

CABINET MEMBER'S REPORT		
Councillor	Portfolio	Date
Ian Maher	Cabinet Member - Regeneration	25 November 2010

Planning & Economic Regeneration update

Local Enterprise Partnership

In August, Liverpool City Region signed off a proposal for a Local Enterprise Partnership to create strong private sector leadership for Merseyside and lead it out of recession.

On 29 October, Vince Cable (Business Secretary) announced that the Liverpool City Region LEP had been approved.

Asked in the Commons about Liverpool's LEP bid, Mr Cable said: "Several of the best bids came from the North West, including Greater Manchester and Liverpool city region."

The private sector-led Board of the LEP will include Leaders of the six LCR councils.

Regional Growth Fund

Also on 29 October, a new White Paper "Local growth: realising every place's potential" was published with details of the new Regional Growth Fund.

The RGF has two main objectives:

- (a) To encourage private sector enterprise by providing support for projects with significant potential for economic growth and create additional sustainable private sector employment; and
- (b) To support in particular those areas and communities that are currently dependent on the public sector make the transition to sustainable private sector led growth and prosperity.

Bids can be made through the LCR Local Enterprise Partnership or direct to Government. A total of £1.42 billion is available in three bidding rounds over the period 2011-14, and the first round closes on 21st January 2011.

Local Economic Assessment

On receiving all necessary approvals from CM Regeneration and Establishment Control Panel, SQW have been appointed to deliver a Local Economic Assessment for Sefton.

The work will include a survey of 800 businesses to get a clear idea of business priorities during the recession, and to identify named contacts for the delivery of the most appropriate support, whether by email, a skilled business advisor, a business network, or a special BusinessplusSefton event.

The Assessment is a new statutory duty, paid for by a one-off allocation of Area Based Grant, and will feed into the Sefton Sustainable Economic Development Strategy due to be out for consultation in March 2011.

HMRI

The Queens / Bedford, Klondyke CPO Inquiry into the acquisition of a small number of homes required to allow the continued comprehensive redevelopment of these areas started this week on 9 November.