

MEETING: CABINET MEMBER - REGENERATION
DATE: Wednesday 9 June 2010
TIME: 10.00 am
VENUE: Town Hall, Bootle (this meeting will be video conferenced to the Town Hall, Southport)

Councillor

DECISION MAKER: Maher
SUBSTITUTE: Fairclough

SPOKESPERSONS: Dorgan Hough

SUBSTITUTES: Pearson Sumner

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Olaf Hansen Committee Clerk
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The Cabinet is responsible for making what are known as Key Decisions, which will be notified on the Forward Plan. Items marked with an * on the agenda involve Key Decisions

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution, is: -

- any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater
- any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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A G E N D A

Items marked with an * involve key decisions

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject/Author(s)</u>	<u>Wards Affected</u>	
1.	Apologies for absence		
2.	Declarations of Interest Members and Officers are requested to give notice of any personal or prejudicial interest and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the relevant Code of Conduct.		
3.	Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14 April, 2010		(Pages 7 - 10)
4.	Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park Joint report of the Planning and Economic Development Director and the Leisure Director	Ainsdale; Cambridge; Dukes;	(Pages 11 - 34)
5.	Funding Opportunities - Progress Report 4 Report of the Strategic Director - Communities	All Wards;	(Pages 35 - 54)
* 6.	REECH (Renewable Energy And Energy Efficiency In Housing) Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director	Church; Derby; Linacre; Litherland; Netherton and Orrell;	(Pages 55 - 70)
7.	Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director	Kew; Litherland; Netherton and Orrell;	(Pages 71 - 82)
8.	Provision of Grant Funding for Capping Layer and Gas Protection at Tannery Site Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director	Litherland;	(Pages 83 - 88)

*	<p>9. Housing Capital Programme 2010-11 Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director</p>	All Wards;	(Pages 89 - 96)
10.	<p>Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Framework Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director</p>	All Wards;	(Pages 97 - 124)
11.	<p>Employment and Skills Programme Performance Overview Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director</p>	All Wards;	(Pages 125 - 138)
12.	<p>Business Neighbourhoods and Sefton Integrated Business Support Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director</p>	All Wards;	(Pages 139 - 144)
13.	<p>Sefton Business Village Partnership Reports Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director</p>	All Wards;	(Pages 145 - 218)
14.	<p>Exclusion of Press and Public To consider passing the following resolution: That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion of the information from the Press and Public.</p>		
15.	<p>Independent Living Centre, Scarisbrick Avenue, Southport Report of the Strategic Director - Communities</p>	Dukes;	(Pages 219 - 228)
16.	<p>Remediation Contract and Works: Tannery and Penpoll Sites Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director</p>	Litherland;	(Pages 229 - 236)

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 17. Empty Property Enforced Sale: 24 Lander Road, Litherland | Litherland; | (Pages 237 - 242) |
| Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director | | |
| 18. Sefton Enterprise & Business Support update | All Wards; | (Pages 243 - 292) |
| Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director | | |

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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY, 22 APRIL, 2010. MINUTE NOS. 120, 121, 122 AND 124 ARE NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL IN".

CABINET MEMBER - REGENERATION

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL 2010

PRESENT: Councillor Maher

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Hough and Ibbs

117. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

119. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2010, be confirmed as a correct record.

120. COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER - BEDFORD AND QUEENS ROAD AND KLONDYKE AREA OF BOOTLE.

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director updating on the change of title of the Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO's) issued for Bedford Road/Queens Road Phase 3 and Klondyke Phase 1B as part of the Housing Market Renewal Programme.

The report indicated that because the Cabinet approval to issue the CPO's was in 2009 and the date of issue of the order was in 2010 the formal name which the CPO's would be known by had now changed to the following:

- The Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (Bedford Road/Queens Road, Bootle, Phase 3) Compulsory Purchase Order 2010; and
- The Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (Klondyke, Bootle, Phase 1B) Compulsory Purchase Order 2010.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet be recommended to note the report detailing changes to the titles of the Compulsory Purchase Orders.

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CABINET MEMBER - REGENERATION- WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL 2010

121. ENFORCED SALES PROCEDURE AND PROPERTY AT 24 LANDER ROAD, LITHERLAND

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director seeking approval to the new 'Enforced Sales' Procedure, and in particular to utilise this procedure in respect of a long-term empty property at 24 Lander Road, Litherland.

The report indicated that Enforced Sales was a new practice for Sefton, though it had been used by a number of Councils across the country; that it was a procedure primarily designed to enable Councils to recover outstanding debts, created by certain enforcement actions that resulted in land charges against a property; and that it also provided a method for getting long-term problematic empty properties back into use.

The report also indicated that a new Standard Operating Procedure had been produced which provided a complete description of the process and roles involved. Given that this was a new procedure, officers were to bring this to the attention of Cabinet for approval, and to avoid any future challenges from property owners on the basis that the Council had not fully considered and approved it's policy and procedures in respect of Enforced Sales.

A copy of the Standard Operating Procedure was attached as an appendix to the report.

The report concluded by detailing problems experienced by the property 24 Lander Road, Litherland, which had been vacant since 1981; and indicated that considering the length of time the property had been vacant and its condition, Enforced Sale was considered the most appropriate course of action to take.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet be recommended to:

- (1) approve the use of Enforced Sale powers and the Policy and Procedures as set out in the Guide attached to the report;
- (2) request the Council to amend the Constitution so that the Cabinet Member - Regeneration had delegated powers to authorise the use of the Enforced Sales Procedure; and
- (3) approve the use of the Enforced Sales Procedure in respect of the property at 24 Lander Road, Litherland.

122. FORMER PEOPLES SHOWROOM – REPLACEMENT FOR ST JOHN AND ST JAMES CHURCH, KLONDYKE.

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director seeking authority to:

- (i) dispose of part of the former Peoples Showroom site to the Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance, to develop a new place of worship and community facility; and
- (ii) use Housing Market Renewal funding to make a grant to the Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance towards the community and landscape elements of the building.

RESOLVED: That the Cabinet be recommended to:

- (1) approve the granting of a two year Development Lease to the Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance (referred to in the report as ‘the Church’) for the former Peoples Showroom building, so that the building can be refurbished to use as a place of worship and community facility;
- (2) delegate authority to the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director to agree the terms for the long-term disposal of the site to the Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance, upon successful completion of the works under the Development Lease; and
- (3) approve the contribution of £200,000 from the Housing Market Renewal Programme 2010/11 to the Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance towards the cost of refurbishing the building for community use and associated landscaping, subject to a legal obligation on the church to provide the agreed level of funding for the project.

123. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion of the information from the Press and Public.

**124. SOUTH SEFTON HOUSING MARKET RENEWAL –
PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2009/10 AND FORWARD
PROGRAMME 2010/11**

The Cabinet Member considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director advising of the provisional out-turn of the South Sefton Housing Market Renewal Programme for 2009-2010 and seeking approval to the 2010-2011 programme and the Council contribution towards this.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Cabinet be recommended to:
 - (i) note the provisional expenditure and outputs achieved by the Housing Market Renewal programme during 2009-2010;
 - (ii) note the HMRI allocation for 2010-11 of £9.350 million;
 - (iii) note the required level of Council contribution of £2.6 million;
 - (iv) subject to (iii) above, approve the Housing Market Renewal Programme for 2010-11; and
 - (v) delegate the completion of the Deed of Variation in respect to the HCA Funding for 2010-11 to the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director in consultation with the Head of Corporate Legal Services; and
- (2) the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director and his Housing Market Renewal Team be thanked for their sterling efforts in managing the Housing Market Renewal Programme in 2009-10.

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REPORT TO: REGENERATION CABINET:
LEISURE AND TOURISM CABINET:

DATE: 9th June 2010 R
24th March 2010 L&T

SUBJECT: Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park

WARDS: Cambridge
AFFECTED: Dukes
Ainsdale

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis, Planning and Economic Regeneration Director
Graham Bayliss, Leisure Services Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Andrew Hall
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Dave McAleavy
Tel: 0151 934 2961
Dave.McAleavy@leisure.sefton.gov.uk

EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of the report is to provide the Cabinet member with an update on the development of the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park (RCWRP) and to seek authority to sign up to the Joint Working Agreement, attached to this report.

This confirms the Vision and the Strategic Objectives for the RCWRP Initiative, confirms the Partners' commitments to it and clarifies the governance of and means of delivery for the Initiative.

The Cabinet members for Regeneration (31st March 2004) and for Leisure & Tourism (14th April 2004) gave their continued support to a Ribble Estuary Regional Park in 2004, when approval for continued officer involvement in its development was given. There was also a commitment to report back on progress.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

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A decision is required to confirm Partners commitment to the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park. Having a working agreement in place may support future bids for external funding towards the objectives of the RCWRP, which is often a requirement of grant giving bodies. The agreement would also put the partnership on a firm footing and is a positive step in responding appropriately to the Council's Governance review of existing partnership arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 1 Approve the draft Joint Working Agreement for the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park
- 2 Authorise the Legal Director and Planning and Leisure Directors to agree any minor amendments to the draft Joint Working Agreement, and subject thereto, to enter into the Agreement
- 3 Receive an update on progress when the agreement is due for renewal in May 2012.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the call in period for the minutes of this meeting.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: There are no direct financial implications arising out of the joint working agreement.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				

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Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources (In-kind)				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal:

Risk Assessment:

If a joint working agreement for the RCWRP was not to be approved, the partnership with Sefton would come to end, along with the associated benefits, particularly in respect of the visitor economy through the marketing and branding strategy that is now in place for the RCWRP.

Asset Management:

N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Planning and Economic Regeneration and Leisure Services and tourism Department have been involved in the drafting of this report. Views have been sought from the Visitor Economy Manager for Tourism, the Head of Coast and Countryside and the Principal Engineer, Highways Development Control.

FD 335 - The Acting Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

Legal services – Comments included within this report

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	

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7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT
None

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Ribble Coast and Wetlands is one of the most important places for wildlife in Europe. The boundary of the park extends from Fylde to the north, through to Southport and Ainsdale. Aims include job creation, attracting visitors, enhance wildlife habitats, construction of new walking and cycling routes and increase the area of land under conservation management. Overall the partnership is seeking to help local people, visitors and business benefit from new and existing natural assets of the Ribble Coast and Wetlands, and make it an internationally-recognised destination.

2. Background

- 2.1. The management of the Ribble estuary is important to Sefton because the northern part of the Sefton coast is part of the estuary. Sefton has been a member of the Ribble Estuary Partnership for many years and has contributed to the development of a strategy for the estuary
- 2.2. Since reporting in 2004, it is unlikely that the RDA will support a regional park founded on an area based funding model that was set up for the Mersey Waterfront. However there are advantages in acting strategically with partners to gain project based support from future funders and promote the Ribble Coast and wetlands as a visitor destination.
- 2.3. In 2001, a range of organisations reflecting local conservation, governmental and community interests came together to steer the development of the regional park proposal. Outputs have included the production of the Ribble Estuary Regional Park feasibility study 2003, The Ribble Coast and Wetlands: A Regional Park Vision document March 2007, A Business Plan for the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park May 2008 and a Communications Plan March 2009. Other work has taken place to position the proposal in regional, sub regional strategies and local planning frameworks.

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- 2.4. A separate marketing group of tourism managers have established and promoted the area as a new visitor destination. The group also coordinates the production of press releases, publicity for the annual walking festivals and other promotional material. The marketing group has contributed to the development of the communication plan and produced branding guidelines and a website www.ribblecoastandwetlands.com. This website links to Seftons natural coast website.
- 2.5. The access group has helped progress some of the Council's cycling issues particularly in respect of the proposed route across Crossens training bank and officers are keen to develop more cross boundary routes.

3. Proposal

- 3.1. In order to demonstrate to others (including potential future funders) that the partnership is strong and has longevity, a commitment to a joint working agreement is necessary. This agreement will also fulfill the Council's requirement for improved governance arrangements, where joint working with external partners such as the RCWRP exists. Sefton Council's Legal Services have been involved in the drafting of the agreement and are satisfied with the draft attached to this report.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. It is recommended that Cabinet:
 1. Approve the draft Joint Working Agreement for the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park
 2. Authorise the Legal Director and Planning and Leisure Directors to agree any minor amendments to the draft Joint Working Agreement, and subject thereto, to enter into the Agreement
 3. Receive an update on progress when the agreement is due for renewal in May 2012.

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Joint Working Agreement
In respect of the
Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park

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JOINT WORKING AGREEMENT

Parties to the agreement:

- 1) **British Waterways** whose registered address is 64 Clarendon Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD17 1DA
- 2) **Environment Agency** whose address Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Parkway Business Park, Sheffield, S9 4WF
- 3) **Lancashire County Council** whose address County Hall Fishergate Preston Lancashire PR1 8XJ ("LCC")
- 4) **Forestry Commission** whose address is Silvan House, 231Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, EH14 5NE
- 5) **Fylde Borough Council** whose address is The Town Hall, St Annes Road West, St Annes, Lancashire, FY8 1LW
- 6) **Fylde Vision** whose address is [insert address – could not locate]
- 7) **Groundwork Lancashire West and Wigan Limited** a company registered in England with company number 01764848 whose registered office is at 74-80 Hallgate, Wigan, Lancashire, WN1 1HP
- 8) **Lancashire and Blackpool Tourist Board Limited** a company registered in England with company number 05039554 whose registered address is Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Fishergate Hill, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 8XJ.
- 9) **Lancashire Economic Partnership Limited** a company registered in England with company number 4797349 whose registered office is The Globe, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 0RE
- 10) **Rural Futures (North West) Limited** a company registered in England with company number 06588384 whose registered office is at 1 The Creamery Estate, Kenlis Road, Barnacre, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 1GD
- 11) **Natural England** whose address is Natural England, Bullring House, Northgate, Wakefield, WF1 1BJ
- 12) **Preston City Council** whose address is Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 2RL
- 13) **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds** a charity registered in England with charity number 207076 whose registered address is The Lodge, Potton Road, Andy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL
- 14) **Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council** of Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport PR8 1DA
- 15) **South Ribble Borough Council** of Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH.
- 16) **The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside Limited** a company registered in England with company number 731548 whose

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registered address is The Barn, Berkeley Drive, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6BY

17) **West Lancashire Borough Council** of 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire, L39 2DF.

18) **Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust** a charity registered in England with charity number 1030884 whose registered address is Slimbridge, Gloucestershire GL2 7BT.

All of the above together constitute the Ribble Coast and Wetlands Park Partners, and are hereafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as "the Parties" or "the Partners" throughout this Agreement.

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Background

- A. This Joint Working Agreement relates to a partnership between local authorities, government agencies and voluntary sector organisations working together to develop and manage a regional park known as Ribble Coast and Wetlands Regional Park ("RCWRP")
- B. The area of RCWRP lies to the west of Preston where the River Ribble meets the Irish Sea, and between the coastal resorts of Southport and Ainsdale, and Lytham St Annes. Further inland it takes in the area that previously formed part of the historic Martin Mere, once the largest lake in England, and the corridor of land that follows the River Ribble up to and including Brockhole Wetlands and Woodland Nature Reserve.
- C. RCWRP is more particularly delineated on the plan edged in red at Schedule 3.
- D. This Agreement establishes the Partnership as a formal entity. The Partnership will give substance to the RCWRP through appropriate policies and administrative mechanisms and project delivery and in particular will secure the RCWRP as a non-statutory consultee on planning policy that might materially affect the RCWRP's objectives.
- E. This Agreement establishes the parameters of the working relationship of the Partners and also creates rights and responsibilities in terms of the expenditure and safeguarding of any Grant to ensure fairness and to create a level footing for all Partners notwithstanding the role of Lancashire County Council as the Accountable Body.
- F. In signing this Partnership Working Agreement, the Partners agree to provide, so far as is reasonably possible, strategic and operational support for the further development of the RCWRP Initiative.
- G. The Partners will work together to identify sufficient resources to deliver the Vision and Strategic Objectives for the RCWRP Initiative, which are set out in paragraphs 5 and 6 below.
- H. The Partnership shall continue until terminated under the terms of this Agreement.

The Strategic Objectives of the RWCRP

- i. To enhance and improve the environmental quality, by conserving and protecting existing designated and non-designated natural assets within the Ribble Coast and Wetlands
- ii. To improve and develop the Ribble Coast and Wetlands as a destination and tourist attraction, by creating a sense of place and developing existing and new visitor facilities. Tourism development needs to be sustainable and responsible; it needs to be evidence based and to deliver socio economic benefits

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- iii. To develop user friendly and attractive sustainable transport options locally and regionally to/from the Ribble Coast and Wetlands and from one attraction to another, including access for all.
- iv. To promote and enhance participation and ownership of local communities, (residential, business and user/interest groups) through engagement, education and interpretation
- v. To develop a strategic prospectus and master plan in order to build capacity and secure resources for future development, (including studies on target audiences, product development and feasibility

Vision:

By 2020 the RCWRP will be an internationally recognised destination based on its environmental significance, which will be conserved and enhanced. It will improve the quality of life and enhance a sense of place for local communities and visitors. Sustainable development of the Park through tourism will contribute to the region's prosperity and well-being.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED as follows:

1 Definitions

- 1.1 In this Agreement (which expression shall be deemed to include any schedules and appendices) unless there be something which is inconsistent in the subject or context the following expressions have the following meanings:
- **“Accountable Body”** means LCC acting in its specific role as administrator of the Grant as set out in clause 9.1 and elsewhere in the Agreement; elsewhere where LCC is expressly mentioned then it should be assumed that LCC is acting as a Delivery Agent.
 - **“Agreement”** means this agreement including any schedules and appendices thereto
 - **“Contractor”** means any person or team under contract with the Delivery Agents to undertake work on the Project by way of Sub-projects;
 - **“Delivery Agents”** means all the Parties/Partners to this Agreement delivering a Project within the RCWRP and to include those parties identified on Page 2 and 3;
 - **“Funders”** means funders contributing to the Project from time to time;
 - **“Grant”** means any funds received for the purposes for the Project from a third party with terms and conditions attached to how those funds may be utilised.
 - **“Managing Agent”** the party so appointed with the roles and responsibilities as defined in clause 3 and elsewhere in this Agreement.
 - **“Parties”** means the parties to the Agreement, and “Party” means any one of them;
 - **“Project”** means the RCWRP Project;

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- **“Project Board”** means the board comprising those members appointed to manage and oversee the Project in accordance with appendix 1;
- **“Strategic Objectives”** means those objectives listed in paragraph F in the Background of this Agreement
- **“Sub-project”** means an individual project carried out by a Delivery Agent as part of the overall Project;
- **“Vision”** means the vision held by the Parties for the RCWRP as described in paragraph G within the Background of this Agreement.

1.2 Each Party hereby warrants that it has the power to enter into this Agreement and has obtained all necessary approvals to do so.

1.3 Each Party further warrants and undertakes that it is not aware as at the date hereof of anything within its reasonable control which might adversely affect its ability to fulfil its obligations pursuant to this Agreement.

2 Consideration

2.1 In consideration of the mutual agreements and undertakings set out the Agreement, the Parties have granted the rights and accepted the obligations herein.

3 Obligations of Managing Agent

3.1 One of the Partners shall be appointed by the Partnership Board as the Managing Agent for the Project

The Managing Agent shall:

- Deliver the projects identified, agreed and detailed by the Partners from time to time
- Develop, engage and manage a team to oversee the delivery of the Project, the financial and contractual administration thereof, the monitoring and evaluation of its delivery and the drawdown of funds from the Parties and other Funders.
- Provide the secretariat for the Board and other working or sub-groups associated with the delivery of the Project.
- Support the delivery of Sub-projects by Delivery Agents and community groups.
- Keep accurate records of income and expenditure of the Project together with cash flow projections to meet the needs of the Parties and other Funders.
- Keep accurate records of the achievements of the Project.
- Ensure the timely delivery of any grant claims, achievement and budgetary information as required by the grant conditions of other Funders.

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- Ensure that the Sub-projects and the overall Project meets and fulfils the grant conditions of other Funders.
- Provide at it's own expense day-to-day management of the staff employed for the delivery of the Project subject to clause 9.3.10.
- Maintain the overall records and ensuring that it complies with its contractual obligations pursuant to the Initial Grant Agreement and the Standard Terms of Grant.
- Participate in the Project Board.

4 Statement of Commitment

- 4.1 The Delivery Agents recognise the authority of the Managing Agent as the proposer to manage the Project pursuant to the conditions of grant of such Funders as may from time to time award a Grant for the delivery of the Project.
- 4.2 In addition to complying with the specific provisions of this Agreement, the Delivery Agents will co-operate with both the Managing Agent and the Accountable Body and take such reasonable and practicable steps in the circumstances to assist them in meeting any Funders terms of grant together with the conditions of grant of any other Funders and the overall delivery of the Project.

5 Rights and Obligations

- 5.1 Each Party shall deliver those parts of the Project for which that Party is responsible.
- 5.2 Risk and responsibility for the effective delivery of the Project is dependent on the co-operation and agreement of all Parties. However, each Party shall be individually accountable to the others for the effective delivery of such work as undertaken by each Party pursuant to this Agreement. Responsibility for any sub-contractors shall rest with the individual Parties who sub-contract the performance of their obligations under this Agreement.

6 Indemnity for Third Party Claims

- 6.1 In the event of any successful claim in respect of any debt, liability, breach of contract, act or omission pursuant to the Project or any Sub-project being made by a third party against all or any of the Parties ("Third Party Claim"), the Party whose act or omission caused the Third Party Claim (by virtue of that Party incurring a debt, liability or that Party's negligence, breach of contract, act or omission or otherwise), shall indemnify each and every other Party against any liability, costs, claims and expenses arising out of such Third Party Claim.

7 Duration of the Agreement

- 7.1 The Project shall commence on the 01 June 2009 and shall continue for a period of three years until the 31 May 2012 and shall terminate automatically without notice on 31 May 2012 unless extended, renewed or continued in accordance with Clause 7.2.
- 7.2 This Agreement may be extended at any time for any period upon written agreement of the Parties.

8 Project Management Arrangements

- 8.1 The Project will be overseen and monitored by the Project Board comprising one representative from each of the Delivery Agents for the time being who shall have authority to act and make decisions on the Delivery Agent's behalf. The terms of reference for the Project Board are set out in Appendix 1.
- 8.2 For the avoidance of doubt all actions and decisions made by the Project Board shall be subject to the overriding need to manage the Project in accordance with the terms of any Grant or Funder and shall be governed by the provisions of this Agreement and any decision inconsistent with such obligations, as determined by Managing Agent and the Accountable Body, acting reasonably and in good faith (in consultation with any Funder as necessary), will be invalid and shall not be binding upon or enforceable against the Parties.
- 8.3 The role of the Project Board will include but not be limited to:
- Oversee the strategic development of the RCWRP.
 - Appoint new members to the Project Board.
 - Appoint the Chair of the Project Board on an annual basis.
 - Appoint a Managing Agent
 - Approve the RCWRP Strategic Plans, Annual Programmes and other plans.
 - At the Annual Meeting each year appoint from amongst the Project Board a Strategy Policy Group and an Operations Group
 - Receipt of the Annual Report.
 - Be able to appoint/invite advisors to attend, but not vote, at Project Board meetings.
 - A majority of Delivery Agent's voting shall prevail with each Delivery Agent's having one vote exercised by their representative on the Project Board. The Chair of the Project Board shall have a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes in addition to any other vote he or she may have.

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- 8.4 Representatives may be appointed or removed by notice in writing to the Chair of the Project Board (and copied to each of the Delivery Agents) by the relevant appointing party served in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement

9 Roles and Responsibilities

- 9.1 The Accountable Body is responsible to any Funder and/or Delivery Agent for providing the following services on behalf of the Project:

- Letting of contracts in line with appropriate procurement guidelines in accordance with the requirements of the EU Treaty and any relevant EU Directives for the time being in force in the U.K. for the implementation of project activities and proposals as appropriate;
- Securing, establishing, and operating appropriate financial management procedures;
- Supervising management of audit procedures;
- Any other duties from time to time, which the Parties deem appropriate for LCC to carry out in its role as Accountable Body or which is imposed upon the Accountable Body by any Funder.

- 9.2 LCC shall be the employer of any staff engaged pursuant to this Agreement, particularly as outlined in Clause 3 above, and the Parties together shall indemnify LCC in respect of any claims, liabilities or prosecutions arising from or relating to the employment of staff in connection with the Project.

9.3

- **All Parties' responsibilities:** Parties shall contribute to the overall achievement of the aims and objectives of the Project as detailed above and where they are delivering Sub-projects.
- **Project implementation:** Parties shall implement their individually agreed and specified Sub-projects. Where there is a range of parties (and/or contractors) in the implementation of Sub-project work, Parties are responsible for coordinating and ensuring they deliver their work to the required standards, to the agreed budget and timescales. Details of Sub-projects shall be submitted on proformas, a copy of which is set out in appendix 4 ("Proformas").
- **Conformity:** The detail of Sub-project implementation must conform to originally approved schedules. Any anticipated or actual variance in the cost, timescale or quality of agreed Sub-project outputs shall be reported by the relevant Party to the Managing Agent immediately.
- **Payment claims:** All claims for payment by Parties against allowable Sub-project expenditure should be submitted to the Managing Agent by specified quarterly deadlines, supported by the prescribed documentation.
- **Record keeping:** All Parties shall keep adequate records for audit and monitoring purposes. This includes: financial accounts of Sub-

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project related income and expenditure. Performance in relation to the anticipated benefits of the Sub-project.

- **Provision of information:** All Parties shall supply specified information for progress reports, within pre-agreed quarterly deadlines.
- **Long-term monitoring:** The Parties shall provide specified monitoring information, as required by LCC to comply with the terms of any Funder, to the Managing Agent on an annual basis for a minimum period of ten years following the completion of the implementation phase of the Project.
- **Partnership funding:** The Parties shall provide partnership funding at a level specified in the Proformas.

Each Party shall ensure that no capital works are carried out on land or property until they have acquired all necessary consents and permissions, and have consulted and complied with the regulatory requirements of the Environment Agency, the relevant local authority and any other relevant bodies.

The Parties shall ensure that capital works carried out on their land are completed to the standards set out in the specifications to the Project or to such other appropriate standards as are agreed with the Managing Agent before the commencement of the work.

Each Party shall be responsible for the provision of all the necessary personnel, insurance, accommodation and services required for the implementation of their specific Sub-project. Each Party shall exercise proper financial control for the disbursement of all monies and use of funds related to the Project and shall administer their Sub-project according to the standard terms of any Grant.

- **Indemnity:** Each Party shall indemnify Managing Agent and the Accountable Body against any compensation or action for damages which have occurred to the Managing Agent and the Accountable Body arising out of, or in the course of those elements of the Project which that Delivery Agent is responsible for delivery, unless the compensation or action for damages is due to any negligent act or omission on the part of the Managing Agent, the Accountable Body or their respective employees, agents or servants.
- **Limitation of Liability:** The Partner's total liability arising under, or in connection with, this Memorandum, whether in tort (including negligence or breach of statutory duty), contract, misrepresentation, restitution or otherwise, shall be limited to one hundred and twenty five percent (125%) of the partnership funding amounts specified within Project Proformas.

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10 Financial Management

- 10.1 The Accountable Body shall oversee the financial management of the Project, guided by the Managing Agent and where appropriate act as Grant recipient on behalf of the Parties. Parties shall provide financial information as required by the Accountable Body to fulfil the needs of the Grant claim process. All financial statements will be in a format to be agreed with the Accountable Body and will be in accordance with the standard terms of any appropriate Grant and the Project's requirements, if any. The Accountable Body will submit the Project's returns to any Funder, as appropriate for reimbursement of funds. The Accountable Body will provide financial information as reasonably required for their own auditing or other purposes associated with their own financial management.
- 10.2 On completion or termination of the Project, use of any remaining funds will be determined by the Project Board taking into account the aims and objectives of the Project.
- 10.3 Individual Parties are responsible for ensuring, within their own organisation, an audit trail, taking account of their own auditing processes, is compatible with the standard terms of any Grant as appropriate or with the requirements of the Accountable Body.
- 10.4 If any Funder requires justifiable repayment of all or any of the funds the Project Board shall agree the basis on which such repayments should be made. Where this requirement arises because of the failure of an individual Party or Parties to deliver their Sub-project, that Party shall pay the uncommitted funds directly to that Funder.
- 10.5 If it appears that there is or may be a shortfall in funding for any reason, which may result in a change to the Project, the Project Board will endeavour to secure alternative funding and will inform any Funder as appropriate and obtain its approval for any changes. The Managing Agent will ensure that there is a review of funding at least four times per year.
- 10.6 In the event of a shortfall, the Project Board shall consider whether or not they should make good all or such part of any such shortfall in funding. Where all of the Parties agree to make good all or part of the shortfall they shall do so by contributions in such proportion as their shares of match funding bear to the total match funding. Where all of the Parties fail to agree that it is feasible to make good any such shortfalls, they will agree a reduction in the volume and value of work undertaken accordingly. This will be undertaken in agreement with the Managing Agent, the Accountable Body and any appropriate Funder.
- 10.7 Direct expenditure must not exceed the total Project costs approved by any appropriate Funder, without the prior written approval of the Accountable Body, who will have obtained written approval of the Project Board and any other relevant Funders.
- 10.8 Each Party shall supply as soon as reasonably practicable all financial documents, insurance details and information properly required under the standard terms of any relevant Grant to the Accountable Body on request.

Material shall be sent to the Managing Agent for recording and forwarding to the Accountable Body.

10.9 Any non recoverable VAT incurred on chargeable expenditure commissioned by the Parties in the delivery of Sub-projects will be included within claims submitted for reimbursement by the Accountable Body.

10.10 Parties shall follow any relevant and appropriate guidance from time to time in force for procurement for goods and services and comply with any relevant thresholds in respect of the same. Parties shall take reasonable endeavours to ensure that all transactions demonstrate financial probity and good value.

11 Assignment and Sub-contracting

11.1 Sub-contracting any part of the Project will not relieve a Party of any obligation or duty attributable to them under this Agreement.

11.2 Where a Party sub-contracts their Sub-project to third parties or places orders in connection with the implementation of the Sub-project, it shall obtain from sub-contractors and suppliers all customary trade benefits. Any claim made by a Party shall take this into account by reducing by the amount of the benefit that the Party has had. This rule also applies to any agreements signed between the Parties. The same conditions apply to all expenditure by Parties undertaken as part of the Project.

