

**To the Chair and Members of the  
Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

**REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
WORK PLAN REPORT 2012/13**

<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b>	<b>Wards Affected</b>	<b>Key Decision</b>
The Mayor Councillor B Hoyle Councillor P Coddington Councillor C Ransome	All	None

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. This report provides an update on progress against the Panel's work plan.

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

2. Not exempt

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. The Panel is asked to:
  - i. Comment on the revised work plan detailed in Appendix A.
  - ii. Note the Annex to Appendix A which details outcomes and impacts of the Panel's work.
  - iii. Receive an update on activities undertaken since the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013.
  - iv. Receive an update on the progress of the workplan of the Panel during the 2012/2013 year.
  - v. Note the correspondence between the Executive and the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel in Appendix B and C regarding Local Development Framework Sites and Policies Development Plan Document.
  - vi. Note the minutes of the joint review meeting undertaken by Members from the Regeneration and Environment and Schools, Children and Young People 'To Understand And Address Careers Advice And Guidance To Children And Young People Within Doncaster Pre And Post 16' that was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 as attached in Appendix D.

- vii. Note and agreed the draft notes and recommendations from the informal meeting that was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013 (to be circulated separately before the formal panel meeting).
- viii. Suggest areas for consideration during 2012/13 municipal year.

## **BACKGROUND**

4. The Panel agreed its 2012/13 work plan at its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012. This report provides an update on key issues relating to the work programme following that meeting, this is attached at Appendix A. Members are reminded that the work plan is a live document to be regularly reviewed and updated. Annex 1 to Appendix A provides an ongoing summary of issues considered together with the impacts and outcomes resulting from the Panel's work and this will also be updated on a regular basis.

### Progress on the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Work Plan 2012/2013

5. At its work planning event on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, the Panel considered a draft work programme for 2012/13. The following key areas were agreed by the Members of the Panel present as the focus for the 2012/13 work plan at its meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012
  - Environmental Strategy (Policy Development)
  - Housing Market Function in Doncaster
  - Work and Skills

#### **Environmental Strategy (Policy Development)**

6. As part of the Panel's workplan, it was agreed that a working group be set up to look at the Environmental Strategy. A meeting of the working group therefore took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at which Members met with Officers and reviewed the Themes and Priorities of the draft Environmental Strategy. As a result of this meeting, 12 recommendations were made which resulted in new actions, amendments to existing actions, or acted as key considerations in how the actions within the strategy are implemented. The final version of the strategy as approved at Cabinet on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

#### **Work and Skills - Careers and Guidance Review - 'To Understand and Address Careers Advice and Guidance to Children and Young People within Doncaster Pre and Post 16'**

7. In respect of the Careers Advice and Guidance review, a joint working group was formed with Members from the Regeneration and Environment and Schools, Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel. Members from the joint working group attended a series of meetings and site visits on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 to look at a range of information and evidence. The notes from the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2013 have been attached in Appendix C. At the final meeting, a series of

evidence based recommendations were formed and a report has been produced which has been considered by the Panel at its meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 as a separate item

### **Housing (Access to Finance) Review**

8. At its meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012, as part of the workplan discussion the Panel agreed that a the following piece of work be undertaken to look at, “How can we improve access to finance for developers to meet our housing target and to assist buyers to purchase their own homes within Doncaster?” It was decided that this should be an informal meeting for the whole Panel to take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013. A range of attendees came to this meeting including developers, banks, building societies and partnerships have been invited to attend this meeting. The notes and recommendations from this meeting will be made available as part of the workplan item to be ratified and agreed at the meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

### **Other Key Areas of the Workplan**

9. In addition to the three areas outlined above, the other key areas covered by the Panel as part of the 2012/2013 workplan has included: -
  - Stadium Management Company Options
  - Local Development Framework - Next Steps/ Sites and Policies Development Plan Document
  - Gypsy and Traveller Review
  - St Leger Performance 2011/2012 (Qtr 4) and 2012/13 (Qtr 1, 2 and 3)
  - R&E Performance 2011/2012 (Qtr. 4) and 2012/13 (Qtr. 1, 2 and 3)
  - Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates –
    - Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster - Development; Transport; Equalities and Cohesion; The Council's Change Programme
    - Cynthia Ransome (Deputy Mayor) - Communities; Street Scene; Environmental Protection & Resource Recovery (Waste Management & Recycling)
    - Paul Coddington: Finance & Corporate Services, Environment, Trading and Support Services.
    - Councillor Barbara Hoyle: Housing
  - Adoption of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2013)
  - Racecourse Management Company Update
  - Asset Management Review
  - Review into Future of Waste Depots

For further information on what outcomes and impacts please refer to Annex 1

## Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel Workplan 2013-2014

10. Members will have the opportunity at the start of the next civic year, through the informal work planning session in May, to consider what review work they may wish to undertake during 2013/14. The Panel is asked if there are any particular issues Members wish to be propose for consideration at this stage.

