
Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee **Date of Meeting:** 19 March 2013
(Regeneration & Environmental Services)

Subject: Interim Report – Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group

Report of: Director of Corporate Commissioning **Wards Affected:** All

Is this a Key Decision? No **Is it included in the Forward Plan?** No

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To submit to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee an interim report seeking agreement to continue the work of the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group into the Municipal Year 2013/2014.

Recommendation(s)

That the Committee be requested to agree the continuation of the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group into the Municipal Year 2013/14 in order that it may complete it's work, as detailed in the scoping document, ensuring continuity in membership, wherever possible.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

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

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The pre-scrutiny process assists the Cabinet and Cabinet Members to make effective decisions by examining issues beforehand and making recommendations prior to a determination being made.

Any work programme topics should be chosen to demonstrate that the work scrutiny undertakes adds value to the Council.

What will it cost and how will it be financed? N / A

Implications: N/A

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Legal: There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report		
Human Resources		
Equality		
1.	No Equality Implication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Equality Implications identified and mitigated	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Equality Implication identified and risk remains	<input type="checkbox"/>

Impact on Service Delivery: N/A

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Finance and ICT has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no financial implications (FD2193/13:)

The Head of Corporate Legal Services has no comments on this report because the contents of the report have no legal implications (LD1509/13:).

Are there any other options available for consideration? N/A

Implementation Date for the Decision N/A

Immediately following the Committee.

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 This Committee, at its meeting held on 18 September 2012, considered the following topics for review suggested by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board:-

- Employment Development; and
- Development of Local Town Centres and Economies.

1.2 At that Meeting Members discussed and agreed conducting one review to include both themes, Employment Development and the Development of Town Centres and Economies.

1.3 The following Members were nominated to serve on the Working Group for this purpose: Councillors Bennett, Gatherer, Jones, Lappin, McKinley and Maguire. Since that meeting, Councillor Weavers had indicated that he would also like to serve on the Working Group and Councillor Jones was replaced by Councillor Dutton.

1.4 After scoping the review and setting out the terms of reference and objectives, it became evident that the time required to complete the review would need to be extended.

1.5 Working Group Members agreed to split the review into two halves the investigation into Employment Development would be conducted initially with the Development of Town Centres and Economies following.

1.6 The Working Group has made good progress on gathering information and has interviewed the following witnesses:-

- Representative from Sefton at Work;
- Troubled Families Coordinator;
- Senior Officer for 14-19 Strategy and Management;
- Job Centre Plus;
- Skills Funding Agency;
- Hugh Baird College; and
- Work Based Learning Providers

1.7 Members of the Working Group have already identified the following themes in relation to emerging recommendations:-

- Digital Inclusion.
- Welfare Reform.
- Social Value.
- A Sefton-wide Employment Growth/ Apprenticeship Compact Agreement between the Council and local employers.
- Ensuring that all Council and Stakeholder assets work toward more effective targetting of NEETs by Super Output Areas with robust targetting for monitoring and reporting on the impact of any interventions.
- Ensuring a consistent Sefton approach to Partnership Working.

- 1.7 Some work is outstanding with regards to completing the Employment Development element of the review. The Working Group will then need to address the Development of Town Centres and Economies part of the review.
- 1.6 The Working Group will not complete all elements of the review within the Municipal Year 2012/13 and so therefore agreement is sought to continue the review into the Municipal Year 2013/14.
- 2.6 *The Committee is requested to agree to the continuation of the Employment Development and Development of Local Town Centres and Economies Working Group into the Municipal Year 2013/14.***