11.3 Where a Party enters into a sub-contract with a supplier or contractor for the purpose of this Project, the Party shall take such steps as are reasonable and practicable in the circumstances to cause a term to be included in such contract

- 11.4
- which requires payment to be made to the supplier or contractor within a specified period not exceeding 50 days from receipt of a valid invoice; and
 - which requires any supplier or contractor to ensure that all goods or materials supplied or used in the works or provision of services shall, as a minimum requirement, be in accordance with the appropriate and current standard issued by the British Standards Institution; and
 - requiring the sub-contractor or supplier to comply with the Health and Safety Acts, Health and Safety Regulations and Codes of Practice approved by the Health and Safety Commission.

12 Budget

12.1 Cash flow projections will be subject to revision by the Managing Agent, in agreement with the Project Board, in response to changed circumstances, but always subject to the standard terms of any relevant Grant.

12.2 The Accountable Body shall agree arrangements and timing with Parties for the regular reimbursement of costs, other than in-kind contributions, which Parties have incurred pursuant to the Project. The Accountable Body will

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ensure that valid invoices submitted by the Parties are paid within 30 days of receipt and agreement of each such invoice subject to the supply of valid claim evidence.

13 Reporting and Accounting

- 13.1 The accounting and reporting year will run from 1 April to 31 March. Interim financial and progress report of the Project's activities and achievements will be prepared by the Managing Agent for consideration by the Project Board. A final report will be completed and agreed by the completion date of the Project. Annual reports and a full final report will be completed by the Managing Agent with such assistance as is necessary from the Parties and agreed by the Project Board within 3 months of the end of each anniversary of the commencement of the Project and by its completion date. Copies of all such reports will be made available to all Delivery Agents.
- 13.2 In addition to the above at 13.1, the Managing Agent shall be responsible for ensuring the management of the Project budget in line with any standard terms and conditions of any relevant Grant and shall indemnify the Accountable Body in respect of any breach of such terms and conditions for which the Management Agent is responsible.
- 13.3 The Managing Agent shall report to the Project Board with a financial report on a quarterly basis.

14 Publicity and Acknowledgements

- 14.1 Any press releases or other public statements about the Project will only be issued in accordance with this Agreement and the procedures agreed by the Project Board. The Parties agree that, in conducting the Project and in publicising its work, full recognition will be given to the support of each contributing party, along with any Funder as appropriate and as required by any relevant standard terms and conditions of Grant. Public statements or press releases about the Project will be printed and distributed on Project stationery. All Parties will be given at least 5 working day's notice of the issue of a press release. Where an individual Party is contacted by the press, the Party shall use reasonable endeavours to represent the interests of the Project faithfully and inform all Parties of the press inquiry. The conditions laid out in this clause will apply until one year beyond termination of this Agreement.

15 Resolution of Disputes

- 15.1 In the event of a dispute the Partners shall attempt in good faith to negotiate an informal settlement of any dispute between them arising out of or in connection with RCWRP Initiative.
- 15.2 If the Partners are not able to resolve the dispute in informal discussion with the other Partners then it may at its option give notice to the other party in writing of its intention to invoke the dispute procedure set out in clauses 15.3 to 15.5 below.

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- 15.3 Within 10 days of receipt of the said notice or any other period agreed between the Partners, their nominated representatives shall meet together to attempt to resolve the said dispute.
- 15.4 In the event that the Partners, via their nominated representatives, fail to resolve the said dispute the Partners shall provide a representative of greater seniority than their nominated representative to meet within 10 days of the meeting referred to in clause 15.3 (or such other period agreed between the parties) in a further attempt to resolve the dispute.
- 15.5 The Partners agree to continue in good faith with the performance of the RCWRP Initiative during any dispute process
- 15.6 If, failing the dispute resolution procedure outlined above at 15.1-15.5, the construction, validity and performance of this Agreement will be determined according to English law, and the Parties hereby agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts in any actions arising out of this Agreement.

16 Amendments to the Agreement

- 16.1 Any amendments to this Agreement must be approved in writing by all of the Parties and will not take effect until any necessary approval has been obtained
- 16.2 Any proposed assignment or transfer of the benefit of this Agreement by any Party must be first approved in writing by all of the remaining Parties and Project Board.

17 Termination of the Membership of the Project Board

- 17.1 The Project Board acting reasonably and in good faith shall be entitled to determine that a material breach of an essential term of this Agreement has been committed by a Party without reasonable cause. The Project Board shall write to the Party requesting that such breach be remedied within such reasonable time as may be specified in writing by the Project Board. If the breach is not remedied the Project Board shall meet to consider the alleged breach and shall be entitled, but not bound, to terminate the involvement of the Party concerned, without prejudice to their rights and to enforce any obligations outstanding, including making payment of any outstanding contributions.
- 17.2 The terms of the Agreement shall cease to apply, in respect of any Party, without prejudice to the rights of the other Parties, between themselves, or against that Party, if that Party without reasonable cause commits a material breach of an essential obligation of this Agreement and the Project Board acting reasonably and in good faith decides that it should no longer be a Party.

18 Termination of the Joint Working Agreement

- 18.1 Either at the termination of this Agreement or if the Parties decide to otherwise terminate this Agreement, any assets remaining after all debts

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and liabilities have been satisfied, shall (subject to the provisions of any specific funding agreement) not be repaid or distributed among the Parties, but shall instead be gifted or transferred to some other partnership, company limited by guarantee, charity or joint working group having similar aims to those of the RCWRP project and chosen by the Project Board at or before the time of termination of this Agreement.

19 No Partnership

19.1 For the avoidance of doubt it is expressly stated that the entering of this Agreement does not constitute a legal partnership amongst the Parties.

20 Counterparts

20.1 This Agreement may be executed in a number of counterparts and by the Parties to it on separate counterparts each of which when executed and delivered will be an original, but together will constitute one and the same instrument

21 Law

21.1 This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law and the Parties irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts in respect of any dispute or matter arising out of or connected with this Agreement.

22 Rights after Termination

22.1 The termination of this Agreement however caused shall be without prejudice to any obligation or rights of any Party which shall have accrued prior to such termination of this Agreement which expressly or by implication provided to come into effect on, or to continue with effect after, such termination.

23 Waiver

23.1 No failure to exercise and no delay on exercising on the part of any Party any right, power or privilege under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver of it nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, power, privilege preclude any other or further exercise of it or the exercise of any other right, power or privilege. The rights and remedies provided in this Agreement are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies otherwise provided by law.

24 Third Party Rights

24.1 The terms of this Agreement are not enforceable under the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 by any person not a Party.

25 New Parties

25.1 Other persons or organisations may become Parties to this Agreement if they shall execute and deliver the Deed of Adherence substantially in the

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form set out in appendix 5 to this Agreement and all references to Parties or Party in this Agreement shall include all such persons or organisations.

- 25.2 This Agreement shall be binding upon each Party's permitted successors and assigns.

26 Retirement from Partnership Working

- 26.1 Any Party may cease its involvement in the Project by giving not less than 3 months' notice in writing to all of the other Parties to this Agreement.

27 Notices

- 27.1 Any notice given by any of the Parties shall be served on the other Parties including an outgoing Party by personal delivery, pre-paid recorded delivery, first class post, telex or facsimile transmission to the addresses set out at the beginning of this Agreement or such subsequent addresses as may be notified.

- 27.2 Any such notice shall be deemed to be effectively served:

In the case of service by pre-paid recorded delivery or first class post 48 hours after posting.

In the case of service by telex or facsimile transmission on the next following day.

- 27.3 A notice given by more than one Party may be given in one or more copies each signed by one or more of them.

28 Entire Agreement

- 28.1 This Agreement, its Schedules and Appendices contain all the terms which the Parties have agreed in relation to the Project and supersedes any prior written or oral agreement, representations or understandings between the Parties in relation to the Project.

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REPORT TO: Cabinet
Cabinet Member (Technical Services)
Cabinet Member (Regeneration)

DATE: 20th May 2010
26th May 2010
9th June 2010

SUBJECT: Funding Opportunities – Progress Report 4

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Alan Moore, Strategic Director Communities

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi 3447
Stuart Waldron 4006

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To inform Members of the progress made with regard to Expressions of Interest submitted for funding, and provide an update of further external funding opportunities.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To comply with standard portfolio reporting procedures and to seek endorsement of the Expressions of Interest submitted to date.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:-

Cabinet Member for Regeneration:-

- Endorse the submission of Expressions of Interest as shown in Annex A and B of this report,
- Note the current Funding Opportunities available as shown in Annex C of this report

Cabinet Member for Technical Services, and Cabinet :-

- Note the report

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately after the call in period

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

There are only limited opportunities to secure external funding to deliver Sefton Council projects, particularly under the current European funded North West Operational Plan. Failure to respond to bidding opportunities would either prolong the time taken to deliver these projects, and or in the worse case scenario may not happen at all.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources:-				
Sefton LTP				
Section 106 Money				
Specific Capital Resources:- ERDF RDA				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS:-

FD 387 - The Acting Head of Corporate Finance & IS has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report.

Legal,
Technical Services

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	/		
2	Creating Safe Communities	/		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	/		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	/		
5	Environmental Sustainability	/		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	/		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	/		
8	Children and Young People	/		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Cabinet Report entitle 'Funding Opportunities Progress Report 3' dated 4th February 2010

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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet Member (Technical Service), the Cabinet Member (Regeneration) and the Cabinet, at their meetings on 20th January 2010, 27th January 2010, and 4th February 2010 respectively considered a report entitled 'Funding Opportunities – Progress Report 3'. The report provided information on current funding opportunities, and sought Members endorsement on those Expressions of Interest submitted.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on previously submitted Expressions of Interest, seeks endorsement of Expressions of Interest/Concept Forms submitted since then (please see Annex A and B), and provides information on funding opportunities that have arisen since the previous report, (please see Annex C).

2.0 RDA/ERDF Public Realm Projects

- 2.1 Members may recall that Dunningbridge Road Corridor scheme was approved for more detailed design and costing by the RDA. The original cost of the scheme was £1.2 million, of which RDA was going to fund £600,000 from ERDF and £200,000 from its Single Programme budget. The balance of the money coming from Sefton's LTP (£100,000) and Section 106 money (£300,000). However the RDA has now indicated that it will not be prepared to contribute £200,000 from its Single Programme. Unless alternative sources of funds can be secured the scheme may either have to be down sized or abandoned completely. Further discussions are currently taking place, and a separate report on this project will be presented to Members.

3.0 Action Area 4.3 – Development of Sites

- 3.1 Of the three schemes submitted under this Action Area, only SAFE Production is still 'live'. However the success of this project is reliant on the applicant securing a site for its development, which to date has not been possible. It must be recognised that due to time constraints it is unlikely that this project would be implemented.

Applicant	Scheme	Total Cost	Contributions From:-		Current Status
			ERDF	Applicant's Own	
South Sefton Development Trust	To fit out workspace for social enterprise	£100,000	£45,000	£55,000	Unsuccessful
TREND	Start-up workshops	£200,000	£90,000	£110,000	Unsuccessful at concept stage
SAFE Productions Ltd	26 new Start-up Units	£1,000,000	£450,000	£550,000	Unable secure a site

- 3.2 Members may be aware that TREND has gone into receivership and officers are currently examining any financial or legal implications, particularly as the project was funded via Sefton Council with external funding, and there are normally conditions attached to disposal of any assets. A separate report on this matter will be presented to Members.

4.0 Action Areas 3.2 & 4.3 – Land Remediation and Site Servicing

4.1 Members may recall that three Expressions of Interests for Peerles Site, Demolition of Balliol House, and Southport Commerce Park projects was submitted to the RDA. Of the three Expressions of Interests submitted under these action areas, the RDA was only supporting the Demolition of Balliol House scheme. The RDA has recently sent a letter indicating all schemes currently requiring ERDF support have been suspended until such time as the RDA had the opportunity to undertake a full review of the North West Operational Programme.

4.2 Based on informal discussions with RDA officers, it is unlikely that the Demolition of Balliol House project will be successful in attracting any ERDF grant.

Applicant	Scheme	Total Cost	Contributions From:-			Current Status
			RDA/ERDF	Sefton	Others	
Sefton Council	Peerless Site, Bootle	£12,500,000	£12,500,000	-	-	Not supported
Sefton Council	Demolition of Balliol House	£1,415,000	£707,500	£707,500	-	Suspended
Sefton Council	Southport Commerce Park	£2,375,858	£1,101,858	£1,074,000	£200,000	Not supported

5.0 Action Area 1.2

5.1 A very speculative Expression of Interest was submitted on 10th August 2009 as per the RDA's deadline for this Action Area. The aim of this project was to deliver targeted specialist support to rural food producing businesses and supply chains, to service the hospitality sector in Southport. Whilst the RDA liked the bid unfortunately it was not approved as the activities contained in the proposal were only targeted at Sefton, and not sub-regionally. However discussions are taking place with Food NW, whose bid was approved, and they would like to explore the opportunity of including Sefton's proposals in their delivery plan.

6.0 Action Area 1.3

6.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 17th December 2009 agreed to the submission of a sub-regional project under this action area, for which Sefton Council will be the accountable body, subject to there being no additional financial implications imposed upon the Council especially with regard to management costs. The aim of this 'REECH' project is to directly stimulate the market for low carbon and environmental technologies and renewable energies via their application within existing social and low income housing. The project has now progressed to the Development and Appraisal stage. The deadline for the submission of detailed information is 21st May 2010. A more detailed report will be presented to Members on this project.

7.0 Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010-2012

7.1 The Cabinet at the same meeting on 17th December 2009 also agreed to Sefton Council supporting Formby Parish Council in the development, and submission of

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a £500,000 bid under the Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010-2012 Programme. I regret to report that the bid was not successful.

8.0 The Big Lottery

8.1 The Frank Hornby Trust had engaged consultants to develop a Stage 1 bid for Heritage Lottery Grant. The Trust is seeking some £200,000 for fit out costs for the Frank Hornby Centre at Maghull Leisure Centre, and the Stage 1 bid was submitted at the end of February 2010.

9.0 Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

9.1 Through the work being carried out by the Altside Business Village Partnership, a developer has submitted a Planning application for the development of a Marina in Lydiate. In addition the developer has also submitted an application for funding support to the RDPE/Mersey Leader Programme.

10.0 Rural Strategy and an Action Plan for Merseyside

10.1 External Consultants engaged by the sub-regional partners have now completed the development of the Rural Strategy and are in the process of developing individual Action Plans for each of the local authority. Annex B attached shows all the Expressions of Interests submitted under this programme.

11.0 Low Carbon Rural Challenge Fund

11.1 The Regional Development Agency has recently requested Expression of Interest for projects that would support the delivery of renewable energy projects in rural areas across the North West of England. The bidding round is only open to Social Enterprises, Charities, groups of businesses and micro enterprises. It is likely that there will only be one bid from the Merseyside region, and officers are currently in discussions with Mersey Forest, who would be eligible to apply, to consider a project based in Melling.

Financial Details of Expressions of Interest Submitted.

Expressions of Interest Submitted to date	Fund Type	Total Project Cost £	ERDF/RDA Funding Sought £	Other External Funding Source £	Contribution from Sefton			Comments
					LTP Budget £	Capital Programme £	Others £	
Dunningsbridge Road Corridor	Public Realm (ERDF/RDA)	1,200,000	600,000 (ERDF) 200,000 (RDA)				400,000	Waiting for RDA decision, early indications are that the Agency has withdrawn its Single Programme allocation of £200,000, and unless Sefton is able to find this from its resources the scheme is unlikely to go ahead.
REECH Project	ERDF	£22,800,000	£11,400,000	£11,400,000				Development and Appraisal forms to be submitted at end of May
Demolition of Balliol House and (Connley House)	Demolition and remediation works	£1,415,000	£707,500 (ERDF)			£707,500		Waiting for RDA decision, but early indications are this is now unlikely to be successful
Frank Hornby Trust	Big Lottery - Heritage Grant	£175,000 - £200,000	-	£175,000 - £200,000 (Big Lottery)	-	-	£5,000 (WNF)	1st Stage bid submitted
Arts in Empty	Arts Council	£30,000						Bid submitted

Spaces	England								
Lydiate Canal Marina	Rural Development Programme for England	Over £2 million	-	£200,000 (RDPE)	-	-	Private Sector	This is a private sector lead project, but is being supported by Lydiate Parish Council, Maghull Town Council, and Altside BVP because of economic regeneration benefits that it will bring to the area.	
Another Place, Sefton Coast	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£50k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£470k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Sefton Coast Partnership Officer and support	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£40k (per annum)	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Brown Hare Project (Habitat Management)	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£8k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Sefton Coast Access Improvements	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£500k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the	

								EOI submitted
Seftons Rural Heritage	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£300k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Melling House/Barns and Outbuildings, Melling	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£100k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Kings Gardens	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	?	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£7.5k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Another Place, Sefton Coast	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£50k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£470k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Sefton Coast Partnership	Merseyside Rural Economy	£40k (per annum)	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once

Officer and support	and Action Plan							RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
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Expressions of Interests Submitted Under the Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan

Name of Project	Summary	Contact	What is the Funding for?	Total Cost
Another Place, Sefton Coast	A project to provide activities, information and interpretation for the Another Place Artwork on Crosby Beach. This will help to contribute to the Local Economy and enhance the visitor experience.	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	The funding will be for a website, interpretation board, activities, an annual event, and a booklet/leaflet for all of the above.	£50k
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	This visitor centre for the Sefton Coast would provide information and interpretation including the history of the coast, landscape, aviation, shipwrecks, Lifeboats etc. There will also be a café and a 'coastal museum'.	Dave McAleavy, Coast and Countryside 0151 934 2961	The Funding will be to implement an interpretation plan for the Heritage Centre and to help to develop and install technology.	£470k
Sefton Coast Partnership Officer and support	There is currently no dedicated officer working for the Sefton Coast Partnership. This funding would be for an Officer post, along with admin support. The role of this post would be to identify and deliver projects, facilitate networking, represent and publicise the partnership, seek funding opportunities, and service the Partnership Board and Sub-Groups.	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	Annual salary plus admin support.	£40k (per annum)

Brown Hare Project (Habitat Management)	A project to improve our understanding of brown hare populations within Greater Manchester, North Merseyside and South Lancashire. It will also help to inform Local Biodiversity Action Plans by providing baseline data for which to set targets. The project will also help to give advice and best practice to farmers.	Paul Corner, MEAS, 0151 934 2809	The project could either be a stand alone project, or as part of the larger Brown Hare Project. It will help to create demonstration projects for Habitat Management best practice to feed into Local and Regional BAP targets and Agri-environmental schemes.	£8k
Sefton Coast Access Improvements	Access improvements to the paths and Birdleways along the Sefton Coast	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	Upgrade 4km of the Sefton Coast Path, create 2km of new footway/bridle way, upgrade the cycle link between Hightown and Formby, and improve linkages between Marshside and the RSPB centre for walking and cycling.	£500k
Seftons Rural Heritage	A project to repair, reinstate and consolidate Seftons historic structures including stocks, crosses, St Helens Well, St Catherine's Chapel and Lydiate Hall. This could then form an interpretation/heritage trail for Sefton, which could improve Tourism for Sefton. Web based technology could also be used, and schools could be involved with the work.	Daniel Byron Planning 0151 934 3584	Firstly repair work, then working on the interpretation.	£300k

Melling House/Barns and Outbuildings, Melling	A project to repair the Listed Buildings in Melling to make them usable and sustainable for farming purposes. This also saves the need to construct new buildings in the green belt/rural area.	Daniel Byron Planning 0151 934 3584	Repair work	£100k
Kings Gardens	A project to restore Kings Gardens through restoring and refurbishing the Gardens, and upgrading the infrastructure to support events and attractions.	Andrew Hall Planning 0151 934 3604	The funding will match other funding for the project from HLF and Sefton Council.	?
Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework	A project to produce an interactive mapping tool, which will form part of the public consultation for the Ecological Framework for the Liverpool City Region. This mapping tool will be used by landowners, planners, conservation organisations, developers and LA's to help to target habitat creation, protect existing habitats and strengthen wildlife corridors and networks.	Paul Corner, MEAS, 0151 934 2809	The funding will develop the interactive mapping tool and produce a user guide.	£7.5k

ANNEX C

CURRENT FUNDNG OPPORTUNTIES

Funding Name	Funding Body	Amount Available	Deadline for EOI Submission	Date by which project must start	Date by which project must finish	Key Criteria
Rural Development Programme	National/European Grant	Total Budget for the sub-region £2m	On going	ASAP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range Interventions, including Farm diversification, Rural tourism, supporting rural economy, access etc.
Heritage Grants	Big Lottery	£50,000 to over £5m	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance nation's diverse heritage • To encourage more people to be involved in their heritage
Future Jobs Fund	Dept. for Works and Pensions	£1.0 billion	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create 150,000 new jobs • Looking for Partnership bids • Must be linked to locally agreed work and skills strategies

Access To Nature	Big Lottery	Total Budget £25m, and grants available between £50,000, and £500,000	Stage 1 closes 1 st February 2010, and stage 2 closes 4 th May 2010	N/A	N/A	Access to Nature aims to encourage more people to enjoy the outdoors, particularly those who face social exclusion or those that currently have little or no contact with the natural environment - perhaps because they lack the confidence to get out and enjoy natural places or have few opportunities to do so.
Arts in Empty Spaces	Arts Council England	Total Budget £500,000	Starts from 1 st April 2010	N/A	N/A	Priority given to those local authorities in receipt of Empty Shops Revival Fund, which Sefton is.
Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme 2010/11	DEFRA	Yet to be determined		April 2010	March 2011.	fund intrusive investigation projects on land, which is potentially contaminated, and remediation projects on sites, which are contaminated. Money paid under the Programme is for capital expenditure. The Programme exists to help authorities carry out duties under contaminated land legislation (Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990).
Foundation	NWDA	Max grant £50k per project	On going	On going		Grants towards energy efficiency measures, renewable energy projects. Community engagement important – priority given to schemes which reduce fuel poverty

Aqua Fund	Advanced Demand Side Management	Overall budget: £500m	On going	On going		Provision of consultancy advice on water management, with tailored packages of new water management systems, in order to reduce water usage and bills
INTERREG IVB (Atlantic Area)	Welsh Assembly (Lead body) for west of UK	Not specified	Call for proposals not yet announced for 2010	Not available yet		4 transnational priorities:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Promote transnational entrepreneurship and innovation networks •Protect, secure and enhance marine coastal environment •Improve accessibility and external links •Promote transnational synergies in sustainable urban and regional development
Community Sustainable Energy Programme	Big Lottery	Max grant: £50k	Applications close at the end of October 2010	Not specified		Funding for sustainable energy projects within local communities, and involving local communities. Applications invited from community groups, Schools, Parish Councils.
Awards For All	Big Lottery	£300-£10,000	On going	On going, but the grant must be spent within one year		A wide range of activities can be funded which benefit a local community. These can include exhibitions if local interest, awareness raising of issues of particular interest, a small community event etc. Available to not for profit organisations and Parish Councils.

Reaching Communities	Big Lottery	£10,000-£150,000	On going	Not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •people having better chances in life, including being able to get better access to training and development to improve their life skills •strong communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems •improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy •healthier and more active people and communities.
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<p>E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund</p>	<p>E.ON</p>	<p>£20,000</p>	<p>Any time</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Grants of up to £20,000 to community groups and not for profit for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the purchase and installation of one or more renewable energy technologies (e.g. wind, solar thermal, PV, wood etc) <input type="checkbox"/> the renovation of existing facilities to incorporate micro-generation technology (e.g. the reinstatement of a watermill and the purchase of a turbine to produce hydro-electricity) <input type="checkbox"/> an energy efficiency makeover for building that could demonstrate significant energy savings and also behavioral change amongst users <input type="checkbox"/> the use of new or innovative technology to deliver either energy savings or micro-generation capacity. <p>To be eligible for support from the Sustainable Energy Fund, organisations must benefit specific groups namely: Education, vulnerable people; and people in fuel poverty.</p>
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European Commission and European Investment Bank launch European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA) facility	European Local Energy Assistance Grant (UK)	€15 million grant aid	Any time			<p>The European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB), the bank of the EU Member States, have launched a grant aid initiative to help local and regional authorities make investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy.</p> <p>The ELENA facility aims at helping cities and regions implement viable investment projects in the areas of energy efficiency; renewable energy sources and sustainable urban transport</p>
Rural Carbon Challenge Fund	Rural Development Programme for England (RDA)	£4 million	Two staged competition Stage 1 – 1 st June Stage 2 – 31 st August 2010	31 st December 2010	31 st March 2013	<p>To support the delivery of renewable energy projects in rural areas across the North West of England.</p> <p>Open to Social enterprises, Charities, groups of businesses and micro enterprises.</p> <p>Exploring potential opportunities with Mersey Forest.</p>

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet
Cabinet Member – Technical
Cabinet Member – Environmental

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010
16th June 2010
30th June 2010

SUBJECT: REECH (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Housing) Programme

WARDS AFFECTED: Linacre, Derby, Litherland, Netherton & Orrell, Church,

REPORT OF: Alan Moore, Strategic Director - Communities
Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director
Alan Lunt – Neighbourhood & Investment Programmes Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi X3447

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To update Members on the REECH Programme bid submitted to the North West Development Agency, and to seek Members approval to the setting up of structures and procedures for the delivery of the REECH Programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Cabinet approval is required in order to :-

- Establish the REECH Steering Group
- Appoint Cabinet Member for Regeneration as the Chair of the REECH Steering Group
- Include the REECH Programme within the Council's Capital Programme for 2010/11

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet note the submission of the REECH Programme bid, and:-

1. Approve the establishment of a REECH Steering Group as outlined in paragraph 3.0 of this report,
2. Agree that Cabinet Member for Regeneration be appointed Chair of the REECH Steering Group, and that
3. Subject to the REECH Programme bid being successful and a final offer having been made by the Regional Development Agency, a further report be submitted with a view to accepting that offer, such report to include any financial and operational implications, and
4. Subject to 3 above agree to the inclusion of the REECH Programme in the Capital Programme for 2010/11

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

1. Note the report

KEY DECISION: Yes

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FORWARD PLAN: Yes – Published on 12th May 2010

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: After the call in period

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Statutory duties are being imposed on local authorities to take action to address the adverse impact of climate change. A successful bid will provide a unique opportunity to progress both the climate change, and the low carbon economy agenda, particularly during this financially constrained period.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: Whilst there are no cash calls on Council’s resources in terms of Capital and Revenue monies, a significant amount of ‘in-kind’ contributions in the form of officer time will be required in order to deliver the programme. This is outlined in paragraph 4.0 of this report.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: Council has already accepted that in taking on responsibility as the Accountable Body for this scheme, the Council would potentially be liable if specific conditions are not met in the spending of this grant.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Environmental and Technical Services Director

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Interim Head of Legal Services

Finance – FD 419 The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	/		
2	Creating Safe Communities	/		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	/		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	/		
5	Environmental Sustainability	/		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	/		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	/		
8	Children and Young People	/		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet dated 17th December 2009 entitled 'Potential Funding Opportunity 1- Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing'

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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 17th December 2009 considered a report entitled 'Potential Funding Opportunity 1- Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing'. The report highlighted that as part of the European Economic Recovery Plan, the European Commission had agreed to allow up to 4% (£29 million) of ERDF Programme resources to be devoted to domestic energy efficiency and renewable actions.
- 1.2 In response to the above, the Regional Development Agency, issued a call for the submission of a sub-regional bid that seeks to directly stimulate the market for low carbon and environmental technologies and renewable energies via their application within existing social and low income housing.
- 1.3 Members at their meeting noted the Expression of Interest submitted to the North West Regional Development Agency, and agreed to support the principle of Sefton Council being the accountable body for this sub-regional bid, subject to sufficient external funding being made available for the management of the project, and Cabinet approval.

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1 Members may be aware that the Expression of Interest submitted was successful, but during the Concept Stage, the Regional Development Agency indicated in April 2010 that the original allocation of £11m ERDF grant for the Merseyside sub-region had been reduced to £8.23m. However the ask for Halton, which is coming from the allocation made to the remainder of the north west was not affected.
- 2.2 In light of the above, the first draft bid submitted on 21st May 2010 is now requesting £8.23m ERDF grant from the ring fenced Merseyside allocation and £500,000 for Halton from the rest of the North West ERDF allocation.
- 2.3 The aim of the bid is to provide impetus to a new emergent local market for green energy technologies by developing interconnected demonstration projects. This is to be achieved by driving up demand for environmental technologies, build capacity in local supply chains and target those areas most affected by the market failure, namely Lower Super Output Areas, which are suffering the highest levels of deprivation in Merseyside and Halton.
- 2.4 The bid timetable is as follows:-

▪ First draft to NWDA	21 st May 2010
▪ RDA Project Advisory Group meeting	4 th June 2010
▪ Submission goes to ERDF Appraiser	18 th June 2010
▪ NWDA evaluate and feedback	(5 weeks)
▪ Final revised bid to NWDA	23 rd July 2010
▪ Programme Monitoring Sub Committee	2 nd August 2010
▪ Project Review Group	16 th August 2010
▪ NWDA Board	22 nd or 23 rd September 2010
▪ Offer Letter/Contract issued	October 2010

3.0 REECH Programme Delivery Structure

3.1 Whilst it is recognised that there is no guarantee that the submitted bid will be successful, but given that there is only one submission from the sub-region, and that the region has its dedicated ring fenced ERDF allocation it is highly unlikely that the bid in its entirety would be rejected. In addition, a successful bid needs to be delivered by March 2013, with all expenditure committed by December 2013.

3.2 **It is therefore imperative that necessary delivery structures and procedures are established as soon as possible, which would enable the REECH Programme to be delivered effectively and efficiently by the strict deadlines that will be imposed by the Regional Development Agency.**

REECH Steering Group

3.3 An informal REECH Steering Group comprising officers from other local authorities, and representatives from RSLs, and the TMP was set up early this year in order to progress the bid. It is now proposed that this Steering Group is now formally established with defined remit and membership. It is also proposed that the Cabinet Member for Regeneration be the chair of the Steering Group. The proposed membership of the Steering Group is as follows:-

Chair – Cabinet Member for Regeneration – Sefton Council
6 LAs Officers representing Sefton, Liverpool, Knowsley, St. Helens, Wirral, and Halton
1 representative from Fusion 21
1 representative from other RSLs
1 representative from TMP (Current Chair of informal REECH Steering Group)
1 representative from the RDA (Possibly Sarah Carling – CCT)
1 representative from the sub-region Community organisation (Possibly Andy Churchill)
1 representative from Energy Saving Trust or Enviro-link

3.4 It is anticipated that the Steering Group would consist of some 14 to 15 members. A draft remit of the Steering Group, together with a flow chart showing the decision making process is attached as Annex A to this report. It should be noted that this would need to be refreshed in light of any conditions attached to the offer letter.