### OPTIONS CONSIDERED

11. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to receive an update on its 2012/13 work plan.

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

12. This report provides the panel with an update on its 2012/13 work programme.

### IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

Priority Theme	Mayor's Priorities for 2011/12	Implications of this initiative
1. Creating a strong, connected and inclusive economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive forward the Doncaster economy</li> <li>• Get the balance of public and private transport right</li> <li>• Promote Doncaster as a tourist destination</li> <li>• Regenerate Doncaster's town centres</li> </ul>	The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.
2. Developing stronger communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage community harmony and cohesion. Treat people as individuals, not by reference to labels and artificial groupings</li> </ul>	
3. Increasing and improving housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise housing standards</li> </ul>	
4. Protecting and improving all our children's lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to improve education and skills</li> <li>• Build on a strengthening Children's Service</li> </ul>	
5. Improving health and support for independent lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage attitudes of self-reliance, self-improvement and mutual respect within Doncaster communities</li> </ul>	

6. Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce crime and all forms of anti-social behaviour</li> </ul>	
7. Creating a cleaner and better environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to protect the environment from developers, decay and architectural vandalism</li> </ul>	
8. Internal Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure local people get value for money from council services</li> </ul>	

## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

13. To maximise the effectiveness of the Overview and Scrutiny function it is important that the work plan devised is manageable and that it accurately reflects the broad range of issues within its remit. Failure to achieve this can reduce the overall impact of the function.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

14. The Council's Constitution states that subject to matters being referred to it by other parts of the Full Council, OSMC or the Executive and any timetables laid down by those references the Regeneration & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel will determine its own work programme (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 6c).
15. Overview and Scrutiny Panels Terms of Reference – 3, states that the Panel is empowered to establish ad hoc working groups from within its membership, to undertake project and policy development work, to meet the objectives and targets of its annual work plan.
16. Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15 (a) states that where, in the opinion of the Chair of an Overview and Scrutiny Panel, the matters under discussion are relevant to matters referred to other Scrutiny Panel(s) he/she shall consider to what extent to invite the participation of the Chair and/or other Members of the other Panel in the deliberations.
17. Specific legal implications and advice will be given with any reports when Overview and Scrutiny have received them as items for consideration.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

18. The budget for the support of the Overview and Scrutiny function 2012/13 is not affected by this report however, the delivery of the work plan will need to take place within agreed budgets. There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. Any financial implications relating to specific reports on the work plan will be included in those reports.

## **CONSULTATION**

19. A work planning event was held on the 22nd May 2012 with Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Members with a view to developing a draft work plan.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

20. None

## **CONTACT OFFICER AND REPORT AUTHOR**

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**Peter Dale**  
**Director of Regeneration & Environment**

Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Workplan 2012/2013

	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2012, 3:30pm	15 <sup>th</sup> June 2012, 10am	29 <sup>th</sup> June 2012, 10am	3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2012, 2pm	17 <sup>th</sup> October 2012, 10am	19 <sup>th</sup> November 2012, 10:00am	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2013, 10:30am	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2013, 10am
<b>Policy Review/ Development</b>	SMC Options	Local Development Framework - Next Steps	Gypsy and Traveller Review	Work and Skills			Sites and Policies Development Plan Document	Asset Management Review
						Adoption of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2013)		Review of Future of Waste Depots
<b>Performance</b>		St Leger Performance 2011/2012 (Qtr. 4)		R&E Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 1) St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 1)		St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 2)		R&E Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 3) St Leger Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 3)
<b>Information Updates</b>								
<b>Scrutiny (Holding to Account)</b>		Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: -  Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster		Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates:  Councillor C Ransome	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: -  Councillor P Coddington	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates:-  Councillor B Hoyle	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates:  Councillor Ransome	Cabinet Members Portfolio Updates: - Councillor Hoyle Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster
<b>Other</b>					Work, Skills And Enterprise Programme Going Forward And Update On Opportunity Centres			Careers Advice & Guidance Review
		R&E Workplan 2012/13		R&E Workplan 2012/13		R&E Workplan 2012/13	R&E Workplan 2012/13	R&E Workplan 2012/13

