

28<sup>th</sup> September 2010

## Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- What is the Council's priority order for bringing forward development sites and how will they be brought forward?

The Council is working in partnership to bring forward a number of key development sites in the City including Nestle South, Terry's, Derwenthorpe, York Central and British Sugar. The Council's approach is to be responsive to and support the timescales and work programmes of developers, land owners and other interested parties. The Council's activities include work on pre-application advice, statutory planning frameworks, masterplanning, funding of packages and determination of planning applications.

- What proportion of Yorkshire Forward's Assets are coming into York?

The only substantive landownership of Yorkshire Forward in York is at Holgate Park, as part of the York Central scheme. We are lobbying, through both the LGA and Yorkshire Forward, for this asset to transfer to the Council. A decision on this has yet to be made. The meeting of Local Government Yorkshire and Humber leaders on 19<sup>th</sup> August agreed that there would be a collective response made to Government on behalf of all 22 local authorities in the region for the assets of Yorkshire Forward to remain in the region (taking into account that some of these carry with them financial liabilities in parts of the region)

- What are the governance arrangements for Local Enterprise Partnerships and what representation will York have?

We have supported outline proposals for LEPs covering the Leeds City Region and York and North Yorkshire. These were submitted by the deadline of 6<sup>th</sup> September and a response is awaited from Government to both proposals. Proposals for governance arrangements for both proposed LEPs are currently under consideration. The White Paper will take this into account.

- What relationships will exist between York, North Yorkshire & East Yorkshire relating to economic development?

There is a long standing arrangement for the York and North Yorkshire Partnership which has considered economic development issues, particularly through Yorkshire Forward's sub-regional investment plan (SRIP). The Centre for Cities report on prioritizing prosperity in York highlighted the importance of economic links between York and the East Riding. It is intended that these relationships will be explored further the development of the LEP – the Council have actively encouraged further dialogue with the East Riding as an integral part of this LEP development. Priorities identified in the York and North Yorkshire LEP are:

1. To invest in the role of York as Economic driver for the sub region
2. Secure investment in the provision of broadband including next generation
3. Promote enterprise and raise aspirations
4. Invest in business tourism and the visitor economy

5. Support for a coastal regeneration (through Hull, East Riding and Scarborough LEP)
6. Reduce the barriers restraining high growth businesses in rural areas
7. Support the food and the agricultural sector
8. Enable the care sector to meet rising needs

- What interconnectivity is there between York and other high profile tourist destinations such as London & Edinburgh?

This is largely the responsibility of Visit York which has been established as a company limited by guarantee, with 3 elected members representing the Council on the board.

Visit York is part of the heritage cities marketing consortium, primarily for the US market.

Visit York are also members of the European Cities Marketing group, which includes other UK members - it is through this group that York became European City of the Year in 2007 and 2008.

Visit York have had fairly regular dialogue with Chester and Manchester, and have worked with Nottingham on the VIC benchmarking.

Other connections have been made through Welcome to Yorkshire on encouraging people from the South to enjoy Yorkshire – such as the Railway Children at Waterloo Station.

Yorkshire Museum @ The British Museum. The British Museum are keen on partnership working with the regions, so they worked with the Yorkshire Museum to allow them to display treasures at the British Museum in early-mid 2010 (while the Yorkshire museum was being refurbished. Was an excellent profile raising event.

We regularly work with the rail companies and invariably promote rail access to York - clearly linkage to Edinburgh and London is an important part of the message.

- What impact will place shaping budgeting have on service delivery in York?

It is important that at a time of reduced resources that we try and bring together priorities for spend around places to try and reduce duplication or fragmentation of spend and maximise 'pooling of resources' to achieve better synergy and value for money.

- What is the economic cost of housing demand outstripping supply in York?

An appropriate level of new housing is required to support the local economy to ensure that there is an appropriate housing offer to incoming businesses and that the local workforce has access to the right type of housing. Housing completions in York have fallen significantly in York since the recession started in 2008. If we do not fully meet housing demand in this city (and there are good environmental capacity reasons why we should not), then we will need to plan for increased in commuting from people from outside York who take up new jobs in the City.