Programme Delivery Team

3.5 The REECH Programme Delivery Team will be based in The Sefton Investment Centre, and whilst the structure of the team will be determined in more detail once the outcome of the bid is known. It is anticipated that the majority of the team will comprised of officers from the Planning and Economic Development Department, and from the Energy Division of Neighbourhood and Investment Programmes Department, with input from Legal and Finance Departments.

3.6 A draft remit of the Programme Delivery Team is also included in Annex A of this report. Again as indicated in 3.4 above this is subject to change.

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4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The Regional Development Agency has indicated that the total amount of ERDF grant money ring fenced for the Merseyside sub-region is £8.32m with £500,000 for Halton. As with all European Programmes, this money can only be accessed provided there is match funding available from the private and public sector. With an overall intervention rate of 50% the total value of the REECH Programme is therefore approximately £17.64m.

4.2 With regard to management delivery costs, the Regional Development Agency has indicated that this should be no more than 5 to 10 percent of the total Programme cost, which equates (at 50% match) to £0.882m at the maximum value of the project at £17.64m. However, as indicated above, in order to draw down this money, there has to be an equivalent match in the form of either cash contribution or/and 'in-kind' contribution. The in-kind contribution can take the form of eligible officers' time and overheads.

4.4 Based on an estimate of officers' time required to deliver the Programme together with other associated costs, tables below provide an indication of the total revenue and capital costs for the life of the REECH Programme. As may be seen below, the estimated administration costs over the life of the project would fall well below the maximum of 10% of the total scheme value indicated in 4.2 above.

Revenue

Element	Total Cost	ERDF 50%	In-kind Contribution 50%					
			Sefton	Liverpool	Knowsley	St. Helens	Wirral	Halton
Staff	950,470	475,235	414,735	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Office	54,000	27,000						
Operational	225,000	112,500						
Total	1,229,470	614,735	414,735	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

Element	Total cost	2010*	2011	2012	2013
Staff	950,470	77,003	312,353	318,258	242,856
Accommodation	54,000	4,500	18,000	18,000	13,500
Operational	225,000	37,500	70,000	70,000	47,500
Total	1,229,470	119,003	400,353	406,258	303,856

Note * = ERDF operates its financial programmes on calendar years

Capital

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014***	ERDF	Match	Total
Capital Spend**	2,779,952	7,018,926	5,323,020	1,288,632	8,205,265	8,205,265	16,410,530

Note** = Please note that there is an element of over programming in the capital works. In addition this is still an indicative exercise, undertaken with the involvement of RSLs. The final shape of capital works can only be fully developed once the RDA has decided on the ERDF capital allocation and the subsequent tendering exercise that will be need to be undertake. It should also be noted that whilst the capital element of the Programme will appear in Council's Capital programme in 2010/11 there will not be any call on Sefton Council or local authorities capital resources. The ERDF capital match will be from organisations bidding for capital works such as RSLs.

Note*** = Whilst all eligible works need to be completed, and ERDF expenditure committed by December 2013, as with all capital works, a minimum of 10% retention has to be kept, and this will fall into year 2014.

5.0 Risk Assessment

5.1 An exercise has been carried out to identify potential risks involved in undertaking this Programme; the likelihood of something going wrong; the impact that could have both financially and operationally, and critically the processes and procedures that need to be introduced and implemented to minimise these risks. It should be noted that whilst Annex B shows risks identified to date, this is an on going exercise, which needs to be undertaken regularly as the Programme is being developed and delivered.

6.0 Establishing a New Partnership

6.1 In accordance with recently adopted Corporate policy, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet via the Council's Senior Leadership Team, in order to seek the formalisation of the partnership arrangements between participating Local Authorities and other partners.

7.0 Comments

7.1 This is the first time that Sefton Council would be acting the accountable body for a sub-regional project. It is also the first time that the European Commission has allowed the use of ERDF grant for housing related activities that were excluded in previous Objective 1 Programmes. Therefore, there is clearly a steep learning curve for officers involved with this REECH Programme, and the paramount need to minimise any inherent financial and operational risks involved.

7.2 Whilst recognising that there is no guarantee that the submitted bid would be successful, should the bid be approved in October, it is important that necessary structures and procedures are put in place before the decision on the bid is announced so that the transition to operational delivery is quick, effective and efficient.

REECH PROGRAMME **Draft Delivery Structure**

European Commission – Funding Organisation

North West Development Agency – Responsible for the delivery of the North West Operational Programme, of which REECH is one project.

Sefton Council – Accountable Body for the REECH Programme

REECH Steering Group – Responsible for the overall management and delivery of the REECH Programme. The Steering Group will comprise of:-

- Chair – Cabinet Member for Regeneration – Sefton Council
- 6 LAs Officers representing Sefton, Liverpool, Knowsley, St. Helens, Wirral, and Halton
- 1 representative from Fusion 21
- 1 representative from other RSLs
- 1 representative from TMP (Current Chair of informal REECH Steering Group)
- 1 representative from the RDA (Possibly Sarah Carling – CCT)
- 1 representative from the sub-region Community organisation (Possibly Andy Churchill)
- 1 representative from Energy Saving Trust or Enviro-link

Remit of the Group would include:-

- Overall Management and Delivery of the Programme
- Ensuring that the decision making process is open, transparent, and beyond approach
- Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to manage any conflicts of interest so as to mitigate the risk of their influencing decision making.
- Conditions attached to the Offer Letter are complied with it
- Outputs and Outcomes are achieved
- Approves the criteria and methodology for project selection
- Ensures a full appraisal has been undertaken and the recommendations have been considered at the appropriate level and by the normal process
- To establish and maintain an inventory of assets.
- To work with other Partnership bodies to ensure the monitoring, evaluation and audit of projects and the wider programme procedures and protocols

Programme Delivery Team – Responsible for the day to day delivery of the REECH Programme, and for servicing the Steering Group. The core delivery

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will comprise of officers of officers from the Planning and Economic Development Department, and from the Energy Team (Neighbourhood and Investment Programmes Department), with input from Legal and Finance Departments. The overall lead officer for the REECH Programme will be Mo. Kundi

Duties would include:-

- Responsible for ERDF Contract Management;
- Day-to-day project management and co-ordination;
- Servicing Steering Group;
- Liaison with Local Authority Representatives;
- Project commissioning;
- Project appraisal;
- Co-ordination with peripheral activity (Business, HE, Private Landlords, Employment & Skills etc.) Legacy etc.
- Compilation and submission of ERDF claims;
- Financial eligibility testing/ compliance;
- Performance Monitoring;
- Project grant payments.

Remit of the Delivery Group would include:-

1. Manage the overall Programme, including staffing and budget management functions. (Lead Officer)
2. Ensure effective and adequate appraisal, approval; project monitoring and financial systems are in place that meets RDA's requirements for devolved funding and the financial and legal requirements of the Accountable Body.
3. Ensure that appraisal of projects seeking support from RDA's funding are undertaken by suitably trained and where necessary by independent appraisers.
4. Make recommendations on project approval (following completed appraisal reports) to the Steering Group (and Sefton Council).
5. Lead on the work of producing any monitoring reports and additional information.
6. Ensure there is full partnership involvement in each of those areas of work outlined above.
7. Ensure the smooth running of the any Project Teams and Task Groups.
8. Provide strategic guidance to the development of projects and to provide support to projects being developed in accordance with priorities.

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9. Work with partners towards full engagement of key agencies within the Steering Group and to ensure tangible commitment is shown by the agencies to the priorities within the Programme.
10. To oversee the evaluation of the use of funding to meet Programme objectives.
11. To manage and review the communications strategy for the Steering Group
12. Recruit any specialist co-ordinators as proposed through individual projects and/or manage consultants as required.

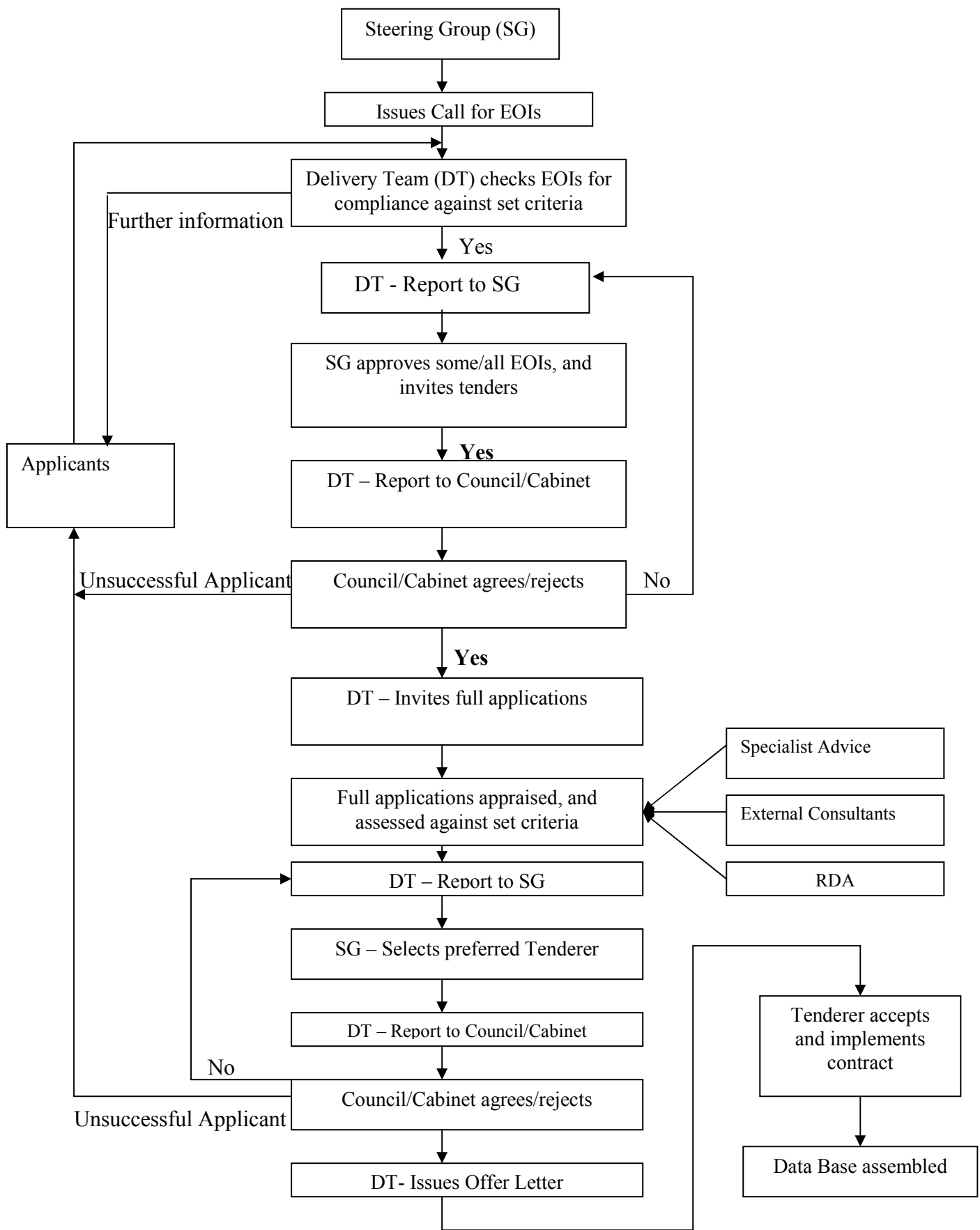
Role of Local Authority Representatives would to include:-

- Responsible for providing local authority support, commitment and liaison;
- Providing technical appraisal advice, (if required);
- Liaising with projects on the ground in their local authority area.
- Pro-actively participating in Steering Group and it's decision making role and responsibilities
- Avoiding conflict of interest
- Ensuring that the sponsoring authority is kept up to date, and provides continues pro-active support for the Programme

Role of RSL Representatives would to include:-

- Responsible for providing wider RSL support, commitment and liaison;
- Providing technical appraisal advice, (if required);
- Providing collective feed back from projects being undertaken by RSLs on the ground.
- Pro-actively participating in Steering Group and it's decision making role and responsibilities
- Avoiding conflict of interest
- Acting as a liaison between the Steering Group, and individual RSLs

REECH PROGRAMME
DRAFT APPRISAL PROCESS
14th May 2010



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RISK ASSESMENT

Risk Description	(a) Probability (Score 1-5)	(b)Impact (Score 1-5)	(c) Overall Risk (a x b)	Review Date	Risk Owner	Mitigation: What can be done to reduce risk or what contingency plans will be in place?
Financial and Legal risk	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Sefton would be undertaking the role of Programme management. Tendering exercise will be undertaken in accordance with ERDF regulations and successful tenderer will be legally and financially duty-bound to deliver the agreed out puts and out comes. Also payments will only be made on defrayed eligible expenditure.
Project not approved by the RDA	2	1	2	On going	Sefton Council	In the event the project is not approved, there are no cost implications to Sefton or to other delivery partners involved in the programme.
Project approved but ERDF grant reduced	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	In the event the ERDF allocation is reduced, the works programme will also be reduced accordingly. Depending on the reduction in the allocation, the delivery team may need to be reduced, and the nature and geographical spread of activity may also be curtailed.
Contractor goes into Administration	2	2	4	On going	RSL Delivery Partners/Sefton Council	Successful delivery contracts would be with the RSLs, who will then engage contractors to undertake the work. It will be the RSL who having signed the conditional offer letter legally and contractually obliged to complete agreed works. Failure to do so mean that they will not get paid, and Sefton would be in a position to claw back any money for non achievement of out puts.

RSL goes into Administration	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Sefton Council will undertake financial credit rating of RSLs during the tendering exercise.
Individual Project cost overruns	3	2	6	On going	Delivery Partners & Sefton Council	Sefton Council will monitor RSLs, and their contracts very closely, and where necessary will ask RSLs to take corrective actions. Council will have no legal or contractual agreement to pay for any cost overruns incurred by the RSL or their contractors. This risk will lie entirely with the relevant RSL
Overall Programme cost overruns	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Regular monitoring of contracts with delivery partners, and Management delivery costs will be undertaken, and reported both to the Steering Group and the Cabinet.
Delays/time constraints	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	At the start of the project, a reserve list of schemes would be produced and if some projects do not materialise, schemes could be brought forward from the reserve list
Local Supply Capacity problems	2	2	4	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	The Sefton Delivery Team is already engaging organisations such as Fusion 21(local supply chain company set up to work with RSLs) and Envirolink NW in order to raise awareness of the opportunities arising from this programme and help to find solutions for capacity development.
Skilled labour constraints	2	2	4	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	Working with other partners in the sub region/region in order to anticipate labour constraints and jointly work with them in order to address them
Funding problems	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	Increase the contribution from alternative sources of funding or seek extended timescales on the delivery of the project. As part of this development stage Sefton has sourced and collated Expressions Of Interest for more than double the bid amount so we have many potential projects in reserve

Technical barriers	3	1	3	Approval Stage and start of works	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	This is will be addressed as part of the tendering exercise, where detailed appraisal and assessment will be undertaken of each tenderer.

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet
Cabinet Member – Technical
Cabinet Member – Environmental

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010
16th June 2010
30th June 2010

SUBJECT: Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas

WARDS AFFECTED: Litherland, Netherton & Orrell, and Kew

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi X3447

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To provide an update on the recent developments with regard to JESSICA, and the proposals for a Merseyside Urban Development Fund that are being developed by a private sector led consortium.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To comply with Council's reporting procedures.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet:-

- 1 Note the report, and the proposed sub-regional working level arrangements outlined in the report to progress the development of an Urban Development Fund Business Plan and preferred UDF model.
- 2 Note the Sefton projects submitted in Annex A, which could be included in the programme for funding opportunities
- 3 Request further progress reports, including where there are any financial and legal implications as a result of JESSICA/UDF proposals.

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

- 4 Note the report

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: After the call in period

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

JESSICA provides a potential funding opportunity for projects within Sefton that would not now attract any European ERDF grant. With the exception of Southport Business Park, all other sites are in the ownership of private developers, and along the Dunnings Bridge Corridor, which is classified as Strategic sites requiring re-development. Not to participate in the JESSICA Programme could adversely impact on Council's ability to assist the re-development of these key sites, and job creation opportunities.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Environmental Technical Services

Legal

FD420 – The Head of Corporate Finance & IS has been consulted and has no comments to make on this report.

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CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		/	
2	Creating Safe Communities	/		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	/		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	/		
5	Environmental Sustainability	/		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	/		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		/	
8	Children and Young People		/	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT North West Operational Programme
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1.0 Background

- 1.1 In December last year the Northwest Urban Investment Fund (NWUIF), launched a new £100m fund to help support urban development projects in the North West. The fund is a Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas (JESSICA) initiative. This is a new financial instrument created by the European Commission in conjunction with the European Investment Bank. The basic principle of JESSICA is to take a more commercial approach to the use of public funds in delivering regeneration and economic development. JESSICA enables ERDF and match funding to be invested by Urban Development Funds (UDFs) in Urban Projects via loans, equity and/or guarantees. Returns from these investments can then be used to make new investments in new projects, thereby creating a revolving fund for investment in the region.

2.0 Holding Fund.

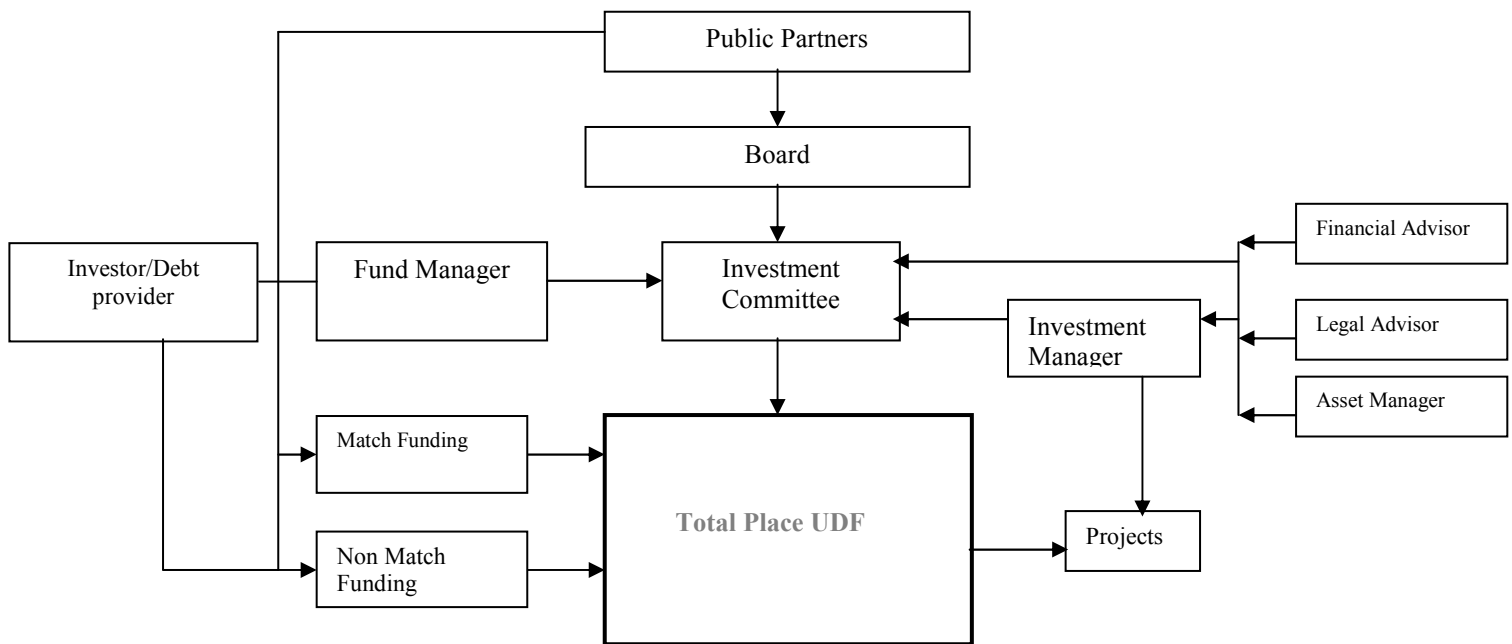
- 2.1 The regional arrangements for establishing the Holding Fund, managed by European Investment Bank (EIB) have now been established. Its proposals include establishing an Urban Development Fund for Merseyside, which will receive £30m of ERDF.
- 2.3 The Investment Strategy sets out the eligible activities for investment - defined by the Northwest Operation Programme for ERDF as the Investment Frameworks for Action Areas 3.2 (Regional Strategic Sites) and 4.3 (Local Employment Sites). . Project investments will include the development of employment sites, creation of new commercial floor space, reclamation of derelict or contaminated land, and provision of site servicing and infrastructure.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 The European Investment Bank has confirmed key elements of the UDF structure, including the need for a strong private sector fund management component -which will be FSA regulated and compliant.
- 3.2 A sub regional working group comprising TMP, Liverpool Vision, Wirral MBC and Liverpool City Council has been set up and is currently progressing the work on developing the UDF Business Plan.
- 3.3 In response to North West Development Agency's OJEU invitation notice in March 2010 the short listed bidder for Merseyside is a consortium comprising Igloo Regeneration Ltd, Aviva Investors Global Services, GVA Grimley Ltd, and Royal Bank of Canada Europe Ltd, (henceforth referred to as the Consortium).
- 3.4 The Consortium's aim is the – 'Creation of Merseyside UDF (the Merseyside Revolving Urban Investment Fund - MRUIF) to be a 'Sustainable Total Place' Fund covering a mix of uses and flexible investment approaches (Jessica eligible funding plus other funding for non eligible investments)'

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3.5 The proposed Urban Develop Fund structure is as follows: _



3.6 The Consortium is proposing that the Total Place UDF would be a company limited by guarantee with local authorities as members alongside the Consortium. The final bid needs to be submitted by 18th June 2010, containing the following information:-

- Requirements of Business Plan
- Fund Business Plan
- Investment Strategy
- Financial Model (including Match Funding)
- Management & Fees
- Project Portfolio
- Ownership, Governance, Risk and Control

3.7 In response to the above tight deadline, the Consortium has been seeking information from sub-regional local authorities on potential projects. Without prejudice Sefton has provided information relating to sites that could attract funding under this programme. With the exception of Southport Business Park, all other sites are in the ownership of private developers, and are along the Dunnings Bridge Corridor, which is classified as Strategic sites requiring re-development. The information provided is included in Annex A to this report.

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4.0 Next Steps

4.1 The Consortium would be under taking an appraisal of projects submitted by local authorities and other partner organisations to ensure that these projects are:-

- Viable
- Eligible
- Ability to attract match funding (There are issues to be resolved related to the process of match funding, both at project level and UDF level.
- Proposed by competent, solvent sponsors
- Needing capital not available from the private sector
- State aid compliant

4.2 The UDF will clearly need to secure projects that will commit the ring fenced JESSICA ERDF and spend it by 2015 in order avoid de-commitment, and to generate the returns, which will create the revolving funds that can then be reinvested in projects which are free of the ERDF eligibility criteria.

5.0 Recommendation

That Cabinet:-

- 1 Note the report, and the proposed sub-regional working level arrangements outlined in the report to progress the development of an Urban Development Fund Business Plan and preferred UDF model.
- 2 Note the Sefton projects submitted in Annex A, which could be included in the programme for funding opportunities
- 3 Request further progress reports, including where there are any financial and legal implications as a result of JESSICA/UDF proposals.

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

- 4 Note the report

ANNEX A

Merseyside UDF JESSICA Project Review Requirements							
Investment and Project Terms - example, subject to change and for illustration purposes only							
1. Development loan finance for viable, sustainable Urban Regeneration and Infrastructure schemes							
2. Mezzanine loan of 30% offered							
3. Competitive commercial interest rates offered							
4. Investment to be paid over two to five years							
5. Equity reinvestment requirements for future phases							
			Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Project 4	Project 5
Q 1	Strategic Objectives		Atlantic Park - Developers, Royal London Asset Management	Senate Business Park, Bridle Road	Peerless, Dunnings Bridge Corridor	Southport Business Park, Kew	Heysham Road / Switch Car, Dunnings Bridge Corridor
	Broad ERDF OP alignment		Is within OP's priority strategic site of Dunnings Bridge Corridor	Within priority strategic sites of Dunning Bridge Corridor	Withn priority strategic sites of the Corridor	NWDA supported development	Priority strategic site within OP
	Strategic imperatives		Significant aspect of major redevelopment of whole corridor				
	Sustainable integrated regeneration plan		Usual documents in place				
	2 Knowledge Focus						
	Key Sectors		Commercial and light industrial	Commercial & light industrial	light industrial / commercial	commercial/industrial	industrial / light industrial / commercial
	Project ERDF Outputs		Units, jobs,	Units, jobs	Unit, developers don't want to divulge job numbers yet	Units, approx 250 jobs.	
	Project ERDF Outcomes		Increased private sector investment; improved land quality; vibrant and successful business location.				
Q 3	Planning Considerations						
	Planning Status		EDT3 Strategic employment Site	EDT4 Strategic Employment Site	EDT3 Strategic Employment Site	Strategic Employment Site	Primarily Industrial Area
	Enviornmental Conditions and Constraints		Was the site of Rolls Royce engineering	no issue	some contamination on site - owner in process of negotiating a de-	remediation of former landfill site	some remediation

					contamination strategy		
		Utility Considerations	potential electricity supply issue	potential electricity supply issue	potential electricity supply issue	no issue	
		Amenity Considerations	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
		Eco-credentials	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
		Site Acquisition and Assembly	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
Q	4	Project Readiness					
		Scheme Defintion	Further development of 19 ha site. One new commercial building completed. Current £14.6 mil infrastructure & refurbishment development due to be completed by March 2011. Developers will then consider further development and/or sell off parcels of land for others to develop. Developers keen to incorporate low carbon features such as carbon neutral design and district heat & power schemes, and meetings to take place to discuss these with developers soon. JESSICA funding could be used to buy-in to supporting further site development.	Mixed development of B1 & B2 premises of approx 230k ft2. Littlewoods purchased part of site to relocate call centre activity on 150kft2 and has planning approval for this activity. Likely not to go forward and SMBC has option of buy-back at original selling price if this situation formalised, and would be used to develop whole site for mixed use. SMBC owns remainder of site that Priority Sites Ltd want to purchase for mixed commercial / light industrial premises for which planning approval is close to completion.	The developers want to build an industrial unit on a 4 acre section to the rear of the site away from the main Dunning Bridge Road. There are tentative plans for the developers to use the front of the site for a hotel / commercial development.	Previous phases of the business park have been funded by NWDA and GONW, supporting the remediation of 6 acres of brownfield site, 80,000 ft2 offices and approx 300 jobs. Berkeley James want to build two more grade A office buildings of 32,200 ft2 each with associated external works and car parking on a 12,000 m2 former landfill site. The drawings/plans are in place. Santander Bank was prepared to fund the remainder of the £11 mil development costs over and above a £1.65 mil ERDF grant, but only if 50% pre-lets was achieved. JESSICA loans could	These sites are some way off from being oven-ready schemes for round 1 JESSICA funding, although Switch Car site is well defined, whereas Heysham Road is a more sprawling area with many small parcels in multiple ownership. However, they represent longer term potential in terms of locations for post 2015 JESSICA funds that will be relieved of ERDF restrictions on, for example, equity investment and energy schemes. The whole of the Dunnings Bridge Corridor as an integrated development in terms of design, energy usage etc represents the overall objective.

						de-risk the Satander input. Also, close to the business park a proposal for a district heating scheme involving David Wilson Homes, a hospital and others has emerged, and there is interest to spread it to the business park using Wilson Bowden Developments. The scalability of CHP means that the 2 new office developments could be CHPed and linked to homes/hospital CHP, or they might be regarded as a phase 1 and phase 2 development.	
		Scheme Status (Planning)	Planning approval for developers overall masterplan	Planning approval for old call centre plan. Planning application ready for Priority Sites.	Planning application in the system for 4 acre development	Planning permission needed	planning needed
		Ownership	Developers - Royal London Asset Management	Sefton MBC own part of site. Littlewoods own the rest	Chancerygate Business Centres	Sefton Council	multiple / Carcraft
		Phasing and Implementation					
		SPV in place (details)					
		Project Readiness / timetable	April 2011 - 2014	2011-13	2011-13	Phase 1 Spring 2011; Phase 2 2012	
		Market Demand and Failure				There is a demand in Southport for high quality new commercial floorspace and there are no readily available alternative sites to meet such	

							demand.
Q 5	ERDF Eligibility						
	Regulation Compliancy	Compliant	compliant	compliant	compliant		
Q 6	Single Programme Eligibility						
	Regulation Compliancy						
Q 7	Project Viability						
	GDV						
	Cashflows						
	IRR						
	Valuation Evidence						
	Existing Funding	Current £14.6 mil development has £1.3mil NWDA, £3.4mil ERDF and remainder Royal London. JESSICA funding could de-risk some aspects of future development. The JESSICA funding required is very speculative.	Priority Sites Ltd, land sale.			Currently in discussions with Berleley James over the best way to move forward.	
8	Risk Profile						
	Substantial Pre-lets or Pre-sales	No	no	no	no		
	Project Company - agreements, exit etc						
	Investee reputation - covenant/track-record etc	Excellent	Priority Sites Ltd works in partnership with both RBS and the HCA				
	Construction contracts						
	Exit Agreement						
	Minimum Investment required	£2.5 mil	£1 mil	£1 mil	Phase 1, £4.5 mil; Phase 2, £1 mil	£1.5 mil	

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Agenda Item 8

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member Regeneration
Cabinet

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010.

SUBJECT: Provision of grant funding for capping layer and gas protection at Tannery site.