## Appendix A

	May 2012	June 2012	July 2012	August 2012	Sept 2012	Oct 2012	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Jan 2013	Feb 2013	March 2013	April 2013
<b>Briefing Notes</b>			Performance Information – 2011/2012 Quarter 4				Performance Information – 2012/13 Quarter 2  Environmental Strategy circulated for comment  Planning Project Pipeline				SMC Update	
<b>Reviews/ Working Groups: -</b>				Environmental Strategy Working Group	Report to R&E O&S – Work & Skills		Report to R&E O&S – Environmental Strategy  Work & Skills LMI/Careers & Guidance Working Group	Careers & Guidance Review Meetings		Careers & Guidance Review Meeting  Housing Review Meeting	Draft Report to R&E O&S on Careers & Guidance Review	
<b>Members Workshops/ Seminars</b>	Local Development Framework – Next Steps (PD)	CCQ Progress		Key Principles of Allocations Policy Review		New Tenancy Strategy  Housing Allocations Follow Up						



**Regeneration & Environment Outcomes and Impacts 2012/13 (January 2013 Update)**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ISSUE/ OUTCOME</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012</b>	<p><b>SMC Options</b> Opportunity for the Panel to consider and comment on a range of options (including a preferred option) for the future management of the Keepmoat Stadium.</p> <p>The Panel supported the preferred option and made further recommendations including that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Athletics club are encouraged to consider being set up as a trust and in the event that this was to occur, that Elected Members are included as representatives on the board of that trust.</li> <li>2. That the Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers attends meetings of the Regeneration &amp; Environment Overview and Scrutiny to present on a quarterly basis a progress report including relevant feedback and performance information.</li> </ol>	To understand the options being taken forward and have the opportunity to comment on them and make recommendations.	Panel	<p>Cabinet 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012</p> <p>Quarterly updates from the Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers to commence January 2013 subject to availability</p>	<p>Cabinet agreed the final proposals as outlined in the report.</p> <p>The Chief Executive of Doncaster Rovers to attend meetings of the Panel to present on a quarterly basis a progress report including relevant feedback and performance information.</p>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> June 2012</b>	<p><b>Local Development Framework - Next Steps</b> Opportunity for the panel to consider the proposed</p>	To understand the on-going work and proposed consultation and approaches being taken	Panel	Decision taken at Cabinet 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2012	The Panels supported the recommendations being put forward to Cabinet and made a number of comments which were

## Annexe 1

DATE	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
	approach for consultation on the sites and policies development plan document/draft process for dealing with neighbourhood planning and the proposed prioritisation of support for those areas identified within the core strategy as being suitable for most growth and on-going work to consider community infrastructure levy.	forward in relation to the LDF. To have the opportunity to comment on the report and its recommendation and make before a decision is made at Cabinet.			incorporated into the report which included the proposed approach to consultation. This included the need to ensure that communities in the renewal towns were consulted via parish /town councils (reflected in paragraph 21) and that it was important that members were aware of the potential housing and employment sites in their wards, in advance of the public consultation (officers will ensure this happens).
	<b>Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Peter Davies, Mayor of Doncaster</b> Development; Transport; Equalities and Cohesion; the Council's Change Programme	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	June 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports  Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
<b>29<sup>th</sup> June 2012,</b>	<b>Gypsy and Traveller Review</b> To comment and note on a report and recommendations considered by Mayor and Cabinet on 4 <sup>th</sup> July in relation to findings of the gypsy and traveller accommodation needs assessment and the strategy to meet those needs and the progress of the refurbishment scheme at the gibbons lane site and the extension scheme at land's end.	To be informed about the Gypsy and Traveller Review. To have the opportunity to comment on the report and its recommendations and make before a decision is made at Cabinet.	Panel	Decision taken at Cabinet 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2012	Revised recommendations were made at Cabinet which took into account comments made by the R&E O&S Panel.  Agreed at Cabinet that recommendations, following consultation and the cost/benefit analysis to be brought back to Cabinet for a decision as soon as possible to enable compliance with the HCA's timelines.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012</b>	<b>Work and Skills Update</b> Opportunity to receive information of the private sector	To receive an annual update on the work of the Private Sector-led Work &	Panel	Cabinet - 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	As part of the recommendations made, the panel agreed to that a joint working group (formed with

