the period May 2011 – May 2012 to 10,060 although this figured had reduced on the previous quarter when the figure had been 10,340.

Officers commented that the way that job centre vacancies data was now being released would make it difficult to report anything meaningful to committee in the future.

In respect of support for businesses, there were 22 companies looking at relocating to the borough.

The Business Support Team had supported the Work Inspiration Day at the Thomas Whitham 6th Form Campus and had held a Business Surgery with colleagues from the Corporate Engagement Team at the Lancashire Digital Technology Centre.

Mike Cook updated members on the positive developments at the Burnley Bridge Site and the Michelin site.

36. Homelessness Prevention Strategy

Paul Gattrell updated members on the progress with the homelessness prevention strategy. He said that consultants were being commissioned to produce evidence for the foundations of a strategy.

IT WAS AGREED

That this would be brought back to committee for discussion on how the priorities should be structured within the strategy.

37.	Burnley Branding Strategy
	<p>Mike Cook updated members on the Burnley Branding Strategy. He explained that Burnley's image was a key thread in the Economic Strategy to promote the area in such a way as to attract businesses and residents.</p> <p>He referred to the Burnley Bond Holder scheme which was a self sustainable group of businesses leading on public relations and publicity</p>

	<p>for the borough.</p> <p>Flex media had been engaged to influence public relations at a regional and national level. He encouraged members to visit the web site www.burnley.co.uk which contained lots of material on the good things about Burnley.</p> <p>The next steps would be to challenge behaviours and a cohort of around 200 people would be looking at how to be ambassadors for Burnley.</p>
38.	Other scrutiny committee work programmes
	<p>At the last meeting members requested, for information, sight of the work programmes for the Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Community Services Scrutiny Committee and consideration was given to these.</p>
39.	Work Programme 2012/13 and 2013/14
IT WAS AGREED	<p>Imelda Grady gave an update on the literacy and numeracy review and the outcome of the recent visit to the Job Centre Plus offices to witness the client experience. Further work was being done on how the Job Centre Plus procured the services of other agencies for basic skills delivery. Timescales meant that this project would be carried forward into the next municipal year.</p> <p>Members gave consideration to the work programme for 2013/14 and suggested that the following topics be considered for review;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting local businesses in the town centre • Visit to Padiham town centre • The potential effects of new rail link to Manchester