WARDS AFFECTED: Litherland

REPORT OF: Alan Lunt - Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Tom Clay, HMR Programme Manager
0151-934 4849

EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To request approval to provide 'gap' funding for a capping layer and gas protection measures to Bellway Homes Ltd. for the development of new housing for sale and rent at the Tannery site, Bootle, using funding from the Council's Housing Market Renewal Programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The scheme will be unable to proceed without 'Gap' funding in current market conditions, and the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director does not have delegated authority to make decisions relating to such matters.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet Member Regeneration notes and Cabinet approves making available a Grant of £225,334 to Bellway Homes Limited subject to completion of the necessary grant agreement and Building licence for a capping layer and associated works at the Tannery site, Hawthorne Road, Bootle.

KEY DECISION:

N/A

FORWARD PLAN:

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

Upon the expiry of the call in period for the minutes of the meeting

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The Council could decide not to make the gap funding available. This would mean the scheme being unable to proceed and the loss of £1.9million of HCA funding for 17units of affordable social housing for rent, 12 units for shared ownership (Homebuy) and 27 units for sale.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Funding is available from the approved HMRI budget for 2010/11

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure			0	0
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources: (HMRI)				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When? March 2011			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

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Legal: Legal advice has been taken in relation to State Aid matters, and the gap funding proposed is covered by current EU exemptions to State Aid rules.

Risk Assessment: A risk assessment has been carried out as part of the scheme appraisal.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Interim Head of Legal Services

FD425 - ∴ The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services has been consulted and has no comments on this report

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		X	
2	Creating Safe Communities	X		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	X		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	X		
5	Environmental Sustainability	X		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	X		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		X	
8	Children and Young People	X		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

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1.0 Background

- 1.1 This project involves the next phase of new housing development on land assembled as part of the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (Klondyke and Hawthorne Road, Bootle) Compulsory Purchase Order 2005 (The CPO).
- 1.2 Following the confirmation of the CPO, the intention was that Bellway Homes Limited, the Council's selected developer, and Adactus Housing Association), the Council's lead RSL for the area, would then be able to proceed to develop out the new housing on the site.
- 1.3 Delays incurred as a result of prolonged legal challenges to the legality of the Compulsory Purchase process, followed by the impact of the credit crisis, required the scheme to be delayed and re-designed. This primarily involved omitting apartments, and increasing the proportion of family houses with off-street parking. The revised scheme was granted full planning approval on the 12th February 2010. A Social Housing Grant has been approved by the Homes and Communities Agency towards the costs of the Social Housing dwellings forming part of the scheme.
- 1.4 Re-appraisal of the financial aspects of the scheme by the developer has shown that there is still a significant gap between the cost of provision and the values to be obtained. These figures – both of costs and values - have been verified by Capita Symonds for the Council. The only way, therefore, for the scheme to proceed at the present time is if gap funding is provided by the Council. The alternative would be to delay the scheme until market conditions improve substantially, and even then gap funding would still be needed for the affordable housing.
- 1.5 It is proposed therefore that 'gap' funding is provided to fund the provision of the capping layer and gas protection measures which are works preparatory to the construction of the houses.

2.0 State Aid Rules

- 2.1 The Council is able to provide 'Gap' funding to Bellway Homes Limited under a current exemption granted by the European Commission from European State Aid rules, namely: *N221/06 – United Kingdom Support for Land Remediation (In Assisted Areas)*.

- 2.2 The objective of this Scheme is to bring contaminated land, brownfield land and derelict land back into productive use by addressing the detrimental effects of previous usage. In turn, this enables subsequent development whilst “simultaneously reducing the pressure for development on greenfield land, thus promoting EC objectives such as environmental protection and sustainable economic development”. This is the provision that has already enabled the Council to fund remediation of the site within State Aid Rules.
- 2.3 It is proposed that the final capping layer and gas protection measures to be carried out by Bellway Homes Ltd which will cover the gap needed to enable the scheme to proceed.

3.0 Funding

- 3.1 The required level of gap funding has been assessed, following a rigorous financial appraisal process, as being £225,334. The appraisal has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Overarching Development Agreement with Bellway Homes Ltd which in itself was procured through European Procurement procedures.
- 3.2 This also allows that, in the event that the actual Income from Sales exceeds that contained within the appraisal, the Council shares this ‘overage’ on a 50/50 basis with the developer.
- 3.3 The gap funding requirement is contained within the HMRI budget for remediation of the Tannery site that was approved by Cabinet on the 15th April 2010.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 The provision of gap funding is essential in order to ensure the delivery of the next phase of high quality housing in the Klondyke neighbourhood, on a formerly derelict industrial site. Development with a range of high quality housing represent a major uplift for the neighbourhood and enables remaining residents of the Klondyke estate to be re-housed.

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Housing Capital Programme 2010-2011

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** All

REPORT OF: Alan Lunt – Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes
Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Jim Ohren – Principal Manager, Housing Strategy
0151 934 3619

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:
To seek the approval of Members for the Housing Capital Programme 2010-2011

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:
To enable schemes to be progressed in the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION(S):
That the Cabinet Member notes and recommends to Cabinet:-

1. That the housing capital programme detailed at Annex A, which requires the utilisation of £2.225m One Vision Housing capital receipts as a funding resource, together with other capital funding, be approved.

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the call-in period for the minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not to agree the Capital Programme would delay progress on individual schemes and would have an adverse affect on delivery of the HMRI Programme.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: The proposed schemes can be funded from available resources and have no adverse affect on the Council’s overall position.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	6.595m			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources	5.259m			
Specific Capital Resources	1.336m			
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? ¥/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	Annual allocations			

Legal: None.

Risk Assessment: None.

Asset Management: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD No. 420 – The comments of the Interim Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services have been incorporated in the report.

Interim Head of Legal Services

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		√	
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

North West: Local Authority Housing Capital Allocations – March 2010

Agenda Item 9

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The mainstream housing capital funds from the Regional Housing Pot for 2010/11 were announced in early April 2010. This report contains details of the 2010/11 housing allocations and an updated housing capital programme.

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1. Sefton's Housing Allocation from the North West Regional Housing Pot for 2010/11 totals £2.188m, compared to the allocation of £4.063m received in 2009/10. This therefore represents a 46% reduction year on year. The reason for this reduced allocation is due in part to the change in the methodology for distribution of the Regional Housing Pot as agreed by 4NW (the Regional Leaders Forum) and relevant Government ministers, and also due to a reduction in the overall size of the Regional Housing Pot. This has reduced from £108.143m to £65.791m. The reduction is due to the (previous) Government's desire to support their pledges around increasing affordable housing. In essence, the budget of the Homes and Communities Agency (the agency which funds affordable housing) has increased at the expense of Regional Housing Pot funding for local government. Like Sefton, other authorities in the North West have suffered a reduction, including Wirral, Liverpool, St.Helens and Halton.

3.0 Capital Programme

- 3.1. Attached at Annex A is the proposed Housing Capital Programme. The programme can be financed by the available resources identified in paragraph 4.1 and has no adverse effect on the Council's overall position.
- 3.2. Particular attention is drawn to:
 - a) The provision for funding Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs). The DFG is a statutory grant, which must be paid in respect of cases that meet the qualifying criteria to enable improved access for disabled applicants in and around their home. The Government helps to fund this through the provision of a direct grant. In Sefton's case this amounts to £1.336m for 2010/11, a 15% increase over the basic grant provided in 2009/10. Whilst the Government grant is distributed according to assumed need (as measured by numbers of disability benefit claimants within the Borough, for example) and taking into account the Council's annual bid, in practice it may not match actual demand, and hence it is expected that the local authority will supplement the government funding from local capital resources i.e. the local housing capital pot.

For various reasons – particularly the impact of improved grant administration processes resulting in grant approvals flowing through more quickly; rising demand due to demographics and the ageing population it is anticipated that there will be considerable pressure on this budget line. The DFG budget will be actively monitored during the year and, should there be a need to

increase further the resources to meet commitments, the issue will be flagged up via the Council's Strategic Asset Management Group. Any opportunities to bid for increased resources from central government will be maximised, as in previous years, although it is not anticipated that these opportunities will arise due to constrained public resources nationally. The demand for Disabled Facilities Grants will be monitored throughout the year and further reports brought before Members if it prove to be necessary

- b) Provision for Home Improvement Grants/Loans, such as Home Repairs Assistance loans. These are provided where there is an assessed need for housing repairs in urgent or dangerous situations, and applicants are in receipt of means tested benefits. However, they are non statutory and there is some evidence that take up has fallen due to the fact that in accordance with recently adopted policy, the Council no longer provides grants but provides loans, secured in the form of a legal charge against the property in question and recovered upon sale of the property.
- c) The provision in the programme for funding the procurement of a new ICT system for the 'Homesearch' Choice Based Lettings, run in partnership with One Vision Housing. This will add extra functionality and allow for efficiency savings in the medium to long term.

3.3. Attention is also drawn to the £2.6m contribution to the Council's Housing Market Renewal Programme for 2010/11, which is vital to ensure the Programme continues with its core commitments around strategic acquisitions in identified priority areas in south Sefton. The £2.6m is essential in securing the £9.3m Housing Market Renewal Grant. Any reduction in the Council's contribution will result in the grant being reduced or potentially withdrawn.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The basic Housing Allocation could be supplemented by other related capital resources, as exemplified overleaf, to give a total of £6.595m available to finance the Housing based Capital Programme shown at Annex A.

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<u>Resources Available 2010/11</u>	<u>£m</u>
Capital Grant - 2010/11 Allocation	2.188
- 2009/10 B/Fwd	0.584
Disabled Facilities Grant	1.336
Prudential Borrowing	0.262
Capital Receipts (OVH) for HMR (business rates)	0.100
Capital Receipts (OVH - Right to Buy sales)	<u>2.125</u>
Total	<u>6.595</u>

- 4.2 The above table assumes the use of £2.225m One Vision Housing (OVH) Capital Receipts, received as a result of Right to Buy sales. As part of the housing stock transfer agreement, these receipts were to be reinvested in housing in the Borough.
- 4.3 The full year revenue costs of the prudential borrowing of £0.262m, which amount to approximately £23,600 in 2011/12, have been incorporated in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 Growing demand for Disabled Facilities Grants and the requirement to contribute towards the Housing Market Renewal programme in order to secure additional grant, together with significantly reduced housing capital resources, place pressure on the Council's finite Capital resources. As in previous years, Officers will endeavour to secure additional resources for housing related purposes and will attempt to continue to perform well in securing resources for RSL partners to deliver affordable housing and for the remediation of contaminated land in order to ease pressure on the need for development of Greenfield sites.
- 5.2 The programme, if approved, will however, secure significant additional resources for Sefton in its own right, notably £9.3m Housing Market Renewal Grant and significant private sector investment, delivered by key RSL and developer partners.

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ANNEX A

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SEFTON CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 - 2013/14

HOUSING - GENERAL FUND

1	2	3	4	5	7	8
REF. NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TOTAL COST	EXPEND TO 31.3.2010	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13 & LATER YEARS
		£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	<u>Health and Social Care</u>					
	<u>Disabled Facilities Grants</u>					
1	Previous Years' Approvals	70.52	0.00	70.52	0.00	0.00
2	2009/10 Approvals	3,264.30	1,717.03	1,477.27	70.00	0.00
3	2010/11 Approvals	2,500.00	0.00	1,352.00	1,098.00	50.00
	Total Disabled Facilities Grants	5,834.82	1,717.03	2,899.79	1,168.00	50.00
	<u>General</u>					
4	Piper Solo	150.00	97.67	52.33	0.00	0.00
5	Drug Rehabilitation / Boscoe Hostel	1,280.00	1,217.35	62.65	0.00	0.00
	Total General	1,430.00	1,315.02	114.98	0.00	0.00
	<u>Provn. for new starts - subj. to report</u>					
6	DFG (SCG)	168.00	0.00	0.00	168.00	0.00
	TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	7,432.82	3,032.05	3,014.77	1,336.00	50.00
	REGENERATION (HOUSING) SCHEMES					
	<u>Home Improvement Grants</u>					

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7	Previous Years' Approvals	13.34	0.00	13.34	0.00	0.00
8	2009/10 Approvals	428.23	337.79	75.44	15.00	0.00
9	2010/11 Approvals	600.00	0.00	491.00	90.00	19.00
10	Grant Administration Fees	297.60	226.14	20.00	51.46	0.00
	Total Home Improvement Grants	1,339.17	563.93	599.78	156.46	19.00
	<u>General</u>					
11	Energy Efficiency Grants	337.53	324.34	13.19	0.00	0.00
12	Landlord Accreditation / HMO's	35.00	29.78	5.22	0.00	0.00
13	Green Business Project	302.89	266.60	36.29	0.00	0.00
14	Strategic Housing Market Assessment	61.15	51.15	10.00	0.00	0.00
15	Housing Act - Works in Default	35.00	15.57	19.43	0.00	0.00
16	Older Persons Hsg Strat.- extra care provn.	2,890.00	0.00	200.00	2,690.00	0.00
17	Contribution to HMRI 08/09 - 10/11	7,724.00	5,124.00	2,600.00	0.00	0.00
18	Affordable Housing Study	25.00	0.24	24.76	0.00	0.00
19	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Provision	12.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
20	Site Appraisal and Consultation Choice based lettings - ICT procurement	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
21	Old Schemes	10.24	0.84	9.40	0.00	0.00
	Total General	11,482.81	5,812.52	2,980.29	2,690.00	0.00
	TOTAL REGENERATION (HOUSING)	12,821.98	6,376.45	3,580.07	2,846.46	19.00
	TOTAL HOUSING GF SCHEMES	20,254.80	9,408.50	6,594.84	4,182.46	69.00

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REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER (REGENERATION)

DATE: 9th JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: LIVERPOOL CITY REGION EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS STRATEGY AND COMMISSIONING FRAMEWORK

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL SEFTON WARDS

REPORT OF: ANDY WALLIS (PLANNING & ECONOMIC REGENERATION DIRECTOR)

CONTACT OFFICER: CLAIRE MAGUIRE, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS MANAGER
EXT 2684

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

- i) To inform members of the progress made on the production of the Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Framework and assessment of the opportunities for Sefton afforded by this development.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To keep Cabinet Member updated on the progress of the City Region level strategy on employment and skills and its implications for Sefton Council and its partners.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet Member:

Notes the contents of this report and endorses the approaches set out in the City Region Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Framework.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately following expiry of the call-in period.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:
N/A

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, as these have all been considered and taken into account in the Council's overall budget.

Financial:

	2006/ 2007 £	2007/ 2008 £	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>				
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/a

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/a

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

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1. Background

1.1 Members will be aware that a new City Region Cabinet has been established in shadow form, with all six Local Authorities represented (via chief Executives) plus the Private sector in the chair through the Mersey Partnership. The LCR Cabinet is supported by six policy boards with the following structure:

- Economic Development (led by Liverpool City Council but with the support of The Mersey Partnership)
- Employment and Skills (led by Knowsley)
- Environment and Waste (led by Wirral)
- Housing and Spatial Planning (led by St Helens)
- Transport (led by Halton)
- Safer, Healthier Communities (led by Sefton)

1.2 The LCR cabinet has some primary functions, including:

- Agreeing City Region strategy and delivery mechanisms
- Overseeing an annual work programme of key city region wide initiatives
- Ensuring effective delivery of programmes through one or more of the boards
- Overseeing the development and delivery of the LCR Multi Area Agreement
- Ensuring effective performance management of the activity.

1.3 There is no loss of sovereignty to any of the Local Authorities as a result of these new arrangements and there are no delegated powers for any of the decision making. The impetus is to produce a clear definition of the projects, programmes and initiatives identified as the responsibility of the City Region rather than any involvement in the statutory obligations of the partner organisations. The commitment is to work in partnership to pick up cross cutting initiatives where collaboration will benefit the partners of the City Region .

1.4 The employment and skills arena is felt to be one in which concentration of efforts based around the travel to work area rather than Local Authority district boundaries could yield significant benefits for the economy and disadvantaged communities.

1.4 The Multi Area Agreement

As part of the development of the MAA, City Region partners have agreed a set of “transformational actions” that are identified as the key drivers for economic growth of the City Region and inform the vision and overarching aims for the production of the Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning framework. These are:

- Superport
- Low Carbon Economy
- Knowledge Economy
- Visitor Economy

1.5 CES Board

The Liverpool City Region has been granted Pathfinder status as a DWP City Employment Strategy. The CES Pathfinder Board (representation from Sefton is through the Director of Planning and Economic Regeneration) has driven forward much of the work on employment and skills to date. There is currently some debate about the future role of this Board since the inception of the Employment and Skills

Board as the original intention was for the CES Board to be an interim arrangement. However, since the CES Pathfinder has been extended until March 2011, it has been proposed that the performance management role of the CES Board could be continued in order to oversee the existing City Regional work programme related to the Pathfinder Enabling Programme, European Social Fund complementary strand, European Regional Development Fund 4.2 Investment Framework, and the Future Jobs Fund.

2. The Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Framework

2.1 Responsibility for the Strategy

The responsibility for overseeing and delivering the key priorities set out in the strategy will belong to the new Employment and Skills Board for the Liverpool City Region. (Sefton's Representative on the Board is Cllr Ian Maher).

The Board met for the first time in 26th April 2010. It received a presentation on the City Region Employment and Skills Strategy as part of a broad and wide-ranging consultation process. The Board was invited to consider:

- key facts about the employment and skills system;
- the need to significantly improve productivity in the City Region, in particular by providing a greater range of high tech, higher-skilled job opportunities, but also retaining the focus on tackling supporting people into sustainable work;
- the aim to make the City Region an attractive area in terms of jobs and housing so that people chose to live there;
- opportunities arising from significant economic transformations such as the culture and visitor economy, the Superport, the knowledge economy and the low carbon economy;
- the City Region's new governance arrangements and the position of the Employment and Skills Board in the governance structure;
- the complexity of current funding and strategy routes, and the opportunity for the Board to have a positive impact, simplifying the process and making it more efficient;
- benefits arising from how the Board was achieving its objectives: for example, seeking statutory status from central government which could result in local autonomy to determine how resources should be targeted within the City Region.

As a result, the LCR Cabinet agreed to formally endorse the Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Plan as the primary documents for setting out the vision for how employment and skills services are to be integrated locally within the City Region and the strategic priorities for investment and delivery.

3. The scope and Vision of the Documents.

3.1 Strategic Aims

The Strategy flows from the vision and aims described in the Multi Area Agreement which partners are committed to met by 2030. These two aims are:

- To accelerate the growth and substantially close the productivity gap between LCR and the rest of the UK
- To reduce worklessness across Liverpool City region, providing routes for people to move into work and progress in their jobs.

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3.2 Step Change Aspirations

In turn, the document is framed by three step change aspirations: These are:

- LCR becomes England's top performing City Region in terms of learning, employment and skills outcomes for 14-24 year olds.
- LCR will reduce by half the number of its deprived wards in England's worst performing 10%.
- LCR becomes a leading City Region outside of the South East in terms of the proportion of graduates and Level 4 qualifications in its workforce.

3.3 Strategic Objectives

There are six strategic objectives to help focus the efforts of partners and which are planned to be delivered by 2015:

- Work more closely with employers to focus investment on their skills needs.
- Empower employers to drive improvements in skills and productivity within their workplaces, sectors, and business networks.
- Engage and empower local people to make informed choices about their learning, jobs and careers.
- Build clear and effective career pathways for 14-24 year olds.
- Transform the performance of services impacting on employment rates for disadvantaged groups and areas.
- Simplify the employment and skills system to help individuals and employers engage with and navigate services more effectively.

3.4 Design Principles

The Key Design Principles underpinning the Commissioning Framework are to:

- Streamline and simplify delivery
- Build on the Mainstream
- Create a Performance Management System
- Promote More Coherent Management Information Systems
- Develop Clear Review Processes

3.5 Commissioning Process

The Process of LCR commissioning and influencing involves the following:

- Building on shared understanding of needs and priorities
- Working with Total Place principles to understand collective investment in key service areas and how these might be better deployed
- Delivering services through a mixed economy approach
- Establishing a core team to support the Employment and Skills Board to develop and manage the commissioning framework.

(A copy of the Executive Summary of the document is given for information as Appendix One.)

4. Issues and Opportunities for Sefton

4.1 Travel to Work area

The highest density of jobs in the sub region is located within the City of Liverpool. Sefton's position in relation to this concentration of employment opportunity is a fortunate one, as transport links from across the residential areas of Sefton through to the city centre are a key asset in enabling Sefton residents to access city centre jobs. Although more work is needed in some of our more deprived communities to expand horizons and develop realistic expectations in relation to the travel to work area, the indications are that many people who live in Bootle, for example, are disposed to travel to Liverpool for work and this is a well established working pattern for many people.

The pattern of work and residency is somewhat different for Southport, which displays the most self-contained travel to work patterns in the sub region.

Transport links from Sefton to other parts of the sub-region are less satisfactory and could account for the comparatively low level of cross-river and east-west travel to work patterns of Sefton residents.

As a result, the concept of cross-boundary working with Liverpool City, as a hub for jobs, offers strong opportunities for Sefton and has already led to a number of formal collaborations such as through LSC Routeways programme, the Working for Yourself project under Stepclever, and harmonised management information systems to allow for the sharing of vacancies.

4.2 Sefton's Position in Relation to the Sub Region

The key indicators which underpin the LCR employment and skills strategy and commissioning framework demonstrate that Sefton has the highest overall employment rate (73.6%), the lowest rate of 16 – 18 NEETs, the second highest (after Wirral) proportion of residents with Level 4 qualifications (29.7%) and the lowest number of super output areas (18) in the 10% most deprived index.

These Borough-wide statistics do not highlight the spatial inequalities facing Sefton which have been persistent and inter-generational in some of our neighbourhoods. The implications for Sefton in the context of reduced public spending on worklessness services could be serious if sub regional investment priorities are wholly based on these indicators, as our workless communities are more geographically dispersed and therefore potentially more difficult and expensive to engage than those of other districts.

4.3 Reliance on the Public sector as an employment provider

Across the sub region, the reliance on the public sector as an employment provider presents risks if dis-investment in public services leads to significant job losses. In Sefton, this reliance is particularly high, since public sector employment in the field of public administration, education and health accounts for 39.4% of all jobs. Therefore the focus on the four transformational actions in the Multi Area Agreement is to be welcomed since it should assist with occupational and industrial diversification of the workforce.

4.4 Employer Engagement Framework

Through [Sefton@work](#), a model of good practice in relation to employer engagement has been established for five years and has underpinned many of the results we have been able to achieve with partners. For many years, rigorous competition

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between providers has exacerbated the confusion expressed by many employers. However, vacancy sharing with providers has been a strong feature of the model developed through Sefton MBC's [Sefton@work](#) and the perception of the Local Authority in this regard as an "honest broker" has greatly assisted the development of trust between private and public sector welfare to work service providers.

However, experience of working in this way is not embedded coherently across the sub region and other LA partners have only recently approached this strand of activity as a result of the availability of ERDF 4.2 since January 2010. The sub regional account management model which forms a key part of the Strategic Objectives of the Commissioning Framework will be led by the Local Authority sector and we expect that Sefton's strong track record will place us in the forefront of this work.

4.5 Sefton's Sustainable Economic Development Strategy

Sefton will be bringing forward a Sustainable Economic Development Strategy by the end of 2010. This will be informed by the outcomes of the Local Economic Assessment, and the Worklessness Assessment we are required to produce, along with other key documents including the Child Poverty Needs Assessment and Strategy, and the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

The foundation of our strategy will be based on shared intelligence and response protocols to mobilise resources to maximise the impact of growth and change for the benefit of Sefton residents. This will include triggers related to business growth, inward investment, recruitment or redundancy. This will allow our focus on business support to SME and start-ups through Invest Sefton, Stepclever the SME shared service pilot to be closely aligned with the employment and skills and workforce development offer to make Sefton a better place to do business in and target jobs for local people.

We firmly believe that this is a necessary step to ensure that we continue to impact on worklessness in future years and one which should be deliverable in the context of the reformed Borough Partnership. The Employment and Skills Strategy will form a key pillar of this new methodology.

4.6 Total Place and Worklessness

We are well placed to provide examples of good practice in tackling worklessness in a way that reflects Total Place concepts through our Local Authority Innovation Pilot for child poverty - Promoting Parents. Of the 10 such pilots in the country, Sefton's is the only one led by a Regeneration Department and concentrating on parental employment and families in low paid employment. Whole family approaches, preventative actions, engagement with employers on family friendly working, and an holistic approach with complementary services such as housing, debt management, health and childrens' services have all been developed through the Pilot. Plans are taking shape to extend these practices to the South of the Borough. We need to advocate for Sefton's innovation and good practice to ensure this is adequately reflected in sub regional delivery.

4.7 Devolution and Accountability

Clarity from government on the steps LCR needs to take to be granted greater devolution by DWP on employment and skills would be welcomed. Although the potential for complete devolution and control of all relevant funds has been raised by

the previous government, no city region has yet achieved this to its fullest extent. As a result, the current strategy and commissioning framework encompasses the ambition of full devolution to control funds for employment and skills and accountability for service delivery but also recognises its current stage on this journey which relates to influencing the contracting and commissioning cycles of government departments such as DWP to reflect local needs and priorities. Delegated powers to direct local funds such as Area Based Grant which are the remit of Local Authorities have not been granted to sub regional bodies at this stage. Yet presumably this would need to be considered to enable a sub-regional entity such as the Employment and Skills Board to deliver its aspirations. Much of this will be driven by the stance of the new government in relation to city regions and the potential role of an elected mayor in the major cities (including Liverpool) in relation to employment and skills.

4.8 The 14 – 24 Cohort

One of the key strategic objectives of the strategy is to bring together career pathways for young people aged between 14 and 24, a work stream to be led by the local authority Directors of Childrens' Services. For Sefton, this clearly requires greater synergy between the 14 – 19 Partnership and the Employment and Skills sub group of the Sefton borough Partnership. The latter takes responsibility for the Local Employment Programme for adults and the achievement of the basket of LAA targets related to employment, child poverty (parental employment) and skills.

The 14-19 cohort cuts across generally accepted approaches to services for young people and adults.

From the point of view of the Local Employment Programme run by PEDD, our involvement with Future Jobs (part of the Backing Young Britain campaign) and potential service extensions to other aspects of the Young Persons Guarantee, our incentivising Apprenticeships for young people in WNF neighbourhoods, our working relationships with the Leaving Care team and the emerging universal all-age careers service, all demonstrate the extent to which attempts have already been made to bring these agendas together. Discussions at officer level have already commenced and this closer collaboration is to be welcomed, particularly if better quality outcomes can be achieved through working with both parents and young people.

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Liverpool City Region

Interim Work and Skills Plan 2010-11

Introduction

This is the interim Work and Skills Plan for the Liverpool City Region for 2010-11 and should be seen alongside the recently approved Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy, which provides the longer term direction of travel for employment and skills delivery in the City Region.

Context

The Liverpool City Region (LCR), with a population of just under 1.5 million, covers the local authority areas of Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral. The City Region has an ambitious vision to be a thriving international City Region by 2030 and has identified (through the Multi Area Agreement and the draft Strategic Framework) four sectors which will supply the economic growth over the next 20 years. The Employment and Skills Strategy is set against the context of this forecast economic development and the delivery plans will be heavily influenced by the City Region Economic Assessment, which is due to be completed later in 2010. This will ensure that there is a supply of individuals and skills in future years to meet the demands from employers.

The Multi Area Agreement (MAA) acknowledged that whilst we have made progress towards achieving our vision in relation to particular measures and indicators, the scale of the challenge in relation to employment and skills mirrors the scale of our ambition. In particular, if the LCR current performance mirrored the current England average we would have:

- 26,400 more 19-59/ 64 year olds achieving a level 2 qualification or equivalent;
- 43,800 more 19-59/ 64 year olds achieving a level 4 qualification;
- 46,000 fewer 19-59/ 64 year olds who have no qualifications. Currently 145,000 people have no qualifications; and
- 120,000 more people in employment if we are to meet the Government's aspiration of an 80% employment rate. The current employment rate in the LCR stands at 66.7%.

The Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Framework will help drive a step change in the City Region's employment and skills system for the long term benefit of individuals, communities and employers, supported by the more focused Work and Skills Plan. This belief is based upon the following firm foundations:

- Our comprehensive review of the state of the LCR labour market, set in its wider context;
- Consultation with individuals, employers and all other stakeholders to gather their views on the issues we should be addressing and the priorities we should be placing on different strategic interventions;
- Our approach builds firmly upon the analysis, vision and aims generated by the MAA; and
- We have designed a commissioning framework which we believe to be the most detailed and comprehensive statement produced by and of England's city region partnerships to date.

To ensure we remain on course and retain our focus, we have established a business-led City Region Employment and Skills Board to oversee implementation of the Employment and

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Skills Strategy and provide the business leadership and challenge function that is undoubtedly required.

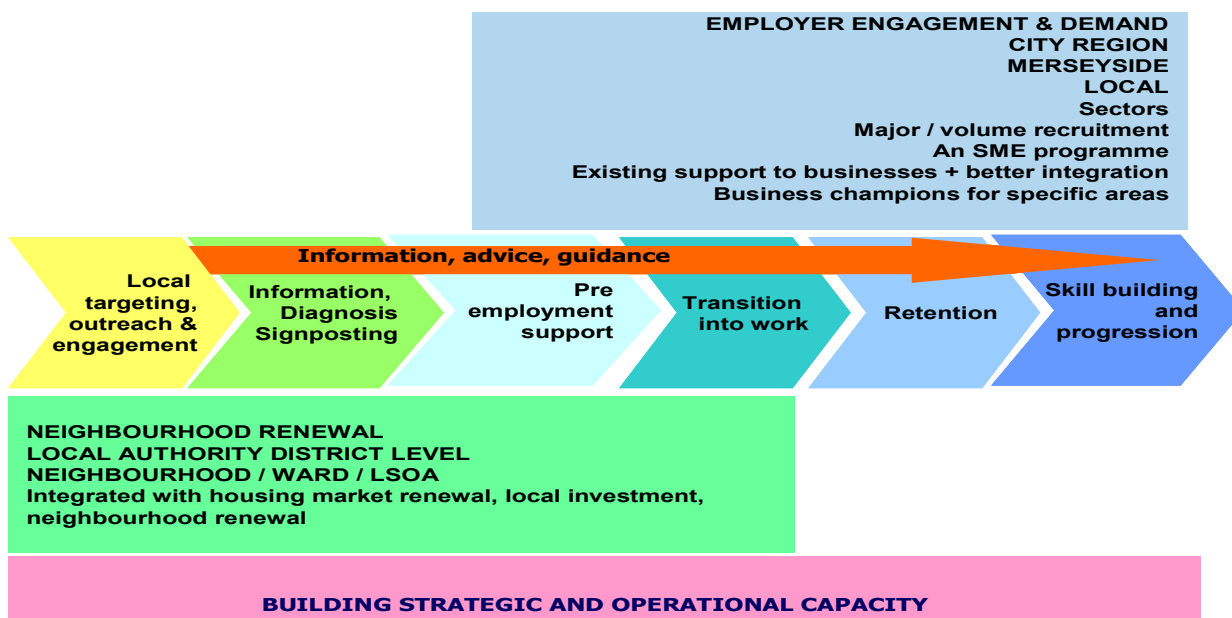
Building on the City Employment Strategy Pathfinder

The City Region has a track record of effective partnership working in the employment and skills context, with well established working relationships between the 6 Local Authorities, Jobcentre Plus (both Merseyside and Cheshire, Halton and Warrington districts), Skills Funding Agency, Young Peoples' Learning Agency, North West Development Agency, Government Office North West, Connexions, Union Learn, Merseytravel, Universities and representatives of the charitable, voluntary and community sectors within the City Region. A City Employment Strategy Pathfinder was established here in 2007, and much of the good work that has been achieved is as a result of having had the Pathfinder in place.