## Annexe 1

DATE	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
	led Work & Skills board.	Skills Board in attempting to improve the Skills our residents have in order to support economic growth across the Borough. To consider undertaking a further piece of work around this area.		Careers Advice & Guidance Review meetings: -  6 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2013	members from the SCYP and R&E O&S) to undertake a review on Careers Advice and Guidance. This review was undertaken over one site visits and two meetings and recommendations will be ratified at the R&E O&S Panel meeting on the 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
	<b>Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 1)- DMBC</b>	Continue to monitor.	Panel	Through quarterly report & review	To hold relevant Directors and Cabinet Members to account. Focus on key areas of overspend & underperformance and consider actions for improvement. Identify issues for future consideration.  Ensure concerns identified continue to be monitored.
	<b>Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 1) – St Leger</b>				
	<b>Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Councillor C Ransome</b>	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	September 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports  Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
<b>17<sup>th</sup> October 2012</b>	<b>Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline: Councillor P Coddington</b>	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	October 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports  Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
	<b>Work, skills and enterprise programme going forward and update on opportunity centres</b>	To understand the current position with regard to the future work and skills support offer within the	Panel	October 2012 meeting  Potential further	Following a review undertaken as part of the 2011/2012 workplan, the Panel was brought up-to-date with progress made on

## Annexe 1

DATE	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
		Work, Skills and Enterprise Programme (Success Doncaster) and also provides an update on Opportunity Centres.		updates to be provided on the works, skills and enterprise programme	recommendations from the review and the wider picture in terms of the Work, Skills and Enterprise Programme. Recommendations were made based on the information presented at the Panel meeting
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	<b>Cabinet Members Portfolio Outline:</b>  <b>Councillor B Hoyle</b>	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	November 2012 meeting and quarterly performance reports  Update early 2013	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
	<b>Adoption of the first Council Environment Strategy</b>	As part of the R&E O&S workplan a working group was set up to look at the Environmental Strategy.	Working Group/Panel	Going to Cabinet 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	Following a meeting of the working group on the 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2012 recommendations were made by the working group which were accepted and have been incorporated into the final version of the strategy.  The Council's first Environment Strategy was adopted by Cabinet on the 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2012.
	<b>Adoption of the Doncaster Council Statement of Policy (Gambling Policy 2013)</b>	Statutory Plan	Panel	Cabinet 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	Approved

## Annexe 1

DATE	ISSUE/ OUTCOME	COMMENT	WHO	WHEN	IMPACT
	<b>Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 2) – St Leger</b>	Continue to monitor.	Panel	Through quarterly report & review	To hold relevant Directors to account. Focus on key areas of overspend & underperformance and consider actions for improvement. Identify issues for future consideration.  Ensure concerns identified continue to be monitored.
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013</b>	<b>Update Report from Mayor Peter Davies and Cllr Cynthia Ransome (TBC)</b>	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports.	Panel	January 2013 meeting and quarterly performance reports	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.
	<b>LDF - Sites and Policies DPD</b> The Panel agreed to: -  1. To note the proposed responses to the main points raised from the consultation as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; 2. To note the proposed amendments in relation to housing and employment sites as set out in Appendix 2 with the exception of Broad Axe Field; and 3. To reject the approach to Full Council approval, including the items for which delegated authority will be sought.	The report provided an update on the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document and the timeline for formal approval process up to Full Council in March 2013.	Panel	Going to Cabinet 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2013 and Full Council 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2013	At Cabinet the decision was taken to recommend that Full Council approve the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document progress to the publication stage, subject to no new major issues being raised during the publication stage, the document be submitted to government (including the making of any minor editorial changes).
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2013	<b>Update Report Cabinet Member Portfolio Holders</b>	To understand priorities and review progress later in year. During the course	Panel	March 2013 meeting and quarterly performance reports	To provide accountability for improvement and improve transparency.

**Annexe 1**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ISSUE/ OUTCOME</b>	<b>COMMENT</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
		of the year continue to measure aspects through Quarterly Performance reports			
	<b>Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 3)- DMBC</b>	Continue to monitor.	Panel	Through quarterly report & review	To hold relevant Directors to account. Focus on key areas of overspend & underperformance and consider actions for improvement. Identify issues for future consideration.  Ensure concerns identified continue to be monitored.
	<b>Performance 2012/13 (Qtr. 3) – St Leger</b>				
	<b>Asset Management Review</b>				
	<b>Review of Future of Waste Depot</b>				
	<b>Racecourse Management Company</b>				
	<b>Careers Advice and Guidance Review</b>				

Councillor for Edenthorpe, Kirk Sandall & Barnby Dun

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31st January 2013

Peter Davies  
Mayor of Doncaster  
Floor 1  
The Council House  
College Road  
Doncaster  
DN1 3AJ

Dear Peter

**Local Development Framework Sites and Policies Development Plan Document**

At the Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel meeting held on the 22nd January 2013, the Panel received a report providing a 'Local Development Framework Sites and Policies Development Plan Document'. The report was presented to Members of the Panel which provided an update on the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document and the timeline for formal approval process up to Full Council in March 2013.

Following the discussion, Members of the Panel agreed on the following recommendations:  
-

1. To note the proposed responses to the main points raised from the consultation as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
2. To note the proposed amendments in relation to housing and employment sites as set out in Appendix 2 with the exception of Broad Axe Field; and
3. To reject the approach to Full Council approval, including the items for which delegated authority will be sought.

The Panel also raised the following comments and concerns: -

- One Member informed the group that Rossington Parish Council was looking to allocate an extra 600 houses in addition to the Core Strategy, within their Neighbourhood Plan and it was questioned at the meeting whether this allocation had been taken into account as it would negate the need for the Broad Axe site. Members were informed that Rossington's allocation was separate to the Main Urban Area growth range so this additional growth could not substitute the growth required at the Main Urban Area. It was also explained that the Core Strategy Inspector had advised that it would be more appropriate to go towards the top end of the range which was around 64% mark.

Page 2 Continued.

- The issue of public opposition was raised as it was noted that certain sites had been taken out due to this and an enquiry was made as to how this balanced out with Broad Axe Field. There was a further discussion about what alternatives to Broad Axe Field had been considered and it was explained to Members that all the sites had been assessed in accordance with the criteria which included brownfield sites and greenfield sites.
- There was a debate in relation to what account had been taken of environmental issues such as flooding. The discussion included clarification of what the different types of flood risk are, whether sites at risk of flooding are attractive to developers (including mitigation measures/working with the Environment Agency) and whether purchases will be able to obtain affordable insurance.
- There was a brief discussion about an alternative extension site to the main urban area where existing high voltage overhead power lines are a constraint. It was asked if the option of the cables being buried could be investigated, and would this be a viable solution? Officers explained that any developments are usually built around them, with appropriate buffers, as the cost to bury such infrastructure is very expensive. It was noted that adding further constraints to house builders could potentially make sites unattractive, but that further talks could be carried out through links with house builders to look at the associated costs
- In relation to off road parking, it was commented by a member of the Panel that many new build developments only have enough space for one vehicle per house. Officers responded that they would revisit residential parking standards to consider the points that had been raised.

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Steve Butler, Planning Policy Manager (Natural Environment) and Lee Tillman, Head of Strategy and Programmes for presenting the report and responding to questions. I therefore look forward to receiving a response from you no later than **1<sup>st</sup> March 2013** on the recommendations and comments outlined above.

Kind regards,

**Councillor A Revill**

**Chair – Regeneration and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

cc. Jo Miller, Chief Executive

Chair/Vice Chair of O.S.M.C.

Cabinet

Peter Dale, Director of Development

Lee Tillman, Head of Strategy and Programmes

Steve Butler, Planning Policy Manager (Natural Environment)



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT AND SCHOOLS CHILDREN AND YOUNG  
PEOPLE SCRUTINY REVIEW

CAREERS ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2013

PRESENT: Councillors Richard Cooper-Holmes, Yvonne Woodcock, Doreen Woodhouse, Andrew Bosmans, Nuala Fennelly and Alan Jones

ALSO PRESENT: Christine Rothwell, Scrutiny Officer, Caroline Martin, Scrutiny Officer, Andrew Best, HSR Law, Lee Tillman, Policy and Partnerships Officer, Jayne Vose, Head of Service for Learner Engagement and Pam Bolderson, Head of Connexions/IAG Lead