The City Employment Strategy (CES) is focused on improving outcomes in those areas with the highest concentrations of worklessness and lowest skills levels and in taking this forward works to the following first principles:

- Getting people into jobs and keeping them in jobs
- Meeting the needs of employers and ensuring that people are 'job ready'
- Addressing culture, stigma and perceptions of workless residents
- Using resources smartly and more effectively to secure greater levels of operational efficiency and increased outcome levels
- Prioritising interventions for the benefit of the whole City Region..

These principles are integrated into the CES 'continuum model' for employment and skills which is represented below:



The key elements of this model are:

- A demand led approach which engages employers;
- Delivery of recruitment and training services which meet the needs of employers and provide progression across the full qualifications spectrum from Level 1 through to Level 4;
- Ensuring a good quality information, advice and guidance service is integrated within each stage of the journey;
- A routeway of personalised assistance to individuals from worklessness to employment, and
- Integration with neighbourhood and housing renewal.

The CES has provided the opportunity to pilot new ways of service delivery based on the above. The lessons from a number of these pathfinder projects have been taken and mainstream services changed as a result e.g. worklessness training with housing associations and support for newly released offenders with Create.

Future Jobs Fund legacy

Partners in the City Region are in the process of delivering over 7,000 Future Jobs Fund jobs which are being taken up by long term unemployed people in the City Region. This covers those aged 18-24 and those older claimants in the hotspot areas of higher unemployment, which covers the City Region as a whole. All partners have committed to a minimum standard wraparound model, including targeted support for individuals, mentoring, jobsearch time and an exit interview: the delivery of this is being reviewed with partners at the moment.

Discussions are taking place with Jobcentre Plus to identify the pattern of referrals and appointments to Future Jobs Fund jobs with a view of determining whether particular groups have been included or not.

A common set of exit interview questions has been developed, which will allow the City Region to assess the impact of Future Jobs Fund jobs on those individuals. There will also be an opportunity for individuals to participate in a longitudinal study to assess the wider and longer term impact of their Future Jobs Fund employment on their future working prospects. The initial evidence suggests that the dropout rate from Future Jobs Fund jobs is around 3%, with $\frac{1}{3}$ of these leaving to go to sustainable employment. Work is focused with the providers of the first leavers to determine the lessons that can be shared with partners in the provision of support to them.

There are a considerable number of apprenticeships being delivered, with Future Jobs Fund contributing an upfront element to the overall costs. Wherever possible, these have been linked to identified growth sectors or areas of skills shortages, where sufficient community benefit can be demonstrated.

Partners are also working with the Skills Funding Agency to identify the totality of the training provided whilst they are in their Future Jobs Fund job, and to enable the nascent Skills Funding Agency to identify the likely demand for their programmes. This granular detail (being reviewed at the level of individual jobs) will also inform the development of the City Region Work and Skills Plan for 2011-14.

Identification of resourcing

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The City Employment Strategy carried out an extensive mapping exercise in 2008 to identify the resources that are currently deployed on work and skills interventions in the City Region. This work was reviewed as part of the development of the City Region Employment and Skills Strategy. The evaluation commissioned by the City Employment Strategy has identified a number of areas of improvement, particularly around outreach and engagement. In addition, specific projects commissioned through the City Employment Strategy's programmes have evaluations conducted as part of their work, and these will be shared with partners as relevant.

Partners have commissioned additional activity in their areas, utilizing a range of different funding streams (including Working Neighbourhood Fund and Area Based Grant), in line with the overall Strategy for the City Region. Plans are in place to share the lessons from this delivery across the City Region and ahead of the development of more localised neighbourhood work and skills plans later in 2010-11. These local work and skills plans are informed by small area data from Department for Work and Pensions and will allow the City Region to adopt a Total Place approach to the delivery of employability and skills development services on the most deprived and needy areas.

Child Poverty work

The City Region has drafted a Child and Family Poverty Framework, which will be subject to consultation during 2010. This covers wider issues, such as education, skills and health, and will enable the City Region as a whole, Boroughs and potentially smaller areas to be held to account in their focus on Child Poverty. This has been referenced in the City Region's drafted Strategic Framework and the City Region's submissions to the RS2010 consultation.

It has also committed to establish a formal City Region Child and Family Poverty Commission, which will be independently chaired and will act as the driving force behind the City Region's approach to addressing poverty issues. This will be the forum which will review the City Region wide Child Poverty assessment and action plan, and have wide representation from geographical areas and policy themes.

Completion of Work and Skills Plan 2011-14

The City Region is conducting a City Region Economic Assessment, which is due for completion in late 2010. The worklessness assessment will be completed as part of this process. This will then be reviewed by the Employment and Skills Board along with the City Region Employment and Skills Strategy progress report to determine the priorities for investment for the Work and Skills Plan, which should be completed in early 2011.

In taking this forward, discussions are planned with JobCentre Plus, Skills Funding Agency, North West Development Agency, Young Persons' Funding Agency and National Offender Management Service to determine when their individual commissioning cycles can be influenced. This includes directing ESF investment and ensuring individual co-financing plans are consistent with the City Region's overarching Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Plan.

Additional documents provided for background

Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy and Commissioning Plan and summary of objectives

Liverpool City Region draft Strategic Framework

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Liverpool City Region draft Child and Family Poverty framework
Wraparound services – report to City Employment Strategy Consortia Board, April 2010
Future Jobs Fund Exit interview questions

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**Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Strategy
and Commissioning Framework**

Summary

February 2010



Newton Hall
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Cambridge CB22 7ZE
Tel: (01223) 871551
Fax: (01223) 871303
cpc@campolco.co.uk

Our Employment and Skills Strategy, and Commissioning Framework

Context

1. The Liverpool City Region (LCR) with a population of just under 1.5 million, comprising Halton, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens, Wirral and the City of Liverpool has made significant progress over the past decade in reclaiming its position as a competitive City Region.
2. The growing strength of the LCR partnership and its effectiveness in leading the economic resurgence is recognised. A number of local authority districts have experienced significant growth, frequently close to, or in excess of, comparative North West and UK profiles. Recent analysis shows significant improvements in the stock of businesses and business starts; good progress has been made on a number of worklessness indicators; the gap has narrowed in terms of neighbourhood deprivation; and there has been a significant and comprehensive improvement in qualification and skill levels. Our Multi Area Agreement (MAA) with central Government set out key outcomes in many of these areas just described.
3. However, our MAA also acknowledged that much still needs to be done to achieve the vision ***‘to establish our status as a thriving international city region by 2030’***, and whilst we have made progress in relation to particular measures and indicators, the scale of some of our challenges in relation to employment and skills mirrors the scale of our ambitions. In particular, if the current LCR performance mirrored the current England average we would have:
 - 26,400 more 19-59/ 64 year olds achieving a **level 2** qualification or equivalent;
 - 43,800 more 19-59/ 64 year olds achieving a **level 4** qualification;
 - 46,000 fewer 19-59/ 64 year olds who have **no qualifications**. Currently 145,000 people in the City Region have no qualifications;
 - 120,000 more people in work if we are to meet the Government’s aspiration of an 80% **employment rate**. The current employment rate in the LCR stands at 66.7%.
4. Among the early tasks highlighted for action in the MAA were:
 - The development of an Employment and Skills Strategy.
 - The creation of a Commissioning Framework to drive forward the implementation of the Strategy.
5. These will be the primary documents for setting out the vision for how employment and skills services are to be integrated locally within the City Region and the strategic priorities for investment and delivery. It is recognised that the Strategy will

need to be backed up by action and that there are a range of partners and national policy agendas that must be influenced if we are to realise our ambition for the City Region.

6. This Strategy will support everyone in the LCR to make the most of their potential, and to help deliver the step change to our economy as articulated in the MAA, raising the level of GVA and increasing our productivity via key sectors that reflect the competitive advantage and uniqueness of the City Region, in particular the 4 transformational actions highlighted in the MAA:
 - Culture and Visitor Economy.
 - Liverpool SuperPort.
 - Low Carbon Economy.
 - The Knowledge Economy

Our Belief

7. We believe firmly that our Strategy and Commissioning Framework will help drive a step change in the LCR's employment and skills system for the long-term benefit of individuals, communities and employers. This belief is based upon the following firm foundations.

- We have carried out a comprehensive review of the LCR labour market and have ***identified the key needs that we have to address and the opportunities that we must exploit.***
- We have ***consulted widely*** on the ***issues we should be addressing and the priorities that we need to place on different interventions.***
- We have developed a Strategy which builds firmly upon the analysis, vision and aims generated by the MAA, but introduce ***3 Step Change Aspirations and 6 Strategic Objectives*** which will help us drive this forward.
- We have designed a ***Commissioning Framework*** which is the ***most detailed and comprehensive statement produced by any of England's city region partnerships to date.***

8. We feel strongly that our ***Commissioning Framework will generate substantial benefit*** by making available to LCR residents and employers more appropriate and higher quality employment and skills services, within the context of a greatly simplified employment and skills system – and we will do this in a highly cost effective way by working together as a City Region.

9. Building on a long tradition of partnership working in the LCR, we are confident that we will demonstrate quickly and widely that ***we are a partnership which is both able to design strategic approaches and implement these responsively and effectively.***

10. The Employment and Skills Board (ESB) brings together our business, executive and political leadership to oversee the implementation of our Strategy and Commissioning Framework. There is now a **powerful employer voice at the heart of service design and performance management** to drive up performance.

Our Challenges and Opportunities: LCR's Economy and Labour Market

11. We have analysed a comprehensive range of employment and skills indicators to assess whether the performance gap was closing between the LCR and England as a whole. Over the most recent five year period (which predates the current recession):

- **Gross Value Added** per capita has fallen back a little as the deteriorating employment rate has cancelled out gains in productivity.
- Our **jobs base** has declined slightly relative to the English benchmark, but within this there have been significant improvements in the stock of businesses and in **business starts** across the LCR.
- Good progress has been made on a number of **worklessness** indicators although there remain issues with the number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET), and economic inactivity across the adult working age population.
- There has been a significant and comprehensive improvement in **qualification levels**. This is a major achievement in a short time frame in an area where the LCR has long lagged the rest of the country.
- The gap has narrowed in terms of **neighbourhood deprivation**, but there is still a very long way to go.

12. At the outset we need to recognise the diversity of economic conditions within the LCR (see table overleaf). To drive forward the economic performance of LCR as a whole we need to mount a concerted effort to build on internal strengths as well as close down gaps in areas of weakness from an employment and skills perspective.

- Variations in employment rates are wide, reaching as high as 73% in Sefton compared to a low of below 60% in Liverpool. Increasing LCR's overall employment rate significantly will be difficult without a major advance in the Liverpool local authority area.
- Similar considerations apply to the indicators around worklessness, but here Knowsley's problems are on a par with Liverpool's.
- The proportion of residents with no and high level qualifications vary significantly, with Wirral performing well and Knowsley lagging behind.
- Although Liverpool has the lowest employment rate it also has the highest jobs density relative to population. Liverpool's total volume of jobs, at around 225,000, accounts for 38% of the LCR's jobs base, and 22% in relation to the wider functional economic area.

Diversity of Economic, Employment and Skills Indicators within LCR

	Halton	Knowsley	Liverpool	Sefton	St Helens	Wirral
Employment Rate (%), 2008/09	69.9	67.0	59.1	73.6	67.6	68.6
Jobs per 10,000 adult population, 2007	5,733	4,709	6,348	4,235	4,367	3,908
16-18 NEET (%), 2008	13.2	14.4	10.4	7.6	8.1	9.1
DWP Out of Work Benefits (%), 2009	20.2	24.4	24.3	16.7	19.2	19.0
Residents with No Qualifications, 2008	18.2	24.2	19.6	18.9	15.9	10.8
Residents with L4 Qualifications, 2008	19.4	15.8	23.8	29.7	22.6	32.1
LSOAs in 10% most Deprived (%), 2007	27	47	56	18	23	24

13. Although significant gaps in performance remain between the LCR and England as a whole, substantial improvements have been recorded over recent years. Our Strategy will focus on driving down the remaining gaps in an aggressive way over the coming 5 years.

- **Employment** is a central issue for us. Our Strategy addresses how employment and skills investments and interventions can make a greater contribution to growing the employment base.
 - In the short to medium term we will exploit more effectively the substantial **flow of new job vacancies** within LCR as well as employment **opportunities in the surrounding economic areas**.
 - In the medium to long term we will increasingly focus on the 4 **Transformational Actions** in the MAA, and other high value sectors:
 - Culture and Visitor Economy.
 - Liverpool SuperPort.
 - Low Carbon Economy.
 - The Knowledge Economy.
- The substantial deficit in **neighbourhood deprivation** demands that we regularly review how effectively we are deploying our resources. We must also work more closely and effectively with other service providers, including housing and health, to create the maximum value from our combined resources.
- Although we have significantly increased the **qualification levels** of many local people, improvements in productivity, worklessness and neighbourhood regeneration have been more modest. The LCR's skills deficit is strongly influenced by the high levels of economic inactivity as the workless population have a much higher prevalence of low/no skills.

Our Challenges and Opportunities: Stakeholder Perspectives

14. Our **Stakeholders** identified a number of areas where they perceived the need to drive up the effectiveness of the employment and skills system:

- There is no coherent and strong employer voice to help drive the system.
- Employer engagement processes are viewed as chaotic and ineffective.
- For individual learners, the LCR lacks a coherent, high quality and independent information, advice and guidance system.
- There is no coherent, good quality and regularly updated system of labour market intelligence.
- The performance measurement and management processes that sit above the system are viewed as ineffective.
- The procurement of employment and skills service is conservative in the LCR. The default position is to commission the same provision as last year.
- Providers feel that they are not treated as 'delivery partners' and so cannot contribute effectively to improving the performance of the system.

Our Challenges and Opportunities: Changing Policies and Institutions

15. We are in a period of great flux in relation to employment and skills policies and institutions. This poses a fundamental challenge, but also creates opportunities.

16. In relation to the **skills agenda**:

- The system for funding and delivering education and training for young people and adults is being radically reformed, with responsibility for 16-19 year olds passing from the Learning and Skills Council to local authorities.
- The new Skills Funding Agency (SFA) will provide funding to colleges and other providers to meet the demands of employers and adult learners.
- SFA budget allocations will be driven by the choices made by individual learners and employers. Partners will need to 'stimulate' and 'activate' demand to draw resources into the LCR.
- The national *Skills for Growth* strategy stresses the strategic importance of higher level and technical skills.
- Regional Development Agencies will have an increasingly influential role in defining skills priorities for regions.

17. The **employment agenda** is also changing in terms of emphasis and funding, in particular:

- *Building Britain's Recovery: Achieving Full Employment* underlines the centrality of the principles underpinning our Strategy and Commissioning Framework.
 - The need for local partnerships and central agencies to work much more closely together.
 - The imperative to integrate the employment and skills systems much more effectively.
 - The potentially substantial benefit in terms of cost effectiveness to be won by local authorities and their partners adopting a Total Place approach to deploying resources and services.
- European funding which has supported a large volume of employability services in the LCR is set to decline substantially. The European Social Fund for 2011-2013 is only 13% of the sum available during 2007-2010.

Setting Out Our Strategy

18. We have set out three bold **step change aspirations** for our Strategy.

- *LCR becomes England's top performing City Region in terms of learning, employment and skills outcomes for 14-24 year olds.*
- *LCR will reduce by half the number of its deprived wards in England's worst performing 10%.*
- *LCR becomes a leading City Region outside of the South East in terms of the proportion of graduates and Level 4 qualifications in its workforce.*

As we make progress towards achieving these step changes, the City Region will become a more attractive proposition for investors; increasing the number of high value jobs and residents with higher level skills. Creating a competitive and higher value economy will generally raise the demand for employment across the board.

19. We have 6 **strategic objectives** which will help us to focus our efforts:

- Work more closely with employers to focus investment on their skills needs.
- Empower employers to drive improvements in skills and productivity within their workplaces, sectors, and business networks.
- Engage and empower local people to make informed choices about their learning, jobs and careers.
- Build clear and effective career pathways for 14-24 year olds.
- Transform the performance of services impacting on employment rates for disadvantaged groups and areas.
- Simplify the employment and skills system to help individuals and employers engage with and navigate services more effectively.

Implementing Our Strategy

20. Our Strategy must be turned into action quickly and begin to change radically the way employment and skills provision is planned, commissioned and delivered:

- We need to work hard to create ***more comprehensive and integrated employment and skills services*** for employers and individuals.
- We need to secure greater effectiveness and value for money by ***integrating employability and skills services with the other relevant service areas***, such as business development, housing and health.
- We will prioritise and implement a number of ***strategic projects*** with sufficient scale to make a major impact.
- We must ***ensure equality of opportunity for all learner groups***.
- We will drive a ***more coordinated approach to commissioning, and to influencing service delivery***, as well as the development of the new European Social Fund (ESF) Co-financing plans and the Regional Skills Strategy. ***Our Commissioning Framework is the engine for driving this radical change.***

Delivering Strategic Projects

21. In prioritising the timing of our strategic projects, we have sought to address both the 4 transformational actions and the wider ambition and priorities of the City Region:

- Initially, we will prioritise projects and interventions which will ***support businesses to retain and grow jobs***, building an employment and skills system which responds more quickly and effectively to employment opportunities to the benefit of businesses, individuals and communities.
- As demand emerges, we will focus more resources into ***higher level skills*** provision and interventions that impact significantly on increased productivity levels and competitiveness, and support the development of ***higher value opportunities in key sectors of the city region economy***, including those connected to the 4 transformational actions.
- Throughout, we will commit to improving the performance of services that ***increase employment rates for disadvantaged groups and within our most deprived areas*** to close employment gaps.

22. We propose to focus initially on the following specific strategic projects:

- Building ***more effective employment and skills pathways for 14-24s***, including a strong ***focus on*** the provision of ***apprenticeship opportunities*** through our work with Local Authorities and the National Apprenticeship Service.
- Developing ***local employment and skills plans*** for major clusters of deprived areas where the volumes and concentrations of worklessness are greatest and connecting them to the job opportunities being created.

- Creating **employment and skills pathways for key employer investments and sectors.**
- Developing an innovative and enhanced programme of **leadership skills** for senior managers in SMEs with growth potential.
- Continue to **shape, influence and build around DWP mainstream contracts.**

23. The Appendix provides a summary of how we intend to meet our strategic objectives through service integration and the delivery of strategic projects and how this will be measured.

Our Commissioning Framework

24. Our Commissioning Framework is central to the effective implementation of the Strategy. The available LCR budget for employability and skills is going to be significantly squeezed at a time when the demand for these services is increasing – **available spend per workless person will fall by half** from 2008 to 2014. A key objective therefore will be to secure service improvements and efficiency savings.

25. Our objective is have an established commissioning process for the LCR that will secure delegated power and more local discretion over DWP funded provision and, together with our Strategy, form the basis of Section 4 powers by 2015: this means that the City Region priorities will better inform the commissioning of other fund holders.

26. The design principles which underpin our Commissioning Framework are:

- **Streamline and Simplify Delivery:** Reduce the number of interventions and ensure these work better together.
- **Build on the Mainstream:** Influence the shape and direction of public sector spend across LCR.
- **Create a Performance Management System:** Increase transparency and value for money, with performance incentives for providers alongside payments for process improvements (e.g. referrals between providers).
- **Promote More Coherent Management Information Systems:** Introduce an effective and consistent approach to monitoring performance.
- **Develop a Clear Review Process:** Regularly review progress to determine what needs to change to improve performance.

Implementing Our Commissioning Framework

27. Influencing the spending of public sector agencies and key funding streams is vital to effective implementation. Central to this is the adoption of both:

- **MAA Ask 1:** Getting Government departments and agencies to work with us to help implement the Strategy.

- **MAA Ask 5.6:** Securing DWP agreement that the relevant parts of our Strategy will form the Merseyside element of the ESF Regional Framework and so will direct ESF investment in the area.

28. Our process of LCR commissioning and influencing involves the following:

- Building on a **shared understanding of needs and priorities**.
- Working with **Total Place principles** to:
 - Understand collective investment in key service areas and how these might be better deployed.
 - Identify mechanisms through which mainstream services can better integrate with local provision.
 - Better align funding streams locally and develop co-commissioning with mainstream services allied to joint performance management.
- Delivering services through a **mixed economy approach** with important contributions to be made by the private, public and voluntary sectors.
- **Establishing a Core Team** which will support the ESB to develop and manage the Commissioning Framework. A key aspect of the work of our Core Team and the ESB will be to **establish the scale and nature of any benefits accruing from city region working**.

Strategy into Action: Practical Steps

29. In order to gain some momentum, a number of early actions are required:

- Develop an outline **Business Plan** for 3 years and a more detailed plan for the first full operating year. This will be the first formal opportunity for the ESB to deploy the Commissioning Framework.
- Introduce an enhanced **Management Information System** to allow effective performance measurement and management.
- Design the process for the **Annual Review** of the implementation of the Employment and Skills Strategy.
- Put in place robust mechanisms to **ensure equality of opportunity** in relation to accessing employment and skills services.
- Build the **quality and effectiveness of the partnership** through investing in building ESB capacity and reviewing the partnership on a regular basis.

30. The success of this Strategy will depend on the collective action of all stakeholders across the City Region and the ESB is committed to working with them to deliver our ambition for employment and skills.

APPENDIX: PURSUING OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Investing to support employer skill needs	2. Empower employers to drive skills and productivity improvements	3. Empower local people to make informed learning, job and career choices	4. Build clear and effective career pathway for 14-24 year olds	5. Transform services impacting on employment rates for disadvantaged groups and areas	6. Simplify employment and skills systems
<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Not enough jobs and high value jobs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long run issue • High value jobs MAA issue • Accentuated by recession • Threat to public sector reinforces 	<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Skills/qualifications levels rising but job opportunities declining and productivity gap still large.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exacerbated by recession • Risk of long term loss of young qualified workers 	<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Skills/qualifications gaps with England narrowed but still remain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long run issue • Qualifications issue highlighted in MAA 	<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Persistently high NEET and rising long-term youth unemployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long run issue and exacerbated by recession • Threats and opportunities in changes for 14-19s • Lack of progression to HE/ higher level skills. 	<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Persistent large gaps in worklessness rates and deprivation versus national levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long run problem • Exacerbated by long recession 	<p>Headline Evidence</p> <p>Persistent and across the board complaints from individuals and employers trying to access complex service delivery system</p>
<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better employer engagement process • Integrating employer-facing skills services • Enhanced employment and skills pathways • Leadership skills programme • LCR apprentice programme • Major graduates into SMEs programme 	<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better employer engagement process • Integrating employer-facing skills services • Enhanced employment and skills pathways • Leadership skills programme • Enhanced LMI system • Develop and submit proposals for locally based National Skills Academies 	<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced employability service offer • Enhanced employment and skills pathways • Enhanced independent IAG system • Enhanced LMI system 	<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced employability service offer • LCR apprentice strategy • Enhanced independent IAG system • Major graduates into SMEs programme • More effective engagement with employers • More effective delivery models • Greater progression to HE/ higher level skills 	<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better employer engagement process • Enhanced employability service continuum • Enhanced employment and skills pathways • Focus on clusters of deprived areas • Integrating employment, skills, health and housing services • Work more effectively with DWP and others to enhance the mainstream, fill gaps and co-invest where appropriate 	<p>Our Tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed individual and employer feedback into our service design • Deploy our funding to incentivise coordinated working across service providers • Where appropriate, set joint targets for groups of providers • Embed co-investment and co-commissioning with mainstream funders • More effective delivery models
<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More employers investing in workforce development • Existing employer investors doing more on workforce development • Fewer employers reporting fewer skills shortages • More jobs 	<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer employers reporting fewer skills gaps • Fewer employers reporting fewer skills shortages • More jobs • Establish an effective Employment and Skills Board 	<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer employers reporting fewer skills gaps • Fewer employers reporting fewer skills shortages • More jobs 	<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher qualification levels for 16-24s • Fewer in NEET group • Lower number of 18-24s on JSA • More young people from disadvantaged areas/ backgrounds with Level 4 	<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relative increase in employment rates for deprived areas • Relative increase in employment rates for disadvantaged groups • More investment and jobs 	<p>What We Will Achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher rates of engagement with employment and skills services • Better results from services for individuals and employers

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REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER (REGENERATION)

DATE: 9th JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL SEFTON WARDS

REPORT OF: ANDY WALLIS (PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR)

CONTACT OFFICER: CLAIRE MAGUIRE, EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS MANAGER
EXT 2684

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

- i) To inform members of the progress made on the suite of externally funded projects which together form the Local Employment Programme for Sefton, managed through PERD's Employment and Skills team
- ii) To endorse the commencement of an Impact Assessment and Sustainability Plan for the Employment and Skills programme.
- iii) To consider the interim Work and Skills Plan produced for the Liverpool City Region

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To advise members of actions undertaken to respond to the recession, to tackle worklessness in the most deprived neighbourhoods of Sefton and engage with emerging policies and strategies related to employment and skills across the sub region to ensure Sefton's best interests are reflected.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

That Cabinet Member:

- (i) Notes the contents of this report
- (ii) Views are requested concerning the performance of the contract with the Opportunities Shop
- (iii) Endorses the proposed Impact Assessment and Sustainability Plan for the Local Employment programme
- (iv) Endorses the interim Work and Skills Plan for the Liverpool City Region

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

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IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately following expiry of the call-in period.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:
N/A

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, as these have all been considered and taken into account in the Council's overall budget.

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2006/ 2007 £	2007/ 2008 £	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/a

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/a

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

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1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC, through the PEDD employment and skills team has been operating a suite of externally funded projects to tackle worklessness and maximise job capture for local residents since 2008. This report provides information on performance against the various contracts that are held to deliver targets related to vacancies, and residents' entry to jobs and work-related training. The local employment programme is overseen through partnership arrangements currently under review through the Borough Partnership. This collaborative framework ensures that the locally devised, non-mandatory complementary programme genuinely adds value to mainstream support provided through Jobcentre Plus and private sector DWP contractors.
- 1.2 [Sefton@work](#) is the preferred delivery option to support local workless individuals into employment through the use of a wide range of funds. The service primarily focuses on one to one Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) operating alongside an effective Employer Liaison function, to secure local vacancies and maximise the number of Sefton residents into such opportunities. With shop front bases in Bootle and Netherton and a wide range of outreach locations in collaboration with housing and health providers, the service aims to provide community members with numerous methods to access high quality services. In addition to [Sefton@work](#), the employment programme provides funding for IAG via WorkZone (Sefton CVS) for residents in the north of the borough and operates the Council's contract to the Opportunities Shop. Delivery on Intermediate Labour Market opportunities is provided through open tendering primarily with local third sector providers able to guarantee high quality work placements and support for people who have complex barriers related to their entry to the labour market.
- 1.3 The activities undertaken within the Local Employment Programme are aligned with the City Region "Engagement to Retention" model for worklessness services, and reflect the full spectrum of support from outreach and engagement, through to diagnostics, advice and guidance, transition support, and employment retention and progression. Examples of relevant activities include:
- doorstep canvassing in the most deprived wards(as identified through Working Neighbourhood Fund priorities). This has been undertaken in partnership with social housing providers and has targeted high rise blocks in south Sefton which have previously been impossible to service due to access difficulties. This workstream has led to more than 680 households in the WNF areas being contacted.
 - 51 week Intermediate Labour Market opportunities currently benefiting 28 individuals who receive work experience, additional support and training on the job,
 - Administration of the Employability Fund, that enables local workless people to access financial support for new clothing, tools, equipment, training, travel & other fees to take up a job or retraining opportunity. This flexible resource provides support as required to help overcome barriers to individuals starting work.
 - Pro-active targeting of apprenticeship opportunities offered through the Council's Passport to Move on apprenticeship scheme through incentivising SMBC departments who recruit NEET young people from the WNF priority neighbourhoods. Provision has been made to support up to 40 of the 101 young people although as yet this recruitment target has not been reached
- 1.4 With regard to delivery undertaken through [Sefton@work](#), the age range of residents

seeking assistance is widespread. Latest statistics for the last quarter of the year indicated the following breakdown:

Age 12-19 = 4%
 Age 20-25 = 24%
 Age 26-34 = 22%
 Age 35-43 = 22%
 Age 44-52 = 18%
 Age 53-59 = 8%
 Age 60+ = 2%

- 1.5 In terms of programme management, risk management is a high priority in terms of any sub contracting arrangements, or internal delivery structures and processes established to deliver regeneration projects. The Employment & Skills Team are experienced in adhering to the required regulations such as those governing ESF, ERDF and DWP funding including LSC contracts, and hold qualifications relevant to such project management skills, including CIPS, Prince 2 Project Management and Management of Risk (MoR) (ILM) qualifications.
- 1.6 Stringent audit requirements are applied to all contracts, including both the financial trail and output achievements assigned to each contract. In the absence of specific guidance from the funding body, it is normal practice to apply those adopted, delivered and previously audited. This particularly applies to job outcome targets as collated through the LAA and other initiatives. Only those confirmed by the employer with evidence of that organisation will be accepted, and these are fully audited before being reported in the appropriate claim. [Sefton@work](#) has also recently been audited by Internal Audit as part of the cycle of departmental inspections.
- 1.7 Outputs related to individual beneficiaries are only accepted when evidenced by National Insurance numbers to ensure the recording of status is accurate. All information is held in accordance with the Council's data protection policies and [Sefton@work](#) operates a client confidentiality process which has been fully inspected and which are clients are made fully aware of. All information advice and guidance services commissioned through [Sefton@work](#), Opportunities shop, Workzone or any other providers are compliant with the national Matrix Standard for IAG. [Sefton@work](#) advisory staff are fully trained and all have achieved the NVQ level 4, which is a higher local standard than that required by many national funding bodies.

2. The composition of the Local Employment and Skills Programme

The majority of the activities for the programme to end March 2011 are supported through targeted funds including Working Neighbourhoods Fund (Area Based Grant), European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund. However, the Employment and Skills team has also successfully procured a range of other contracts from the Skills Funding Agency (previously the Learning and Skills Council) and the Liverpool City Region City Employment Pathfinder.

The sources of funding and contracts are listed as follows:

Funding Source	Contract Activity	Contract Value	Comments
1. ESF Complementary Strand	Underpins Sefton@work client facing IAG services	£1,370,000	

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Funding Source	Contract Activity	Contract Value	Comments
	and 1-2-1 support, including ILMs		
2. ERDF 4.2	Funds employer liaison activity across the Borough through Sefton@work and management & infrastructure costs across the borough	£442,854	
3. WNF	Integrated Job Brokerage	£2,533,999	
4. LAA Employment Stretch Target 2007-2010	“Stretch target” on employment retention for specific groups facing disadvantage in the labour market	£150,000	LAA target fully achieved in reporting period
5. ESF Pathfinder Enabling Programme (pre-matched)	SME shared services pilot	£296,293	Part of city region programme, accountable body of which is Knowsley MBC
6. ESF Pathfinder Enabling Programme (unmatched)	Tackling Hidden Disadvantage – support IAG services in north of Borough through Workzone.	£161,025	Part of city region programme, accountable body of which is Knowsley MBC
7. SMBC Performance Contract	Opportunities Shop	£95,000	Long standing grant directly from SMBC to voluntary organisation.
8. LSC Priority Sector Routeways	Work placements and customised training packages for workless residents designed directly with recruiting employers in key sectors	£859,929	Key function of the Sefton@work employer engagement model
9. LSC Individualised Routeways	Work placements and customised training packages for workless residents designed directly with recruiting employers in key sectors	£270,000	
10. LSC Redundancy Response	“Early intervention” action helping those experiencing redundancy to refresh skills, access jobsearch support and prevent long term worklessness	£36,000	Sub contract with Mercia Partnerships
11. LSC Sustainable	Work placements and	£405,164	Call – off contract with

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Funding Source	Contract Activity	Contract Value	Comments
Employment Partnerships	customised training packages for workless residents designed directly with recruiting employers in key sectors		employers directly referred by Jobcentre Plus
12. SLEGI Working for Yourself	Action to encourage self-employment in Linacre and Derby wards for those with little formal work history. Part of the Stepclever programme,	£1,047,111	Programme managed by Sefton Employment and Skills team with delivery undertaken by Sefton@work and Liverpool JETs service
13. DWP Future Jobs Fund	Part of the previous government's Backing Young Britain campaign. Six months paid work for JSA claimants to eligible organisations demonstrating community benefit and effective support structures.	£690 895 (to date - contract variation expected for activity April 10 – March 11)	Part of city region programme, accountable body of which is Knowsley MBC. Sefton's model based on delivery through Sefton@work for public sector opportunities and Sefton CVs for the third sector
14. Department for Children Schools Families Child Poverty Unit	Local Authority Child Poverty Innovation Pilot (branded as Promoting Parents)	£1,040,816	Innovation pilot based in Southport, with multi-disciplinary project Board.

3. Project Performance

3.1 ESF Complementary Strand

This multi annual project has been running since July 2008 and will complete in March 2011. The lifetime targets are stated below – All bar one of these have already been exceeded with 12 months delivery period remaining. This helps demonstrates the need for the service particularly given the additional demand created through the current economic climate:

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Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Total Number of Participants	1,185	2,716	+1,531
Participants registered unemployed	592	2,059	+1,467
Participants who are inactive	593	390	-203
Participants with Disabilities or Health Conditions	178	265	+87
Participants who are Lone Parents	119	175	+56
Participants aged 50 or over	142	276	+134
Participants from ethnic minorities	71	147	+76
Female Participants	474	971	+497
Participants Employed on leaving	261	359	+98
Participants employed six months after leaving	308	359	+51

3.2 ERDF 4.2

This project commenced January 2009 although formal offer letters were only issued in November 2009. This has led to a period of developing the appropriate output recording and tracking, which is still in development. We received approval in May 2010 for the methodology to be adopted and so areas marked (*) will increase as the backtracking exercise regarding output achievement is completed. The project will run until March 2011, and primarily focuses on the business facing staff within the Department.

Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Companies Engaged	850	805	-45
Businesses Receiving 2 days support	510	*	
Businesses receiving 5-6 days support	150	*	
Companies contributing to Local Employment Partnerships (LEPs)	34	12	22
Individuals assisted to get a job	375	166	209
Individuals gaining employment within 6 months of intervention	125	30	95
Individuals remaining in employment after 6 months	90	3	87

3.3 WNF – Integrated Job Brokerage

Achievement of all WNF targets through [Sefton@work](#) for 2009/10:

Description	Target	Actual	Difference
New clients registered & receiving active job search support	250	385	+135 (+54%)
Number of residents into employment or training	225	250	+25 (+11%)
Number of pre-recruitment advice, information & training sessions delivered	10	121	+111 (+1110%)
Number of residents retained in employment at 13 weeks	100	179	+79 (+79%)
Number of employers supported through recruitment & advice sessions	12	70	+58 (483%)

3.4 LAA Employment Stretch Target 2007-2010

[Sefton@work](#) was responsible for delivering the LAA target relating to special groups previously workless and retained in employment for 13 weeks. The special groups included

Sefton residents: Aged 50+; with Low/no skills; disabled; lone parents; registered unemployed for more than 6 months.

The stretch target was 357 by March 2010; [Sefton@work](#) achieved 365, exceeding the target by 18. This will earn a Performance Reward Grant for the authority.

3.5 ESF Pathfinder Enabling Programme (pre-matched) –SME Pilot

This project works with local small and medium enterprises to develop robust HR and recruitment techniques to improve working practices and provides tailored support to suit each business. This ranges from help in establishing policies and procedures to help staff to sustain and progress in the workplace. It aims to capture future vacancies and works with a range of partners including TUC and Chamber of Commerce to provide more specialised support. It is a business facing project and has a target of 60 businesses to help. To March 2010, 20 businesses had completed action plans, and we have recently recruited an additional staff member to ensure we can deliver the targets. This project will help to inform the CES in effective engagement and working relationships with SME's in the area.

3.6 ESF Pathfinder Enabling Programme (unmatched) – Tackling Hidden Disadvantage

Workzone (in conjunction with Sefton CVS) in the North of the Borough is the main delivery mechanism for this project and it is focussed on delivering IAG services with a view to moving workless Southport residents into employment and training. The project began in April 2009 and runs until December 2010. Progress against the lifetime targets are as follows:

Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Total Number of Participants	150	257	+107
Participants with Disabilities or Health Conditions	8	25	+17
Participants who are Lone Parents	8	12	+4
Participants aged 50 or over	15	43	+28
Participants from ethnic minorities	3	4	+1
Female Participants	68	44	-24
Participants Employed on leaving	50	26	-24

It is anticipated that this project will deliver and exceed all targets by the contract end period.

3.7 SMBC Performance Contract

The Opportunities Shop has received grant aid from SMBC since the completion of the city challenge era to support the delivery of IAG services across Sefton. In 2009/10 it was agreed that this initiative should be performance managed by the Employment And Skills Team under similar contractual conditions applied to other IAG and worklessness projects in our programme. This transition has begun in-year through the setting and recording of progress against targets to meet the worklessness priorities of the borough and seeks to demonstrate the quality of the provision. As this grant is the only element of mainstream funding within the whole Employment and Skills programme supported directly through PERD's mainstream budgets, securing value for money has been deemed a high priority for the Authority.

At present, the employment and skills team are working with the Opportunities Shop to address some issues, which have arisen from recent claims and audit visits. A very high

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proportion of outputs cannot be validated at this moment in time until further evidence is offered. More progress needs to be made in the consistency and verification processes related to the collection and recording of client data and the team is in the process of resolving these issues with the Opportunities Shop. As the resources applied to this contract are identified in the Strategic Budget review for deletion from April 2010, members' views on the performance of the contract are requested.

Output Description	Target 09/10	Submitted 09/10	Accepted	Outstanding Queries/ comments
Starts	150	125	22	103 queries ranging from missing NI numbers / signatures or EO forms
Jobs (16 hours Plus per week)	50	14	8	6 queries
Sustained job at 13 weeks for special Groups (LAA groups)	25	*	5	*Unable to report number outstanding

3.8 LSC Priority Sector Routeways

This project runs until December 2010 and is focussed on achieving jobs for local workless residents in growth sector areas. It is anticipated that the project will be fully delivered by the end of the contract period as progress against targets is on profile.

Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Individual Learning Plans created	344	248	-96
Start on Priority Sector Routeway	344	248	-96
Start Level 2 Training	204	107	-97
Progression into Job	206	151	-55
Progression into Job with Training	145	107	-38

3.9 LSC Individualised Routeways

The end date for this delivery is December 2010, these figures reflect the picture as at March 2010. It is anticipated that this project will be fully delivered during the contract lifetime.

Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Individual Learning Plans created	268	146	-122
Start on Individualised Routeway	268	146	-122
Progression into job	189	67	-122
Progression into job with Training	113	18	-95

3.10 LSC Redundancy Response

This is a sub contract arrangement with Mercia Training as the lead delivery agent through an LSC funded programme, introduced in light of the changing economic climate. This contract currently runs until December 2010, and we have a target of 50 starts. To date, we have achieved 26 starts, with another planned cohort for June 2010. Negotiations over a potential contract extension are ongoing.

3.11 LSC Sustainable Employment Partnerships

Due to the successful delivery of the original contract profile earlier than anticipated, the LSC awarded SMBC the maximum additional contract virement allowed, thus increasing the volumes and contract value. The contract runs until July 2010 but the new Skills Funding Agency is examining ways of extending existing contracts for successful delivery bodies such as Sefton MBC

Output Description	Lifetime Target	Actual to date	Difference
Individual Learning Plans created	186	120	-66
Start on SEP	186	120	-66
Progression into job with training 16 hours + per week	128	117	11

3.12 SLEGI Working for Yourself

[Sefton@work](#) is currently operating a Stepclever contract in conjunction with the Liverpool JETs focussed on giving local workless residents in the 6 wards an opportunity to explore self-employment or business start up as an option. This project is working well and refers clients when ready to the Enterprise Gateway Option. Sefton is currently exceeding the starts target, although Liverpool's share is behind profile due to a late start. We are awaiting the outcome of the spend review to see if additional funding for the remainder of year 4 and year 5 will be available. Funding currently runs out in December 2010.

Achievements to date on this contract to March 2010 include:

Output Description	Profile	Actual	Difference
Number of beneficiaries	259	259	0
LEGI residents into full time employment	21	18	-3
LEGI residents into part time employment	2	1	-1
LEGI residents into Self Employment	32	32	0
LEGI residents achieving a qualification	96	42	-54
LEGI residents moving into full time education	4	1	-3
Beneficiaries referred to another LEGI scheme	26	26	0
Beneficiaries referred to mainstream BSU support	8	8	0
Beneficiaries undertaking 'start up taster'	259	157	-102

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Output Description	Profile	Actual	Difference
sessions			

3.13 DWP Future Jobs Fund

Sefton MBC was a partner in the Liverpool City Region CES bid led by Knowsley MBC. A Future Job last for 26 weeks, and is part of the Backing Young Britain campaign, which is focussed on those aged 18-24, but can also support those aged 25+. Referrals are made from Jobcentre Plus to places and these come from all across Merseyside.

The first 6 month allocation for Sefton was 107 places. 111 vacancies were posted during this period, but for various reasons we were only able to fill 85 of these within the timescale - issues such as awaiting CRB checks for candidates held up the actual start dates. In terms of places on the Sefton contract, from those filled as at 7th May, 58% live in Sefton. Of the total starts on the Sefton contract, 45% were aged 18-24, 55% aged 25+. 61.6% male and 38.4% female.

Of the total Liverpool City Region bid, 151 Sefton residents have started on a Future Job out of a total 2,188 representing only 6.9%. A meeting has been arranged with Sefton Jobcentre Plus officers to try to increase the number of referrals from Sefton residents to all FJF opportunities.

We are in the process of negotiating an additional 262 Future Jobs for the next phase of the existing contract, for the period April 2010 – March 2011.

The Government has announced there will be no new contracting rounds under Future Jobs Fund, as part of its budget deficit reduction programme.

3.14. Department for Children Schools Families Child Poverty Unit Promoting Parents – Local Authority Child Poverty Innovation Pilot

The first year of the two year pilot awarded by DCSF Child Poverty Unit to SMBC Economic Regeneration Department in conjunction with Children's Services Department in the authority has been successfully completed.

The project tests a range of methods to tackle child poverty by focussing targeted support on families whose income levels are below £19,900 per annum, by providing holistic support to all family members to impact on their household income. This is an economically driven project, but requires the joint working of a wide range of staff involved in the wellbeing of families and children, including Sefton NHS, Sefton CVS and other delivery partners. The project operates a new approach to family working through the appointment of Family Coaches who utilise a variety of tools, techniques and resources to deliver step changes in families' circumstances. Based in Southport, the project aims to provide national evaluators with key lessons about the labour market influences on both working and workless families which feature strongly in seaside economies (such as short term working patterns affected by seasonality.)

Lifetime Targets and achievements for year one (2009/10) are as follows:

	Lifetime target	Actual to date	Difference
Families engaged in project	40	53	+13
Parents receiving IAG	220	102	-118
Parents working towards a qualification	40	37	-3

Parents taking up formal childcare	30	5	-25
Young People completing progression plans	30	14	-16

Citizens Advice have recently been commissioned through the project to deliver financial support to parents, and the additional IAG worker employed by SCVS has recently come into post. The Project Board (composed of Sefton MBC PEDD, Sefton MBC CSF, Sefton CVS, and Sefton NHS confidently expect all targets to be exceeded by the end of the pilot (31 March 2011)

A second important strand of the Promoting Parents Pilot is the design and implementation of an Employer Award that recognises businesses that adopt and implement family friendly policies to support retention and progression in the workplace whilst balancing parental priorities to both work and home life. It is an innovative approach which forms a fundamental part of the pilot which has been recognised by the DCSF and government more widely. The Pilot was mentioned in the recent White Paper on employment, with a view to looking at the potential impact and long term use of an award of this nature has on supporting parents in work. Edge Hill University are the lead consultants in designing and delivering the Award, which is currently in draft form. Fourteen local employers have signed up to working towards the Award against a target of fifteen. The impact this award will have on both the employer and the employees will be subject to formal evaluation, both locally and nationally.

4. The Future of Sefton's Local Employment and Skills Programme

The landscape for employment and skills has shifted rapidly over the lifetime of our local programme, and there has been fundamental change to the machinery of government. The dissolution of the Learning and Skills council, the transfer of 14 – 19 duties to Local Authorities, the expansion of Jobcentre Plus capacity in response to the hike in benefits claimants and the end of transitional arrangements for Merseyside to access European funds are only some of the major shifts which has left the way forward uncertain.

The new Government has stated there will be further significant welfare-to-work reforms including the end of Future Jobs Fund, the creation of a single Work Programme replacing the New Deal and other contracted provision, and simplification of the out-of-work benefits system. On the demand side, the Government is reducing public expenditure on industrial investment and housing, allowing for the abolition of RDAs, and cancelling major infrastructure contracts.

As a key partner in the City Region Employment Pathfinder since its inception, Sefton is committed to the development of City Region strategies on employment and skills. It has already benefited directly from collaborations with other districts to access city centre opportunities, and has contributed to the development of best practice across the sub region.

However, it is now necessary to take stock of the overall impact the programme and assess how this impact can best be continued for the benefit of Sefton residents and business. It is proposed, therefore that a piece of evaluative and planning work is undertaken as soon as possible to inform future service and resource planning for Sefton. The scope of the proposed work is expected to include:

- Consultation with customers, key employers, other partners to identify priorities
- Interpreting the outcomes of the Local Economic Assessment for worklessness and skills provision
- Understanding the customer journey for workless people in Sefton
- Capitalising on the child poverty work and extending best practice with regard to parental employment.

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- Assessment of the effectiveness of our local delivery
- Opportunities for Sefton presented through the LCR Employment and Skills strategy and the local Commissioning Framework
- Consideration of future delivery methods and vehicles for Sefton
- The best ways to link supply and demand in the labour market, learning from Sefton's experience of job capture
- Making the mainstream offer work to optimum effect in Sefton
- The potential to implement Total Place concepts in the field of worklessness
- The strategic "fit" with the forthcoming Sustainable Economic Development Strategy

5. The LCR Interim Work and Skills Plan

Government requires all Local Authorities in receipt of the Future Jobs Fund to produce A Work and Skills Plan. As the Future Jobs Fund bid was based on a city region consortium arising from the City Employment Strategy, it has been agreed by Liverpool City Region Cabinet that a sub regional plan will be produced. Ministers have requested an Interim Plan by April 2010 and a final Plan by March 2011.

The interim Liverpool City Region Work and Skills Plan is attached as appendix one. It is a short and concise statement of how the funding has been applied to the City Region's employment priorities. The Plan was written by Knowsley MBC as lead authority on Employment and Skills, and reflects well established agreements on cross-boundary working.

Members should note that the Worklessness Assessment referred to in the Work and Skills Plan will be dovetailed with the Liverpool City Region Economic Assessment to be completed later in 2010, and will need to be meet more rigorous requirements. This will be reported to members later in the year.

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REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER – REGENERATION

DATE: 9 June 2010

SUBJECT: Business Neighbourhoods and Sefton Integrated Business Support

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Steph Prewett, Assistant Director Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes

CONTACT OFFICER: Steph Prewett Ext 3485

EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To present a revised approach on how support to businesses in Sefton can be delivered. This will utilise existing WNF and mainstream resources along with Stepclever funding (still subject to approval).

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To allow resources for the BVPs to be transferred to the Neighbourhoods Division to support the continued development of Business Neighbourhoods activity.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

- (i) Notes the revised proposal
- (ii) Agrees to transferring all resources associated with BVPs and Town Centre Management to the Neighbourhoods Division

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 10 June 2010

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

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Budget/Policy Framework: No Implications.

Financial: There are no additional financial implications of this work

Legal: No implications

Risk Assessment: No implications

Asset Management: No implications

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The proposals were discussed by the NRTG before approving WNF resources
FD 423 - The proposals will result in virement of budgets within this portfolio and there are no other financial implications for the Council.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Neighbourhood Regeneration Thematic Group (NRTG) –Business Neighbourhoods and Sefton Integrated Business Support, 14 May 2010

Cabinet Member – Corporate Resources – Chief Officers Report May 2010

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

1.0 BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The NRTG was made aware some time ago that both the performance and spend of the SIBS programme had been affected by the impact of the economic downturn both in terms of the business trading climate and spending restrictions imposed by the council which has prevented the filling of key posts.
- 1.2 Therefore two inter-linked revised proposals have been put together to reflect a more realistic spend profile and new steer towards providing a more preventative service. It also recognises that this may be the last year of Working

Neighbourhoods Fund; the constraints of a decreasing public sector resource and policy directions pointing to localism and Total Place.

- 1.3 The Business Neighbourhoods proposal includes the transfer of Business Village Partnerships (BVPs) to the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department. The reason for the transfer is that the Neighbourhoods Division are the lead on area management and the work of the Business Village Partnerships and Town Centres is a key part of this work.
- 1.4 The four posts associated with the BVPs have already been moved across to the Neighbourhoods Division following the submission of a Chief Officers Report to Cabinet Member for Corporate Services. The WNF resources have also been agreed by the NRTG. The next step is for the resources used to support the BVPs to be transferred to the Neighbourhoods Division.

2.0 PROGRAMME SUMMARY:

- 2.1 There are now two inter-linked proposals being put forward. SIBS to be delivered by the Planning and Economic Development Department as part of its business support function and Business Neighbourhoods/BVPs/Town Centres through the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department as part of area management.

2.2 Sefton Integrated Business Support

The proposal is that SIBS will continue to offer business start up and after care support to non-retail businesses outside of Linacre and Derby wards. (Linacre and Derby are covered by Stepclever. This will be supplemented by:

- Providing preventative business support activities aimed at tackling short term to medium issues for businesses to come out of the recession stronger and able to support the prime objective of creating employment opportunities and combating worklessness in deprived communities.
- Providing a Social Enterprise support element to the business offer through a partnership arrangement with South Sefton Development Trust
- Developing a Total Business Pilot to further develop the Sefton business engagement and consultation framework.
- Providing more intensive business support workshops and seminars with partners and stakeholders through the successful BusinessplusSefton events and activities.

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- Developing a low carbon business support pilot project to undertake an intensive environmental health check and increase the take up of free existing support available for adaptations and improvements.
- Maximising the local sourcing of employment opportunities through local charters with major developers in Sefton by existing construction support from Build Sefton/Stepclever activities.

2.3 Business Neighbourhoods/Town Centres and Business Village Partnerships

This will involve taking a more business centred approach using the Business Neighbourhood approach of working with the businesses in the businesses. This has worked well in the existing Stepclever project which works in the Linacre and Derby wards. The businesses are offered a single point of contact and a comprehensive range of potential services which are then customised to their needs. A gap in service which needs to be addressed in the rest of Sefton is the fact that outside of the Town Centres, there is no focus on the retail sector, in particular shopping parades, smaller centres such as Marian Square in Netherton.

Plus, it is recognised that all of the above is public sector funded to support the private sector. Therefore, the fundamental issue is firstly, to encourage the sustainability of these approaches if they work as they support the viability of our communities, but also to demonstrate to the private sector that they bring added value and need a contribution.

Therefore, the revised approach is focused around:

- Offering a comprehensive service to retail businesses
- Developing Total Place approaches for the two Town Centres with the Southport work looking at a potential Business Improvement District
- Offering a menu of services to small independent businesses, focusing on issues around business crime, regulatory services, environmental improvements and business support
- Strengthening the approach to Town Centre Management
- Continuing to develop key projects and initiatives which will revitalise areas and make them more attractive to work and invest in
- Developing area plans, which will be used to prioritise activities. These will be specific to business related issues but will also tie into the wider neighbourhood area plans and development of Area Committee structures.
- Vacant premises programme to tackle derelict shop frontages to improve the visual appearance of shopping areas.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

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- Notes the revised proposal.
- Agrees to transferring all resources associated with BVPs and Town Centre Management to the Neighbourhoods Division.

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member Technical Services
Cabinet Member Regeneration

DATE: 26th May 2010
9th June 2010

SUBJECT: Sefton Business Village Partnership Reports
(21st April 2010 Meeting)

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** All

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Mo Kundi
3447

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:
To inform Members of the activities undertaken by Sefton Business Village Partnerships

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:
To comply with standard portfolio reporting procedures.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:-

1. The content of report be noted, and that
2. When appropriate further reports on activities undertaken by Sefton Business Village Partnerships be presented.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: N/A

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:
Sefton Business Village Partnerships have been operating since 2002, with funding from the Regional Development Agency, Sefton Council, relevant Parish Councils, and the private sector, and have proved to be very successful vehicle for partnership working between the public sector, the local business community, and the voluntary sector for developing and delivering projects that benefit the business community and the public realm. The alternative option of not continuing Sefton Business Village Partnerships, would lead to loss of business engagement, the loss of valuable and free expertise that the business and the voluntary sectors bring to the table, and critically Sefton Council's ability to demonstrate business sector involvement as part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment regulations.

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IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

<p>CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS:- Legal FD 317 Technical Services</p>
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CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	/		
2	Creating Safe Communities	/		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	/		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	/		
5	Environmental Sustainability	/		

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6	Creating Inclusive Communities	/		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	/		
8	Children and Young People	/		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet Member (Regeneration) 17th February 2010, Cabinet Member (Technical Services) 24th February 2010 and the Cabinet 4th March 2010 entitled 'Sefton Business Village Partnership Reports (20th January 2010 Meeting)'.

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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet (Regeneration) at his meeting on 17th February 2010, the Cabinet Member (Technical Services) at his meeting on 24th February 2010 and the Cabinet at its meeting on 4th March 2010 considered a report entitled 'Sefton Business Village Partnership Reports, (21st April 2010 Meeting)'. The report provided an update on the current projects and activities being developed and delivered by Business Village Partnerships in Southport, Birkdale, Formby, Crosby, Waterloo, Bootle, and Altside, which covers the four Town/Parish Councils of Maghull, Aintree, Lydiate and Melling.
- 1.2 The Report also provided information on the work of Sefton Business Against Crime Partnerships operating in Southport, and Bootle.
- 1.3 Members consider the Report and requested that when appropriate further reports on activities undertaken by Sefton Business Village Partnerships be presented.

2.0 Further Update

- 2.1 The overarching Sefton Business Village Partnership Board met on 21st April 2010 to consider the latest reports submitted by each of the local partnerships, copies of which are attached as Annex A to this report. Please note that Annexes relating to the Mapping exercise below are available on request.
- 2.2 Members may be interested to note that for the first time a major exercise has been undertaken to map the shops in those areas where Business Village Partnerships operate, i.e. Southport, Birkdale, Formby, Crosby, Waterloo, and Altside. Whilst the exercise is still incomplete, and will be geographically expanded, both within BVP areas and non BVP areas to ensure that all town centre shops are included, the results do highlight a number of key points:-
 - A total of 968 shops were recorded together with their current status
 - Of these currently 101 shops are empty – some 10.43%
 - In terms of size of these shops, some 669 fall with the small category (less than 800 square feet), 167 in the medium (5,000 or less square feet), and 85 as large (over 5,000 square feet).
 - 206 (21.28%) are considered as big chains stores, i.e. those brand stores that are likely to be operating regionally, and nationally
 - 102 (10.54%) were considered to be retail stores
 - 40 (4.13%) as Takeaways, 54 (5.58%) as restaurants, and 26 (2.69%) as Public Houses/Bars
 - In terms of empty shops, Waterloo has the highest percentage (19.3%), followed by Formby at 11.6%. Southport and Crosby are

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both around 10%, with Birkdale at 8%. Altside has the least number of empty shops, 5% of the total.

2.3 It is intended to undertake a more detailed analysis of the captured data, and to present the findings at future meetings.

3.0 Proposal

3.1 It is proposed that:-

- The content of the report be noted, and
- Further reports on activities undertaken by Sefton Business Village Partnerships be presented.



21st April 2010

Southport Town Hall, Birkdale Room

Starting at 3.00pm



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3. Any Other Business

4. Dates and Venues of future meetings:

- 21st July 2010 Bootle Town Hall (Committee Room 1) @ 3.00pm
- 20th October 2010 Southport Town Hall (Birkdale Room) @ 3.00pm

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The ART of SHOPPING

Presentation by Liverpool Biennial

Introduction

Sefton Council is partnering with Liverpool Biennial, through its Art 'for Places' project, to develop and deliver the 'ART of SHOPPING' project across the borough. In order to deliver this project the partnership is seeking £30,000 from Arts Council England to supplement the funding (£48,000) it has already received from DCLG as part of the Empty Shop Fund. Should this bid be successful Crosby Housing Association has indicated that it would be prepared to contribute £5,000, and Sefton Council's Leisure and Tourism Department is also willing to provide £3,500. In addition, discussions are currently taking place with Stepclever officers to determine if there is any possibility of additional funding for this project.

Background

Liverpool Biennial and the Art for Places project have been working in Sefton since 2008 on a major new public art commission for the Leeds and Liverpool canal. Arts for Places aims to creatively explore new ways of working within the regeneration process, with community engagement at its heart. The commission, Sefton Waterworks, is planned for lunch later into 2010.

As part of the above projects' engagement work, Liverpool Biennial has been running the Seaforth Ideas Shop in the former Post Office in the heart of Seaforth Village, as a space for artist residencies and community led activities for a period of 12 months. The work undertaken here, and the experience gained underpin the proposal for funding from the Arts Council England.

The ART of SHOPPING Proposal

The ART of SHOPPING project aims to build on the Art for Places work in Seaforth, and use creative approaches to stimulate activity across key Sefton shopping areas. The aim is to be creative, engaging and thought provoking, whilst proving a platform to stimulate and enliven shopping areas. One of the key goals is to encourage people to shop locally and to consider taking on shop ownership.

The proposal is aimed at meeting the following objectives:-

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- To create opportunities to stimulate enterprise and economic activity, through increased use of local shopping areas, and increased take up of empty shops.
- To contribute towards creating a unique identity & sense of place for the shopping areas.
- To improve the physical environment where ever possible through creative activity.
- To reduce the negative impact of empty shops.
- To bring communities together to act for the improvement of their area.
- To encourage sustainable cultural activity.
- To attract additional funds where possible
- To maximise marketing and publicity opportunities.

The project will focus on the following shopping areas:-

- Ainsdale Village
- Birkdale Village
- Bootle Town Centre
- Crosby Village
- Formby Village
- Maghull Shopping Centre
- Seaforth Village
- Southport Town Centre
- Waterloo

Bid Time Scale

Due to changes at the Arts Council England the ART of SHOPPING bid was not formally submitted and accepted until mid March. The Arts Council England has indicated that it is likely to be late June early July before a decision is made.

Presentation

Paul Kelly from Liverpool Biennial will be presenting in detail the proposals contained in the bid, and how the objectives identified above will be realised.