1.	Minutes dated 11 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012
	Minutes of the meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> December, 2012 were agreed as a correct record.
2.	Feedback from discussions from Private Sector
	<p>Andrew Best and Jayne Vose outlined discussions by the Work and skills Partnership where the following priorities and delivery agreements were agreed :</p> <p>Priority 1 – Improve the employability competencies of those in Education; Priority 2 – Promote the value of apprenticeships and internships to businesses to make it easier to them to recruit; and Priority 3 – Attract and retain graduates in the borough.</p> <p>A teaching pack had been developed and tailored to specific age ranges as required. Rossington All Saints School had volunteered to undertake the programme and through this school pyramid could present an opportunity to potentially access 9 out of 11 secondary schools.</p> <p><b>Funding</b> - To support delivery of the above, DMBC could contribute £120,000 until end of March however any carryover would require approval.</p> <p>Sheffield City Region had funding allocations of between £24 to £25m. It was agreed with Sheffield City Council (as accountable body for the deal with Government) that Doncaster Council receives £640K grant funding to operate the Doncaster Hub. This will help deliver the additional 640 apprenticeships and 320 people upskilled over the next 3 years. It was noted that a decision would be taken by Cabinet relating to the funding in late February.</p> <p>In response to queries, it was explained that through work undertaken as part of the LMI there had been 50 to 60 small businesses interested in such an initiative. The Council would be responsible for ensuring the Apprenticeships were of a certain standard/length and completed. The programme would be run through an existing mechanism rather than adding an extra provider in the</p>

	<p>Borough. The programmes would be aimed at businesses with 0 to 50 employees, additional to those that already actively provide apprenticeships and demand led. The funding was not for wage replacement but aimed at sustainable employment growth for in the borough.</p> <p><b><u>Champions for Careers Advice and Guidance</u></b> - School Governing bodies currently appoint champions for specialist roles, for example, safeguarding. The establishment of Governing Body Champions was proposed, but this would be a voluntary decision made by schools. It would be approached through presentations to Secondary Head and Governors' forum.</p>
3.	Discussions with Schools – Careers Advice and Guidance Provision
	<p>Pam Bolderson explained that she was currently visiting all Doncaster's secondary schools to evaluate the careers advice and guidance currently being provided.</p> <p>She outlined those that were and were not meeting the statutory requirements. Chris Pratt, Director of Children and Young People's Service had been informed of the schools not meeting the statutory requirement and that they would be challenged by the Directorates management team.</p> <p>Some schools had invested in a careers advisor providing 1 to 2 days per week at the school, but this was a reduction in what the Local Authority had provided, that being 3 to 4 days per week.</p> <p>The group was of the opinion that current provision was light touch and expressed concern that many children would not receive good support when trying to choose a career path.</p> <p>Councillors were pleased that a mechanism was in place to challenge schools on a number of issues, if it was thought they were providing an inadequate service.</p>
4.	Network IAG - Barnsley
	<p>Further to discussion at the meeting in December, Pam Bolderson provided information and explained the Network IAG in Barnsley, in response to the Borough's high NEETs statistics.</p> <p>A collaborative was formed to help schools meet their statutory duties and provide and impartial and independent careers guidance for pupils.</p> <p>The system works well for Barnsley but it was noted that Doncaster's landscape was completely different to that in Barnsley, recognising that the Borough only had one college and one sixth form.</p> <p>The group discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the collaborative and questioned whether it was something that could be delivered through the Doncaster Association for Training Manager (DATM).</p>

	Because parents have such strong supporting and influential roles in their child's life, concern was expressed with regard to how and what information was available to them. It was suggested that perhaps the issue could be addressed through Parent and Teacher Associations, but this was the responsibility of the school.
	Recommendations:
1.	A report be presented to the Regeneration and Environment Scrutiny Panel in Autumn 2013 detailing progress with Apprenticeship programmes and progress of the Work and Skills Board, following consideration of the proposed Cabinet decision entitled Investing in Apprenticeships, Skills and Jobs.
2.	Support the action proposed for Careers Advice and Guidance School Governor Champions and propose that a co-ordinated support package/guidelines be developed to assist all appointed Governors, including local authority Councillors in their role.
3.	The programme, actions and priorities of the Work and Skills Board, be supported
4.	The proposed Cabinet decision Investing in Apprenticeships, Skills and Jobs, be supported.
5.	Propose that how the parental role can be further utilised and their access can be increased to career advice and information by the Work and Skills Board programme and actions.
6.	Support the work of the Children and Young People's Management Team in holding Academies to account with regard to the quality of careers advice and guidance being provided.
7.	The development of a Doncaster Council quality mark be considered to be awarded to trainers/employers.
8.	Consideration be given to what could be applied from the Barnsley IAG network to support Doncaster's programme, bearing in mind the differing landscapes.