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Sefton Business Village Partnership

Notes of meeting held on 20th January 2010 at

Bootle Town Hall

Present:

Margaret Carney	Chair, CEO Sefton MBC
Mo Kundi	Manager, Sefton BVP, Sefton MBC
Steve Dickson	Sefton Chamber of Commerce
Sue Dare	Chair, SBE
Jim Breen	Manager, SBE
Les French	Chair, Altside BVP
Janet Barnet	Chair, Waterloo Traders Association
Sean Brady	Chair, Formby Partnership
Nicky Owen	Manager, Formby and Crosby BVPs
Derek Sarath	Manager, Waterloo BVP
Chris White	Manager, BTCM
Rob Uffendell	Chair, Birkdale BVP
John Keogh	Manager, Altside BVP

Apologies:

Councillor Robertson	Sefton MBC
Bob Greenhalgh	Chair, BTCM/Strand Shopping Centre
Catherine Caddick	Chair, Crosby BVP/Caddick Jewellers
Stuart Roberts	Chair, SBE/Specsavers
Steve Booth	Manager, SBAC and Birkdale BVP
Valaina Bowker	Representing SBE

1. Minutes of meetings held on 20th January 2010

1.1 Southport Business Enterprise

Business and Retail Strategy Working Group

An inception meeting was held in November 2009 with the Retail consultant White Young Green, who have been appointed to undertake a detailed Study of the current retail position and to assess future need, including the identification of potential sites. In addition it was highlighted that:-

- The former Woolworth site is currently being renovated for new tenants, New Look and H & M, who are expected to occupy the site in April 2010.
- Old Bank Building at 253-254 Lord Street is now an ASK Italian Restaurant.
- Cambridge Walks will shortly be re-branded and re-launched by owners Threadneedle Asset Management, as part of a programme to recruit new retailers.
- Former Yorkshire Bank property on Eastbank Street is very close to having new tenants.

Marketing Working Group

Following the success of the **"I Love Southport"** promotion in Spring 2009, the Partnership held a very successful **"I love Southport at Christmas"**, campaign which encouraged residents to shop locally, support local retailers, and sustain the retail offer in Southport. Linked to this was a Christmas Festival held for the first time in Chapel Street over three weekends involving a range of traditional and modern musical entertainment, children's rides and six food stalls. As part of the wider Christmas campaign a parking promotion permitted free parking after 3.00pm on Thursdays and Fridays in December.

SBE Newsletter

The SBE Newsletter containing information relevant to the town's retailers, such as sales performance, new store openings, marketing activity and events, environment and safety issues was delivered to retailers. The intention is make this a regular quarterly feature.

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Action – Jim Breen

1.2 Birkdale Business Village Partnership

Britain in Bloom

Birkdale village won an award for the Britain in Bloom competition. This is a major success for the Partnership, which was instrumental in taking this forward.

Events

The Partnership held it's annual Christmas Lights Switch on 3rd December. The event attracted some 1,000 visitors despite the inclement weather. A feed back exercise undertaken with local retailers showed that 84% of those that responded were happy with the event. A key issue raised was the lack of sufficient parking in the village.

For the first time the Partnership assisted with the erection 18 solar powered Christmas trees in around the Hillside Bridge area, and the Birkdale Library area.

The Partnership will be undertaking an Arts and Craft fair in the spring.

Action – Steve Booth

1.3 Formby Partnership

The chair of Formby Partnership, Gill Fell has resigned due to work commitments. Sean Brady, a Formby Parish Councillor has agreed to be the interim chair until a private sector representative can be found.

The Partnership has agreed to take over the organisation of the Formby Christmas event from 2011. The Partnership will be undertaking its second "Formy Alive" event on 19th and 20th June, and is hoping to build on the success of the first one.

Sean Brady provided a brief summary of the Low Carbon Community Challenge bid that Formby Parish Council and Sefton Council developed and submitted for funding. Unfortunately the bid was not successful, but there was an acknowledgement on how well the two Councils worked

together, and that this could be a model for joint working arrangements in the future.

Action – Nicky Owen

1.4 Crosby Business Village Partnership

Events

The Christmas event took place on 27th November, and despite some minor hiccups the event went very well. A post event evaluation will be undertaken.

Parking

Instead of the "Free After 3" scheme, Crosby Partnership opted for free parking after 10.30am on Saturday 12th and Saturday 19th December. A feedback exercise will be undertaken to gauge the success of the scheme.

Sainsbury's Development

The second round of consultation took place in November, and Sainsbury's have indicated that no further consultations are planned before the planning application is submitted.

Action – Nicky Owen

1.5 Waterloo Business Village Partnership

Car Parking Survey

The Partnership undertook two comprehensive parking surveys, which highlighted the need for changes in the local car parking arrangements for shoppers. The parking surveys also showed that when any changes are made to Traffic Regulation Orders the business community needs to be also consulted as these changes could have significant adverse impact on their trade. A number of conclusions and suggestions were made, which were forwarded to Council's Traffic Section for action.

Business Rates

Work has been done by the Partnership to provide an analysis of rateable values in Waterloo and for comparable areas. The results show that rateable values overall in South Road and St. Johns' Road are reasonable. However a couple of unusual queries were identified in the study, which are now being referred to the Valuation Office for clarification.

Agenda Item 13

Action Plan

The Partnership has produced a draft Action Plan, which will be discussed at the next meeting. The intention is that this will form the basis of the actions of the Partnership in 2010.

A vote of Thanks

In recognition of the fact that Derek will be taking early retirement Margaret thanked Derek for all his hard work, and wished him all the best in his retirement.

1.6 Bootle Town Centre Management Partnership

Events

Bootle Festival events that were held on Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th October were a major success. The events were well attended, increasing the Strand's footfall by some 2% over the previous week. The Christmas event held on 26th November was packed with activities, including the junior Ski slope, which generated a great amount of publicity across the local media including Bootle Times, Crosby Herald and the Liverpool Echo and Real Radio North West.

The first Bootle Dash, which attracted 46 entries and was undertaken in association with The Jospice is expected to raise some £1,000.

The Partnership is planning to hold the following three events in the next quarter:-

- A focus on Fitness promotion
- A Valentine promotion
- A Spring Festival/Market on Stanley Road

Action – Chris White

1.7 Altside BVP

Tourism

Camping and Caravanning Club – Due to difficulties in securing the site, the Partnership is now exploring alternative sites.

Lydiate Marina – Detail discussions have been held with the Planning Department, and the developer has been informed of the nature of the information that has to accompany the planning application.

Hornby Centre – The deadline for the submission of Stage one HLF bid is the end of February and the Trust is currently developing a number of policies in order to comply with HLF regulations.

Hornby Experience Exhibition – A third exhibition was held on 14th and 15th November, which was also very successful. The aim of this exhibition was to raise awareness of Frank Hornby's link with Maghull to gauge interest for a permanent Hornby Heritage Centre. The total cost of the event was £5432, which was funded from Sefton Express, Maghull Town Council, and income generated from rental of tables at the exhibition.

Central Square & Aintree Village Christmas Illuminations – With fundings from Maghull Group, Sefton Tourism, and Sefton East Parishes Area Committee, additional Christmas illuminations were installed at Maghull Central Square. In addition fundings from the Bleasdale Group, Aintree Village Parish Council, and Sefton Tourism meant that for the first time similar lighting was installed at the three shopping parades in Aintree Village.

Action –John Keogh

1.8 Sefton Business Against Crime Partnership (SBAC)

The Southport Shopwatch and Bootle Shopwatch Partnerships received a presentation by the Anti Terrorist Team of the Merseyside Police. The aim of the presentation was to highlight the outcome of a terrorist attack in a crowded area and the preventative measures that can be taken by public and private sector workers.

New target files of current offenders were produced for both the Southport and Bootle areas and have been distributed to all members of Business Against Crime Partnerships. It is interesting to note as a result of BACs, both Southport and Bootle police have reported a decrease in store related crime.

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Nightsafe Radios – Additional funding to provide radios to pubs and clubs in Waterloo and Crosby areas has been secured, and these will be rolled out. Once in operation Nightsafe Radios will help to combat crime and anti-social behaviour associated with the night-time economy.

Action – Steve Booth

1.9 Sefton BVP

Lydiate Village Centre – the construction of the Centre is experiencing 6 weeks delay due to adverse weather conditions, but the total cost of the project will be contained within existing budgets.

Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010 – 2012 – Sefton Council and Formby Parish Council have jointly developed and submitted a bid under this programme to draw down some £500,000. It was verbally reported at the meeting that this bid was not successful.

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing – For the first time the European Commission has agreed to allow ERDF grant to be used in social and low income housing for the purpose retrofitting energy efficiency measures. Sefton Council has agreed to develop and submit a bid and be the accountable body for this some £22 million sub-regional project

Merseyside Rural Economy Strategy & Action Plan – Consultants 'Rural Innovation', commissioned to develop the Rural Strategy presented their findings on 3rd December at Bootle Town Hall. The next stage of the study is to develop Actions Plans for each of the Boroughs within the Merseyside region.

Supporting Town Centres

Sefton Council along with 57 other local authorities, has been allocated £52,631.58 by DCLG to help town centres address the adverse impact of the current economic climate. It was agreed that £500 should be given to the nine town/retail centres within Sefton so that local Partnerships could market and promote them leading up to the Christmas period.

It was also agreed that a bid be submitted to Arts Council England in partnership with Liverpool Biennial in order to draw down additional funds, which could be between £10,000 and £30,000.

Scarisbrick Avenue Building, Southport – It was reported that after some lengthy delay Thomas Barnes have now commenced work on site, which is expected to be completed by July 2010.

Funding Opportunities

The report also provided a detailed breakdown of the current funding opportunities from the various European Programmes as well as national funding sources such as the Regional development Agency and the Lottery.

Other Issues Raised at the Meeting

1. Tracking Change in Town Centres – It was agreed that a base line information should be developed in those Town Centre areas where Partnerships operate so that changes could be recorded and tracked, thereby allowing the development of evidence based actions and activities.
2. Co-ordination of common activities – It was recognised that there are a number of common activities taking place by local Partnerships across the Borough, and if these could be identified, and then co-ordinated there may be some opportunities to pool the resources and secure savings through commissioning and procurement.

Action – Mo Kundi

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2. Southport Business Enterprise

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Southport Business Enterprise - Progress Report No. 34

Author of Report:

Steve Booth – Acting Southport Business Enterprise Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Southport Business Enterprise.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

2.1 Current Active Projects

Southport Business Enterprise Working Groups meet regularly. SBE outputs are to increase numbers of businesses, jobs, visitors, visitor spend, and enhance the environment and safety of Southport's town centre.

SBE Working Groups contain members from the public and private sectors and are focused on achieving the above outputs through the project activities described in this report.

2.2 Management and Admin

SBE is again participating in the STERLINK student exchange programme with Mons, Belgium, and final year student, Yasmina Stansfield has joined us for a four month period, from Feb -May 2010. This exchange programme provides the final year student with both work experience and an opportunity to greatly improve their

English language skills, and provides SBE with additional administrative support at no cost.

2.3 Business and Retail Strategy Working Group

Due to a re – structuring and re- alignment this group will be set up again in May 2010. Major retailers have expressed an interest in getting involved following on from the presentation from White, Young, Green and Cheetam and Mortimer that was given to major stakeholders in Southport in March. And there is now a wealth of retail expertise that will be tapped into to deliver the next part of the Retail Strategy.

2.4 Southport Investment Strategy (SIS)

SBE is the thematic leader for Chapter 2 of the SIS, Town Centre Management, and a copy of the proposed Implementation Plan, together with key delivery priorities for year 1 (2010/11), and year 2/3 are highlighted in the attached Annex A below. To progress this Implementation Plan the SBE together with its SIS Retail Working Group is being realigned to ensure effective delivery. The attached Annex B shows the proposed make up the SBE Board and the SIS Retail Working Group. This group had their initial meeting in December 2008. This group is now awaiting a draft report to develop its work plan in more detail. Namely Sefton Council's updated Retail Strategy Review by White Young Green. This is expected within the next few weeks, and further information on this group's activity will be provided in the next Sefton BVP report.

2.5 Marketing Group

"I Love Southport" Campaign

This campaign will run again from mid April till June 30th and will consist of two elements

1. Customers who spend over £10 in a participating retailer will be entered into a free prize draw where two winners will either receive a night for two in the Ramada Hotel or Albert and Victoria Hotel and a meal for two
2. There will be a downloadable discount vouchers booklet, which will enable visitors or residents to save over £200 by shopping or dining in selected Southport businesses.

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To enter applicant must fill in their e- mail addresses on a form that will be available at till points, this will then be passed onto Sefton Tourism who will add the names onto their database utilise this information to send out details of events etc:

The main elements of the campaign, " I Love Southport" are:

- A loyalty scheme that would encourage local shoppers to use a broad range of town centre shops.
- A PR campaign in selected media within 90 minutes drive time of Southport.

A sample of the marketing materials will be available for inspection at the Sefton BVP meeting. Local press, radio, and Sefton Council PR will promote this campaign.

2.6 Environment and Safety Working Group

Southport Business Against Crime

A separate report on the Sefton Business Against Crime Partnership by the SBAC Manager , Steve Booth, is included elsewhere on the agenda.

In addition, a section 215 notice is being pursued on a property in Eastbank Street that has been empty for over 10 years and is in an advanced state of decay. The aim of this action is to compel the owner to take action to improve the property as it is encouraging anti-social behaviour and having a negative impact on the surrounding properties.

Graffiti issues are a common element of all town Centres and SBE is working to reduce the impact on the visitor economy by targeting central and tourist related areas within Southport and working closely with the Safer Stronger Communities team.

Wesley Street has had a major uplift including hanging baskets and themed street lighting, which has made a vast difference to the overall ambience of the area and the traders and owners have all commented positively.

2.7 Chapel Street Management Working Group

This is a group will be reconstituted as part of the retail strategy group agenda.

SBE is now assisting or enabling several events, public services, and attractions to take place on Chapel Street to inform or entertain visitors to Chapel Street. These include schools, charities and health authorities.

Work is ongoing to expand the Farmer's market both in offer and in size. The last market had 17 attendees including 2 new stalls.

Merseyside Police now have a stall on a regular basis which distributes crime prevention advice. This was expanded on during the March market by the Traffic section who displayed their Police Motorbikes on Chapel Street. whilst also distributing literature to the general public, and it is hoped that other sections and departments will come in from time to time.

Social Services have also taken a stall to enable the Adult Learning Horticultural Centre to sell plants and at the same time allowing some of it's workers the opportunity to work in a different environment than one that they are used to and to meet the general public.

2.8 Mapping Exercise

An extensive exercise carried out on 3rd April 2010 by Yasmina Stansfield, the final year student from Belgium into number of shops in Southport Town centre, and their current status shows that Southport Town Centre, which includes Chapel Street, Lord Street, London Street, and Eastbank Street has some 274 shops, of which 24 (9%) are currently empty. As to be expected Lord Street dominates the picture in terms of number of stores, 142, with 24 (9%) empty. Chapel Street with some 42 stores has the least number of empty stores (2 or 5%), but Marble Place with some 16 stores has the highest vacancy rate at 19% and this will go up once New Look store is relocated to Chapel Street in May. Key points to note are:-

- The new H + M store is schedule to open on 22nd April
- New Look store is set to now open on 13th May as opposed to 29th April
- Famous Footware (Lord Street) opened on 1st April,
- A Nail and Beauty Parlour (Eastbank Street) opened on 3rd March
- Bodycare opened its doors for trade on 16th March
- Holland and Barrett will be moving into the Nobles amusement arcade on Chapel Street. The planned date for this move is end of April.

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These will totally transform Chapel Street from its position this time last year when several properties were vacant and will enable Southport to extend its retail offer. It is intended to expend this mapping exercise, both in terms covering all other shopping streets in Southport Town Centre, but to also capture other pertinent information.

The results of this exercise are contained in Annex A included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

Visitor Economy Strategy – Implementation Plan

3. Priority 2 - Retail Development

Development Area	Current Position	Year 1 Development Priorities	Year 2/3 Development Priorities	Delivery & Constraints	Funding Opportunities	Risk
<p>Major Retail Development – Lord Street, Chapel Street & Environs</p> <p>Lead - Town Centre Management Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ No clear policy (size/scale of ambition) around the development of large, modern units capable of attracting mid/upper end retail brands. ❑ Spatial Planning - Limited clarity around the role of Lord Street, Chapel Street & potentially Tulketh Street in accommodating offer. ❑ Limited market information – existing demand, projections, current footfall and target retail brand/operators 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WYG Feasibility Study to provide gap analysis, site assessments, development opportunities & market need. 2. Prioritise activity within Local Development Framework/SPD. 3. Market evaluation & research policy. 4. Engaging commercial retail agents with vision & market intelligence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Consultation ❑ Seek Development Partner ❑ Start work on masterplan ❑ Integration of access/transport policy. ❑ Retail Sales Strategy targeting national retail brands etc. ❑ Local environmental development – public realm, access & transport policy etc ❑ Establish public/private sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Resource to deliver ambition – human & financial. ❑ Environmental. ❑ Who leads? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ NWDA ❑ Local Authority (land value etc) ❑ Developer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Access/integrated transport strategy. ❑ Not LA priority. ❑ Political pressure ❑ Impact of Area Management proposals.

			<p>'experience retail' development group</p>			
<p>Attracting 'on-brand' Retail – Lord Street & Chapel Street</p> <p>Lead - Town Centre Management Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ No clear policy re clustering/prioritising of desired retail brands in designated quarters. ❑ Retail mapping – increased knowledge of empty town centre retail space & landlords. ❑ No agreed action plan to target & encourage 'on-brand' retail into designated quarters – grants, business support, rate incentives etc. ❑ Lack of stakeholder/private sector input into develop 'block by block' development of Lord Street. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Land lord mapping survey of Lord Street and identification of key premises/sites. 2. In conjunction with Sefton's inward investment team & SIS comms plan, develop promotional initiatives & align support activity (grants, marketing etc) with 'on brand' retailers. 3. Through WYG strategy, define Lord Street 'character areas', prioritise development opportunities & establish mechanisms for block by block development with existing retailers, potential developers & Landlords/letting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Integrate approach with major retail strategy and planning policy. ❑ Implementation of BID's within designated areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Current economic down turn. ❑ Lack of officer and political will given other priorities of the council ❑ Incentives offered by other retail destinations – Liverpool 1, Chester, Preston etc. ❑ Lack of industry knowledge and market potential of Southport as a retail destination for target retail brands.

		<p>agents.</p> <p>4. Re structure existing research activity to evidence performance of resort's retail sector – footfall, turnover etc.</p> <p>5. Structure outline BID's framework for prioritized areas of Lord Street & Chapel Street.</p>				
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ANNEX B

DRAFT

Proposed Representation on the Board and Working Group

Retailers	SBE Board*	SIS Retail Group
Marks & Spencers	x	
Primark (Confirmation)	x	
Boots	x	x
Debenhams	x	x
Wilkinson's		x
Broadbents	x	
Wayfarers Arcade	x	x
Sainsbury's	x	
Mason Owen		x
BHS	x	
Champion Press	x	x
H&M (Confirmation)		
Rob Anderson		x
Antony Hill Partnership		x
Valaina Bowker	x	
Covet & Crave		x
H&M (Confirmation)		
Edinburgh Woollen Mill	x	
Dransfield Property		x
Specsavers	x	
Tony Brough	x	

*SBE Board also currently has 3 Ward Councillors plus Chair of Area Committee.

Note: SIS Retail group to meet quarterly. To also include Officers (Alan Young, Mark Catherall, Stefan Jankowski, Peter Sandman) Mo Kundi & Steve Booth to sit on both.

4. Birkdale Business Village Partnership

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Birkdale Business Village Partnership - Progress Report

Author of Report:

Steve Booth - Birkdale Business Village Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Birkdale Business Village Partnership.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

4.1 Current Activities

The Arts and Crafts Fair is to be held on Sat April 17th between 1:00 – 4:00 currently there are 16 stallholders confirmed for the event, which is a 50% increase on the last event. Birkdale will also be included in a week of Arts and Crafts events that are happening throughout the whole of West Lancashire.

The date of the Summer Festival has also been finalised. It will now take place on July 17th from 13.00 – 18.00. There will be fairground rides, live music Southport Lifeboat, food vendors along with Arts and Crafts stalls.

Negotiations are also under way to bring the Sefton Youth Services Bus down for the event, which will allow teenagers to play video games etc. whilst interacting with Youth Services. It is envisaged that this whole event will be self funding

Birkdale will be entering the Britain in Bloom competition again this year, after receiving a commendation in last year's event.

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As part of this commitment, the raised kerb edging around the tree stumps will be renewed and replaced

Discussions are ongoing with Social Services regarding planting of the flower beds by the Adult Learning Nursery located on Rotten Row who have offered to plant flowers in the beds, once the work is completed. This will hopefully be at either low cost or no cost and when completed, will add to the overall ambience of the village

There are currently 4 empty units in Birkdale, However one of the properties has planning permission for a Beauty salon and early indications are than a restaurant may be re – opening under new management.

4.2 Mapping Exercise

The Mapping exercise shows that that there are some 60 Shops in the village centre, of which 5 (8%) are currently, although two of these will to be reoccupied soon.

The results of this exercise are contained in Annex B included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

5. Formby Business Village Partnership

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Formby Business Village Partnership - Progress Report No. 5

Author of Report:

Nicky Owen - Formby Business Village Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Formby Business Village partnership.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

5.1 Partnership Issues

This Group consists of local Traders, the Parish Council, Sefton MBC and local community organisations. Sean Brady is currently acting as an interim chair.

The Partnership meets bi-monthly.

The Chair is working to encourage more businesses to join the Partnership.

5.2 Events

Formby Live: preparations are well underway for the 2010 music event. The dates for the event have changed since the last report and it will now take place on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th July.

On 17th there will be street entertainment in the Village during the day and then there will be acts in the bars in the evening. On the Sunday there will be a free concert in the grounds of Formby pool as well as family entertainers, food and fair rides.

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Christmas Event: the first meeting to plan the Christmas event will take place during the next 4 weeks.

Markets: the potential for craft markets and community markets is currently being investigated.

Street Entertainment: a licence application for this is due to be submitted by the end of April. If the application is successful it will allow music, theatre and dance events to take place in the Village Centre throughout the year.

5.3 Communications

Press Advert: the 'Visit Formby' advert went into Trinity Group newspapers in mid-January. This was paid for from the Sefton MBC Retail Centres pot.

Electronic Communication: the formbyfirst blog that Sean has developed is being used by a range of people. A facebook site for Formby Live 2010 has also been created.

5.4 Environment

Parking: a meeting has taken place between a number of BVP's, including Formby, and traffic services to discuss parking issues. Traffic services are now looking at the issues in Formby around parking restrictions and car-park signage.

Village Centre: the Parish Council are continuing to work on making the Village Centre more attractive. Improvements to the area adjacent to the post office are currently being investigated. The Village will also participate in Britain in Bloom again this year, with additional planters from 2009.

Security: the Partnership, the Parish Council and Sefton MBC are investigating the potential of expanding the current shop radio scheme within the Village to reduce retail related theft.

5.5 Mapping of Business Premises in the Village

An exercise has been undertaken to map out the nature, type, and number of shop premises currently in the Village Centre. The key findings of this exercise is as follows:-

- There are currently 112 shop premises
- 13 are currently empty, which is some 11.6% of the total.
- 8 are charity shops, and 12 cafes/restaurants

The results of this exercise are contained in Annex C included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

5.6 Other Issues

Low Carbon Pilot: unfortunately the application for funding for this project was unsuccessful.

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6. Crosby Village Traders Association

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Crosby Business Village Partnership - Progress Report No. 34

Author of Report:

Nicky Owen - Crosby Business Village Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Crosby Business Village Partnership.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

6.1 Partnership

There is a range of Traders involved in the Partnership, along with Officers and Councillors from Sefton MBC. The Group meets on a bi-monthly basis.

Unfortunately the last meeting of the Partnership had to be cancelled as the Chair had an accident. A new meeting date is expected to be set shortly.

6.2 Events

A summer event and Christmas event are planned for the Village in 2010. At present no dates have been set for these events. Event planning is expected to start shortly.

Crosby Bars Festival: this is organised by the licenced premises in the Village in association with Sefton Tourism. This years event will take place on the 28th – 31st May. There will be a stage in the Village Centre as well as acts in the bars.

6.3 Development

Sainsbury's: the planning application for the new Sainsbury's store was submitted on 12th March. If the application is successful the layout of the Village will be substantially changed. Discussions now need to take place between the Traders

Association, Sefton MBC and Sainsbury's about phasing for the project and ways to manage the Village through the change period.

6.4 Other Issues

Parking: a meeting has taken place between a number of the BVP's, including Crosby, and traffic services to discuss parking issues. Traffic services are now looking at the parking charges for the Village and how parking will be managed if the Sainsbury's application is successful.

6.5 Mapping Exercise

An exercise has been undertaken to map out the nature, type, and number of shop premises currently in the Village Centre. The key findings of this exercise is as follows:-

- There are currently 91 store premises
- 9 are currently empty, which is 10% of the total.

Clearly this figure will go up once Sainsbury's start their re-development.

The results of this exercise are contained in Annex D included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

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7. Waterloo Traders Association

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Waterloo Traders Association - Progress Report

Author of Report:

Derek Sarath – Waterloo Traders Association Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Waterloo Traders Association.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

7.1 Management Issues

Derek Sarath has taken early retirement. Until the post of Waterloo Traders Association Manager is formally filled, Stephen Evans with assistance from John Keogh will be co-ordinating and servicing the Waterloo Traders Association.

7.2 Car Parking

Since undertaking detailed parking surveys, the Partnership has met to consider how the findings can be implemented, particularly those elements considered to have the greatest adverse impact on the trading position of the area. Concerns were expressed about enforcement of parking restrictions, the need for better signage, parking for delivery vehicles, and traffic serving local school. It was agreed that a detailed traffic survey down St. Johns Road should also be undertaken. In addition a request was made to invite Council's Traffic Services Manager to the next meeting of the partnership to address traffic and road safety concerns.

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7.3 Rateable Values

Following the detailed study undertaken, which showed that that rateable values overall in South Road and St Johns' Road are reasonable, the Partnership has agreed to drop this item from the agenda for future meetings. The Partnership agreed instead to concentrate on those activities that would raise the profile of the area, and encourage more pedestrian footfall.

7.4 Events

The Partnership is very keen to undertake a number of events in the area during the year that would bring more shoppers to the area, and at the same time generate income for the Christmas event.

It was agreed that proposals for a "waterloo Day" event be considered at the next meeting.

Discussions also took place around the Shop Sefton 2010 (AKA 'The Art of Shopping') bid that has now been submitted to the Arts Council for additional funding, and how that could benefit Waterloo.

7.5 Action Plan

The Partnership is keen to ensure that work activities contained in its Action Plan are delivered. In relation to this the following issues were raised:-

- How the local environment, including public realm could be improved
- Signs indicating that you are entering Waterloo
- Raising the profile of South Road and St Johns Road, particularly in relation to its retail area
- As part of Merseytravel's bus/station improvements to re-brand the Waterloo Station as 'Home of Another Place'.

7.6 Mapping Exercise

The mapping exercise shows that Waterloo has some 197 shops of which currently 38 (19.3%) are empty. This is the highest rate amongst the areas mapped to date.

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Detailed results of this exercise are contained in Annex E included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

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8. Bootle Town Centre Management

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Bootle Town Centre Management - Progress Report No. 34

Author of Report:

Chris White - Bootle Town Centre Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Bootle Town Centre Management.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

Sefton Chamber of Commerce and Trade, who manages the Bootle Town Centre Management Partnership, will be presenting the report at the meeting.

9. Altside Business Village Partnership

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Altside Business Village Partnership - Progress Report No. 34

Author of Report:

John Keogh - Altside Business Village Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Altside Business Village Partnership.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

9.1 Tourism

Camping & Caravanning Club site -

Marina - Planning application for Lydiate Marina has now been submitted and is being considered by the planning department who have requested additional documentation.

Hornby Visitor Centre - The stage one application has been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund and confirmation has been received from the case officer assigned to the project. The application will be considered for approval at the next quarterly meeting on 17th June, if the application is successful funds will be available to develop a stage two bid which would be submitted in December. In the interim period leading up to the 17th June meeting the Trust will be developing a website to raise awareness and raise funds, and build a stronger collection of Hornby items and ephemera.

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Proposed Hornby Centre and the activities of the Frank Hornby Trust have featured in several news articles including the local free press, the Liverpool Daily Post and Echo, and the 250,000 circulation Camping & Caravanning Club magazine.

then some for you in this show, which was a for the evening. Flawless – of course.

Hornby museum is well on track

by Jim Sharpe

MAGHULL is on track to become the national centre for anyone interested in the life and work of Frank Hornby – the man who invented Meccano, Dinky Toys and Hornby trains.

Following the success of the second 'Hornby Experience' at Maghull Town Hall, local commerce group the Altside Business Village is spearheading the setting up of the Frank Hornby Experience Charitable Trust to oversee the development of a 150sq. m space on two floors in Maghull's new Leisure Centre currently under construction.

The charity will have representatives from the four parish councils within Altside (Maghull, Lydiate, Melling and Sefton) with Tony Robertson (leader of both Maghull and Sefton councils and a self-confessed Hornby enthusiast) representing Sefton Council on the board, along with collectors and enthusiasts.

The plan is to display the work of Maghull's most famous son with the advantage that the charitable trust will be able to apply for grants that would not otherwise be available.

"We are looking to bring in people with expertise – John Keogh from the Business Village has already asked exhibitors at the recent Frank Hornby Experience to join the board," said Cllr Robertson.

"It will take a while to set it all up, but we are on the road to pulling everything into place."

And Cllr Robertson emphasised that though the



Graham Quinn of Southport with some of his Hornby O gauge stock which was on view at the recent Frank Hornby Experience staged at Maghull Town Hall. Code 1024731

"I hope this will become a Mecca for Meccano, a Home of Hornby!" said Cllr Robertson. "It is an ambitious, long-term project which needs significant work to be done but we are determined to celebrate the fact that Maghull was Frank Hornby's home and this exhibition will offer one long-term legacy as a tribute to the Liverpool '08 Year."

exhibition space will be primarily used for the Hornby exhibition, it will also be available for use by other local organisations as well.

He thought that it was Maghull Town Council who first really set the ball rolling when it nominated Frank Hornby's home in Station Road, Maghull, for a Blue Plaque award some years ago.

Students put on slick

Thursday, January 21, 2010



Trustee Board member John Keogh with a Hornby train

Museum full steam ahead

By LINDA FOO GUEST

PLANS for the long-awaited Frank Hornby museum are a step closer this week with a 25-year lease in the pipeline to help secure lottery funding.

Space for the Hornby Centre has been allocated at the Meadows, but trustees need to demonstrate they have long-term control for the museum.

This will then secure Heritage Lottery funding, which will be used to furnish the interior of the museum.

Sefton Council is expected to agree to a 25-year lease agreement next month.

John Keogh, who is on the board of trustees, said: "Now that we have got the room to house the museum at the Meadows we need a formal



toy maker, who grew up in Maghull, and catalogue a social history of his life from inventor to when he became MP at 73.

Members of the Frank Hornby Trust have appointed specialist consultants to assist in the lottery bid application.

Fellow board member, Cllr Tony Robertson, added: "We need to get a formal lease of 25 years from Sefton Council so that we can apply for Heritage Lottery funding.

"This will show that we have got a secure tenancy of space for the museum at the Meadows. The consultants have significant expertise in submitting successful lottery bids."

A decision for the lease agreement will be made at Sefton Council's cabinet meeting on February 4.

The Hornby museum will pay tribute to the legendary

The Meccano Challenge – The proposed Meccano challenge has met with a very positive response from the Heads of the local schools, and discussions have taken place with Redbrick Communications who are the PR company for Meccano and who have agreed to promote the event and give assistance free of charge. The Meccano company which is based in France and which was the French arm of the original Meccano company do not produce the original Meccano sets anymore but instead produce sets to build specific models, for example a truck or a robot, however they do sell all the original spare parts for enthusiasts and we have price lists for these. The next stage will be to work with Liverpool University and Meccano enthusiasts to come up with a project that the schools can work on as an extra curriculum activity, and seek sponsorship from local companies to purchase sets for each school. It has been suggested that the project could be led by the DT teachers in the secondary schools and that the primary schools could

approach the project through an after school Meccano Club led by an interested parent.

9.2 Community & Environment

Britain in Bloom – The manager is in discussion with Maghull in Bloom chairman George Baker about building on last years successful Britain in Bloom entry. For 2010 the group plan to focus more on Central Square with additional pavement planters and barrier planters, the manager will be approaching the Maghull Group and retailers within the Square for sponsorship and it is hoped that a poster can be put on one of the public information pillars listing the sponsors names as these can not be put on the planters

9.3 Business & Retail Support

Retail Mapping – A exercise has been carried out by all BVP managers to build a picture of the retail provision across the borough. Altside differs from other Business Village partnerships in that rather than having a clearly defined town centre, such as Southport or Bootle Strand, there is a collection of 16 local shopping parades. The survey produced the following key points:

- There are very few vacant shops - 12 (5%)
- The majority of shops are convenience serving the local population
- There are very few restaurants, bars and cafes
- There are very few establishments that contribute to the night-time economy
- Most retail establishments are independent

The results of this exercise are contained in Annex F included as part of the Annexes containing Town Centre Mapping information.

9.4 Marketing

Information Card & Website – The executive committee have decided to produce a 4 page colour business card and to create information packs using existing colour folders containing laser print information sheets. The website is to remain unchanged for the time being.

Ringmaster - The ringmaster database is regularly updated when new members wish to join and is provided as a tangible benefit to Altside BVP membership.

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Greenpages - The Greenpages document is regularly updated as and when new members join the Business Village and is sent out to all members every three months.

10. Sefton Business Against Crime Partnership

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Sefton Business Against Crime Partnership - Progress Report No.

Author of Report:

Steve Booth - Sefton Business Against Crime Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise the Sefton Business Village Partnership of the progress made to date by Sefton Business Against Crime Partnership.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2009/10

10.1 Current Activities

Since the last report Southport Pubwatch have had an anti terrorism presentation by Merseyside Police

Members from both the Southport and Bootle shopwatch groups have attended the Operation Argus anti terrorism seminar and as a result one major department store has asked its attendee to brief the store on the project.

Following on from a meeting in late Feb, 4 businesses on the Meols Cop / Kew retail park have now signed up to SBAC and this has proved beneficial to all parties. A further meeting is planned for May when it is hoped to expand the interest to further members.

Early moves have been instigated to start up a pubwatch in the South rd area of Waterloo, to address residents needs and concerns, although the first meeting was low in attendance interest has been shown in the upcoming meeting and I

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have received a call from a licensed premises in Crosby to set a pubwatch up there

Formby have contacted SBAC with view to extending the radio link network within Formby and a meeting is to be held in which the stores will be invited

Purse Theft and Shoplifting had continued to fall in Southport. Shop theft was down 42% on last Feb figures and as a result of decreasing purse thefts Merseyside Police are being nominated for a Tilley Award

10.2 Other Key Activities

Police Training

As previously mentioned SBAC has been approached by Merseyside Police to assist in the training of its new recruits. So far this has resulted in 7 trainees being placed for a day with SBAC as part of their Community Involvement. This has allowed the trainees to get a wider picture of how policing in the community involves many different partner agencies, whilst at the same time allowing recruits to interact with businesses

Graffiti

SBAC continues its work with the community payback team to identify areas of concern within the town centre environment of Southport.

The payback team were in Southport in Feb and a lot of work was done. Most notable was at the Tulketh st Car park which is a main destination for visitors to the town.



Before



After

SBAC is currently working with other partners to ascertain if the park benches on Lord st can be cleaned and painted by the team on their next visit.

Also I would like to thank Gary Berwick and the Sefton Graffiti Removal team who removed offensive graffiti in Wright st within 24hrs of it being reported by myself.

Nightsafe Radios

Due to the no of attendees at the Waterloo pubwatch it was decided to distribute the radios at the next meeting

There are also radios available for Crosby, again these will be offered at the Pubwatch meeting

This will help these areas to combat crime and anti social behaviour associated with the nighttime economy, particularly along South Rd, Waterloo

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11. Sefton Business Village Partnership

21st April 2010

Title of Report:

Sefton Business Village Partnership - Progress Report No. 34

Author of Report:

Mo Kundi - Sefton Business Village Manager

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise members of the current position with regard to Sefton Business Village related issues.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership:-

Note the content of the report.

Note the current progress of projects

Note the proposals in the Delivery Plan for year 2010/11

11.1 Lydiate Village Centre

I am pleased to report that the Lydiate Village Centre is now almost completed, with the exception of a wind turbine, and that Lydiate Parish Council has now formally taken possession of the building and have moved their offices to the Centre. There are still some teething problems, which are currently being addressed. The Parish Council is planning a formal opening of the new Centre, although the precise date is still to be determined.

11.2 Low Carbon Communities Challenge 2010-2012

Partnership Members may recall that Formby Parish Council with the support of Sefton Council submitted a bid under this programme in December 2009. The aim of the bid was to seek £500,000 of grant to:-

- Purchase of SMART Meters to reduce energy use in residential properties

- A demonstration pilot for growing fruit and vegetables in a number of residential houses
- Retrofitting of energy saving measures, such as solar PV panels on Formby Library, and to make it a show case where residents could get advice on energy saving measures within their homes
- Green travel plans, including Cycle to School Project
- Visitor Management – to reduce the impact of visitors going to the coast, which is under threat from climate change.

The Parish Council was informed in late January 2010 that unfortunately we were not successful. Whilst extremely disappointed at not securing the £500,000 funds, both the Parish Council and Sefton Council felt that it has been a worthwhile exercise in partnership working.

11.3 Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing

Sefton Council in partnership with other local authorities, including Halton has submitted a sub-regional bid under this programme. The bid has been successful at the Regional Development Agency's Expression of Interest stage and the Concept stage, and officers are currently assembling information for the final Development and Appraisal stage, which needs to be submitted by the end of May. The aim of this some £22 million bid is to undertake:-

1. Physical housing improvement works to reduce CO2 emissions
2. Development of small-to-medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and the local supply chain
3. Growing the market for a low carbon economy through renewables and energy efficiency
4. Evaluation and local learning
5. Engage with the private landlord sector to complement the ongoing work on a sub-regional accreditation scheme.

9.4 Merseyside Rural Economy Strategy and Action Plan

Following the conclusion of the Merseyside Rural Economic Strategy, external consultants Rural Innovation are currently individual local

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authority Actions Plans. As part of the exercise consultants are seeking potential projects that could go in the Action Plan, and as part of that exercise Sefton has submitted nine Expressions of Interest forms. These are summarised in Annex A below.

9.5 Supporting Town Centres

Please see report at the beginning of the Agenda, and presentation by Liverpool Biennial.

9.6 Scarisbrick Avenue Building, Southport

I am pleased to report that this project, which attracted both Objective 1 ERDF grant, and Heritage Lottery fund and was at risk of being left half completed due to the original developer going into administration is now back on track. The project is scheduled to be completed in August 2010, and will house on the ground floor the Council's Independent Living Centre and the Shopmobility facility currently at Tulketh Street Car Park. Sefton Carers will operate both these facilities.

Cosmopolitan Housing Association, who will provide much needed 18 social residential units, will take up the upper floors of the building.

9.7 Christmas Events and Activities in 2009

Annex A below provides detailed information on Christmas events undertaken in 2009 by Partnerships including breakdown of expenditure for each location and where this is met from. In addition the table provides information on events and activities undertaken and who were the key delivery partners that helped to deliver the events. The total cost of holding Christmas events last year in Crosby, Maghull, Aintree, Waterloo, Birkdale, Bootle, and Southport came to approximately £36,800, with Sefton Council contributing £12,517, and the balance being met from external partners, and income generation.

Annex B shows all significant events and activities undertaken in town centres across the borough. Of the 26 events undertaken 22 were managed and delivered by local BV Partnerships, helping to raise the profile of town centres, increase footpath, and address the adverse impact

of the recession. In total some £71,088 was spent in town centres across the borough in 2009. Whilst it is always difficult to assess the full impact of these activities or the social and economic benefits that such events bring to the area, consultation undertaken with the local business community, and anecdotal evidence suggests that such events help to stimulate and enliven shopping areas, create a sense of place and well being, and critically help to retain and bring new shoppers to the area, thus helping to enhance the viability and vitality of town centres.

Annex C provides information on events and activities that the local BV Partnerships are planning to undertake this year. In some cases these are subject to finding the necessary resources. It is too early at this stage to identify the total cost of undertaking these events, however having identified planned activities and events across the borough, every opportunity will be undertaken to rationalise, and where possible avoid duplication of effort, and minimise costs through commissioning and procurement process.

New Funding Opportunity

The attached Annexes D1, D2 and E below provide an update on the various funding streams, and for which Expressions of Interest have either been submitted or are pending.

9.8 Town Centre Mapping Exercise

This is the first time a major exercise has been undertaken to map the shops in those areas where BV Partnerships operate, i.e. Southport, Birkdale, Formby, Crosby, Waterloo, and Altside. Whilst the exercise is still incomplete, and will be geographically expanded, both within BVP areas and non BVP areas to ensure that all town centre shops are included, the results do highlight a number of key points:-

- A total of 968 shops were recorded together with their current status
- Of these currently 101 shops are empty – some 10.43%
- In terms of size of these shops, some 669 fall with the small category (less than 800 square feet), 167 in the medium (5,000 or less square feet), and 85 as large (over 5,000 square feet).

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- 206 (21.28%) are considered as big chains stores, i.e. those brand stores that are likely to be operating regionally, and nationally
- 102 (10.54%) were considered to be retail stores
- 40 (4.13%) as Takeaways, 54 (5.58%) as restaurants, and 26 (2.69%) as Public Houses/Bars
- In terms of empty shops, Waterloo has the highest percentage (19.3%), followed by Formby at 11.6%. Southport and Crosby are both around 10%, with Birkdale at 8%. Altside has the least number of empty shops, 5% of the total.

It is intended to undertake a more detailed analysis of the captured data, and to present the findings at the next meeting.

Christmas Events Undertaken in 2009

Area	Event Date	Event Activities	Acts	Costs	Income	Partners	Comments
Crosby	27th Nov	Market Fair Rides Music Other Stalls Light switch on	Another Place ABD Panto Paris Wynne-Jones	lights £5,300 Publicity £440 Stalls £300 Cleansing £72 Raffle £259 Total £6,371	Fair rides £300 Market £204 Traders £2,850 Tourism £2,650 Ec.Regen £367	CVTA SMBC	Dune FM org. stage
Maghull	14/15th Nov	Light switch on		lights £6,000 Total £6,000	Maghull Gp £2,000 Area Comm £2,000 Tourism £2,000	Altside BVP Maghull TC Sefton MBC	Mayor switched on
Aintree	14/15th Nov			lights £9,600 Total £9,600	PC £3,600 Tourism £3,000 Bleasdale £3,000		No formal switch on
Waterloo	3rd Dec	Music Light switch on	Another Place Local schools	Total £2,000	Crosby Hsg £1,500 SMBC £500		Dune FM org. stage
Birkdale	4th Dec	Light switch on	Xmas Belles Elfina the Elf	Banners £189 Raffle Tickets £20.51 Advertising £350	Area Committee £500 Fair rides £400 Stall Rental £100	Traders SMBC	

				Ten £21 Road closure £350 St Johns £75 Stage £300 Diversion signs £375 TOTAL £1,900	Raffle £569 Reserves £331		
Bootle	26th Nov	Ski slope Santa Dash Treasure Hunt Light switch on	Another Place	Slope £3,662.75 Trans £70 Print £310 Tree £1,500? Total £5,542.75	Stepclever £3,162.75 SMBC £500 Area Comm £1,500 Hugh Baird Balance of £380	BTCM Step Clever Area Comm SMBC Traders Jospice	Real Radio compared
Southport		Switch-on					
	5/6th Dec	Rest. Stalls		Stalls £380 Generator £389.86	Rest. £180	STBN Rest. Group SBE	
	12/13th Dec	Rest. Stalls Entertainment Cont. market	Chris Bannister Two Left Feet Harmony Belles Nativity performers Dave Denham Coll.	Stalls £665 Entertainment £1,100 Generators £577.24	Cont mkt £200	STBN SBE Rest. Group	Event was judged a success. Additional money from Tourism 2010 if regionally

			David Dutton Andy Cornmell				significant event.
19/20th Dec	Rest. stalls Entertainment Fair Rides	Harmony Belles Nativity performers Dave Denholm coll. David Dutton Andy Cornmell Marmosets	Stalls £498.00 Entertainment £1,050 Generators £100.00 Stage etc. £1,200 Total £6,003.58	Fair Rides £300 STBN £14,676	STBN Rest. Group SBE		

ANNEX B

ALL EVENTS/ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN 2009

Area	Event Name	Event Type	Date	Cost	Funders	Partners	Comments
Crosby	Spring Festival (start free sat pkg)	Fair Rides Music Other stalls	18th Apr	£1,300	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders Stalls Fair rides	SMBC CVTA	£750 free parking ads
	Summer Event	Market Fair Rides Other stalls	22nd Aug	£1,415	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders Stalls Fair rides	SMBC CVTA	
	Christmas Event	Music Light switch-on Fair rides Market Other stalls	27th Nov	£6,371	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders SMBC Tourism Fair Rides Stalls	Ec Regen CVTA Tourism	
	Bars Event	Music					Not org, by CVTA
Formby	Formby Live	Music Event	2nd Aug	£4,299	Bars SMBC Ec.Regen Formby Pool Area Comm. Parish Council	SMBC Formby part Parish Council Traders Area Comm Parish Council	

	Dickensian Day						Not org. by Partnership
	Christmas Lights				Traders SMBC Tourism		Not org. by Partnership
Altside	Farmers Market	Market	Monthly			Altside BVP SMBC	1st Sunday
	Hornby Exp.	Wkd exhibition	14/15th Nov.	£5,432	SMBC Culture pot Table rental Maghull TC Altside BVP	Altside BVP Maghull TC SMBC	In kind
	Maghull Christmas	Lights Formal switch on	4th Dec.	£6,000	Tourism Maghull TC Area Comm.	SMBC Altside BVP Maghull TC	
	Aintree Christmas	Lights	early Dec.	£9,600	Fenwick Parish Council Tourism	Altside BVP SMBC Parish Council	
	Open Air Theatre						Org. by tourism
Waterloo	Christmas Lights	Light switch on Music	3rd Dec.	£5,293	SMBC Crosby Housing	SMBC Crosby Hsing	Org. by Crosby Hsg
Birkdale	Summer Event	Music Fair rides Stalls	18th July	£2,000	SMBC Fair rides Raffle Stalls	Birkdale BVP SMBC	
	Arts & Crafts fair	Market	4th Sept	Nil	Stalls	Birkdale BVP	event brought in money

	Christmas Lights	Music Fair rides Stalls Light switch on	4th Dec.	£1,900	SMBC Area Comm Stalls Fair rides Raffle	SMBC Birkdale BVP	
Bootle	Valentine Promo	Multi-buy	9 - 14th Feb	£155	BTCM	BTCM Traders	Printing costs
	Spring Promo	Competition	16 - 29th Mar	£455	BTCM	BTCM Traders	Printing/prize
	Bootle Awards	Award eve	30th April	£18,000	Sponsorship Table sales	Bus,trg,regen Move Publish Design Found	
	Green Week	Bag giveaway	25 - 30th May	5 hours	TC Manager	BTCM Traders Wkg neigh	
	Bootle Festival	Launch Tea dance Music Competitions	22 - 24 Oct	£3,026	SMBC BTCM Bus Focus Eze Fitness Riverside	Sayers Wilkinsons SMBC Bus Focus Eze fitness Riverside BTCM	
	Christmas	Light switch on	26th Nov	£5,542.75	Stepclever	BTCM	

		Santa dash Ski slope Treasure Hunt Website launch			Area Comm SMBC	Traders Area Comm Jospice SMBC Stepclever	
Southport	Farmers Market	Market	Monthly	net £300			Last Thurs
	Continental Market	Market	14 - 17th May				Part of food & drink fest
	Christmas Festival		5/6/12/13/19/20Dec				
	I love Southport						

ANNEX C

CURRENTLY PLANNED EVENTS/ACTIVITIES IN 2010

Area	Event Name	Event Type	Date	Est. Cost	Funders	Partners	Comments
Crosby	Spring Festival	Fair Rides Music Other stalls	tbc	£1,300	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders Stalls Fair rides		
	Summer Event	Market Fair Rides Other stalls	tbc	£1,465	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders Stalls Fair rides		
	Christmas Event	Music Light switch-on Fair rides Market Other stalls	tbc	£6,371	SMBC Ec.Regen Traders SMBC Tourism Fair Rides Stall		
	Bars Event	Music	29 - 31 May?				Not org, by CVTA
Formby	Formby Live	Music Event	17 - 18 June	£5,200	Bars SMBC Ec.Regen Formby Pool Area Comm. Parish Council		
	Dickensian Day		tbc				Not org. by Partnership

	Christmas Lights		tbc		Traders SMBC Tourism		1st yr with Partnership
Altside	Meccano Challenge	Sch. Competition	tbc				
	Music Festival		tbc				
Waterloo	Christmas Lights	Light switch-on Fair Rides	tbc	£2,000	SMBC Crosby Housing Area Comm.		Crosby Hsg lead
	Waterloo Day?						Waterloo 2015
Birkdale	Arts & Crafts Fair		17th April	Nil			Income generation
	Summer Event		17th July				Income generation
	Arts & Crafts Fair		October	tbc			
	Christmas Lights		4th Dec.				
Bootle	Valentine Event	Competition	4 - 11th Feb	£300	Stepclever Wilkinsons Hugh Baird	BTCM Hugh Baird	
	Sport Relief	Cycle Ride	15 - 19th Mar	£500	Stepclever	Traders Strand BTCM	
Southport	Farmers Market	Market	Monthly	net £150			Last Thurs
	Continental Market	Market	13 - 16th May	no cost			Part of food & drink fest
	Christmas Festival	tbc	tbc				

ANNEX D1

Financial Details of Expressions of Interest Submitted.

Expressions of Interest Submitted to date	Fund Type	Total Project Cost £	ERDF/RDA Funding Sought £	Other External Funding Source £	Contribution from Sefton			Comments
					LTP Budget £	Capital Programme £	Others £	
Dunningsbridge Road Corridor	Public Realm (ERDF/RDA)	1,200,000	600,000 (ERDF) 200,000 (RDA)				400,000	Waiting for RDA decision, early indications are that the Agency has withdrawn its Single Programme allocation of £200,000, and unless Sefton is able to find this from its resources the scheme is unlikely to go ahead.
REECH Project	ERDF	£22,800,000	£11,400,000	£11,400,000				Development and Appraisal forms to be submitted at end of May
Demolition of Balliol House and (Connley House)	Demolition and remediation works	£1,415,000	£707,500 (ERDF)			£707,500		Waiting for RDA decision, but early indications are this is now unlikely to be successful
Frank Hornby Trust	Big Lottery - Heritage Grant	£175,000 - £200,000	-	£175,000 - £200,000 (Big Lottery)	-	-	£5,000 (WNF)	1st Stage bid submitted
Arts in Empty Spaces	Arts Council	£30,000						Bid submitted

	England								
Lydiate Canal Marina	Rural Development Programme for England	Over £2 million	-	£200,000 (RDPE)	-	-	Private Sector	This is a private sector lead project, but is being supported by Lydiate Parish Council, Maghull Town Council, and Altside BVP because of economic regeneration benefits that it will bring to the area.	
Another Place, Sefton Coast	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£50k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£470k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Sefton Coast Partnership Officer and support	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£40k (per annum)	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Brown Hare Project (Habitat Management)	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£8k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted	
Sefton Coast Access	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£500k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide	

Improvements								some feedback on the EOI submitted
Seftons Rural Heritage	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£300k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Melling House/Barns and Outbuildings, Melling	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£100k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Kings Gardens	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	?	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£7.5k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Another Place, Sefton Coast	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£50k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£470k	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide

								some feedback on the EOI submitted
Sefton Coast Partnership Officer and support	Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan	£40k (per annum)	-	RDA/RDPE				Scheme will be worked out in more detail once RDA is able to provide some feedback on the EOI submitted

Annex D2

Expressions of Interests Submitted Under the Merseyside Rural Economy and Action Plan

Name of Project	Summary	Contact	What is the Funding for?	Total Cost
Another Place, Sefton Coast	A project to provide activities, information and interpretation for the Another Place Artwork on Crosby Beach. This will help to contribute to the Local Economy and enhance the visitor experience.	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	The funding will be for a website, interpretation board, activities, an annual event, and a booklet/leaflet for all of the above.	£50k
Ainsdale on Sea Heritage Centre	This visitor centre for the Sefton Coast would provide information and interpretation including the history of the coast, landscape, aviation, shipwrecks, Lifeboats etc. There will also be a café and a 'coastal museum'.	Dave McAleavy, Coast and Countryside 0151 934 2961	The Funding will be to implement an interpretation plan for the Heritage Centre and to help to develop and install technology.	£470k
Sefton Coast Partnership Officer and support	There is currently no dedicated officer working for the Sefton Coast Partnership. This funding would be for an Officer post, along with admin support. The role of this post would be to identify and deliver projects, facilitate networking, represent and publicise the partnership, seek funding opportunities, and service the Partnership Board and Sub-Groups.	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	Annual salary plus admin support.	£40k (per annum)

Brown Hare Project (Habitat Management)	A project to improve our understanding of brown hare populations within Greater Manchester, North Merseyside and South Lancashire. It will also help to inform Local Biodiversity Action Plans by providing baseline data for which to set targets. The project will also help to give advice and best practice to farmers.	Paul Corner, MEAS, 0151 934 2809	The project could either be a stand alone project, or as part of the larger Brown Hare Project. It will help to create demonstration projects for Habitat Management best practice to feed into Local and Regional BAP targets and Agri-environmental schemes.	£8k
Sefton Coast Access Improvements	Access improvements to the paths and Birdleways along the Sefton Coast	Will Moody, Planning 0151 934 3608	Upgrade 4km of the Sefton Coast Path, create 2km of new footway/bridle way, upgrade the cycle link between Hightown and Formby, and improve linkages between Marshside and the RSPB centre for walking and cycling.	£500k
Seftons Rural Heritage	A project to repair, reinstate and consolidate Seftons historic structures including stocks, crosses, St Helens Well, St Catherine's Chapel and Lydiate Hall. This could then form an interpretation/heritage trail for Sefton, which could improve Tourism for Sefton. Web based technology could also be used, and schools could be involved with the work.	Daniel Byron Planning 0151 934 3584	Firstly repair work, then working on the interpretation.	£300k

<p>Melling House/Barns and Outbuildings, Melling</p>	<p>A project to repair the Listed Buildings in Melling to make them usable and sustainable for farming purposes. This also saves the need to construct new buildings in the green belt/rural area.</p>	<p>Daniel Byron Planning 0151 934 3584</p>	<p>Repair work</p>	<p>£100k</p>
<p>Kings Gardens</p>	<p>A project to restore Kings Gardens through restoring and refurbishing the Gardens, and upgrading the infrastructure to support events and attractions.</p>	<p>Andrew Hall Planning 0151 934 3604</p>	<p>The funding will match other funding for the project from HLF and Sefton Council.</p>	<p>?</p>
<p>Liverpool City Region Ecological Framework</p>	<p>A project to produce an interactive mapping tool, which will form part of the public consultation for the Ecological Framework for the Liverpool City Region. This mapping tool will be used by landowners, planners, conservation organisations, developers and LA's to help to target habitat creation, protect existing habitats and strengthen wildlife corridors and networks.</p>	<p>Paul Corner, MEAS, 0151 934 2809</p>	<p>The funding will develop the interactive mapping tool and produce a user guide.</p>	<p>£7.5k</p>

CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding Name	Funding Body	Amount Available	Deadline for EOI Submission	Date by which project must start	Date by which project must finish	Key Criteria
Rural Development Programme	National/European Grant	Total Budget for the sub-region £2m	On going	ASAP		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range Interventions, including Farm diversification, Rural tourism, supporting rural economy, access etc.
Heritage Grants	Big Lottery	£50,000 to over £5m	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve and enhance nation's diverse heritage To encourage more people to be involved in their heritage
Future Jobs Fund	Dept. for Works and Pensions	£1.0 billion	Any time	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create 150,000 new jobs Looking for Partnership bids Must be linked to locally agreed work and skills strategies

Access To Nature	Big Lottery	Total Budget £25m, and grants available between £50,000, and £500,000	Stage 1 closes 1 st February 2010, and stage 2 closes 4 th May 2010	N/A	N/A	Access to Nature aims to encourage more people to enjoy the outdoors, particularly those who face social exclusion or those that currently have little or no contact with the natural environment - perhaps because they lack the confidence to get out and enjoy natural places or have few opportunities to do so.
Arts in Empty Spaces	Arts Council England	Total Budget £500,000	Starts from 1 st April 2010	N/A	N/A	Priority given to those local authorities in receipt of Empty Shops Revival Fund, which Sefton is.
Contaminated Land Capital Projects Programme 2010/11	DEFRA	Yet to be determined		April 2010	March 2011.	fund intrusive investigation projects on land, which is potentially contaminated, and remediation projects on sites, which are contaminated. Money paid under the Programme is for capital expenditure. The Programme exists to help authorities carry out duties under contaminated land legislation (Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990).

Foundation	NWDA	Max grant £50k per project	On going	On going		Grants towards energy efficiency measures, renewable energy projects. Community engagement important – priority given to schemes which reduce fuel poverty
Aqua Fund	Advanced Demand Side Management	Overall budget: £500m	On going	On going		Provision of consultancy advice on water management, with tailored packages of new water management systems, in order to reduce water usage and bills
INTERREG IVB (Atlantic Area)	Welsh Assembly (Lead body) for west of UK	Not specified	Call for proposals not yet announced for 2010	Not available yet		4 transnational priorities:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Promote transnational entrepreneurship and innovation networks •Protect, secure and enhance marine coastal environment •Improve accessibility and external links •Promote transnational synergies in sustainable urban and regional development
Community Sustainable Energy Programme	Big Lottery	Max grant: £50k	Applications close at the end of October 2010	Not specified		Funding for sustainable energy projects within local communities, and involving local communities. Applications invited from community groups, Schools, Parish Councils.

Awards For All	Big Lottery	£300-£10,000	On going	On going, but the grant must be spent within one year		A wide range of activities can be funded which benefit a local community. These can include exhibitions if local interest, awareness raising of issues of particular interest, a small community event etc. Available to not for profit organisations and Parish Councils.
Reaching Communities	Big Lottery	£10,000-£150,000	On going	Not specified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •people having better chances in life, including being able to get better access to training and development to improve their life skills •strong communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems •improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy •healthier and more active people and communities.

<p>E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund</p>	<p>E.ON</p>	<p>£20,000</p>	<p>Any time</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Grants of up to £20,000 to community groups and not for profit for:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the purchase and installation of one or more renewable energy technologies (e.g. wind, solar thermal, PV, wood etc) <input type="checkbox"/> the renovation of existing facilities to incorporate micro-generation technology (e.g. the reinstatement of a watermill and the purchase of a turbine to produce hydro-electricity) <input type="checkbox"/> an energy efficiency makeover for building that could demonstrate significant energy savings and also behavioral change amongst users <input type="checkbox"/> the use of new or innovative technology to deliver either energy savings or micro-generation capacity. <p>To be eligible for support from the Sustainable Energy Fund, organisations must benefit specific groups namely: Education, vulnerable people; and people in fuel poverty.</p>
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<p>European Commission and European Investment Bank launch European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA) facility</p>	<p>European Local Energy Assistance Grant (UK)</p>	<p>€15 million grant aid</p>	<p>Any time</p>			<p>The European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB), the bank of the EU Member States, have launched a grant aid initiative to help local and regional authorities make investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy.</p> <p>The ELENA facility aims at helping cities and regions implement viable investment projects in the areas of energy efficiency; renewable energy sources and sustainable urban transport</p>
<p>Rural Carbon Challenge Fund</p>	<p>Rural Development Programme for England (RDA)</p>	<p>£4 million</p>	<p>Two staged competition Stage 1 - 1st June Stage 2 - 31st August 2010</p>	<p>31st December 2010</p>	<p>31st March 2013</p>	<p>To support the delivery of renewable energy projects in rural areas across the North West of England.</p> <p>Open to Social enterprises, Charities, groups of businesses and micro enterprises. Exploring potential opportunities with Mersey Forest.</p>

Agenda Item 13

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