



SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT)

Meeting to be held in the Civic Hall, Leeds on
Tuesday, 12th September, 2006 at 10.00 am

A pre-meeting will take place for ALL Members of the Board
in a Committee Room at 9.30 am

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

B Cleasby (Chair)	-	Horsforth
P Davey	-	City and Hunslet
D Hollingsworth	-	Burmantofts and Richmond Hill
G Latty	-	Guiseley and Rawdon
R Lewis	-	Pudsey
M Lobley	-	Roundhay
A Lowe	-	Armley
A Millard	-	Wetherby
A Ogilvie	-	Beeston and Holbeck
N Taggart	-	Bramley and Stanningley
Whips Nominee	-	

Please note: Certain or all items on this agenda may be recorded on tape

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A G E N D A

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 25 of the Access to Information Rules (in the event of an Appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p>	
2			<p>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC</p> <p>To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public.</p>	
3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstance shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</p> <p>To declare any personal/prejudicial interests for the purpose of Section 81(3) of the Local Government Act 2000 and paragraphs 8 to 13 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES OF LAST MEETING</p> <p>To receive and approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 18th July 2006.</p>	1 - 4
7			<p>EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES</p> <p>To receive the Executive Board minutes of the meeting held on 16th August 2006.</p>	5 - 12

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
8			<p>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MINUTES</p> <p>To note the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 3rd July 2006.</p>	13 - 16
9			<p>PRESENTATION ON THE SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG TERM TRANSPORT POLICY FOR THE CITY</p> <p>To consider the attached report from the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development including the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006 Final Delivery Report and a presentation on the short, medium and long term transport policy for the city.</p>	17 - 24
10			<p>MEMBERS' QUESTIONS</p> <p>To receive a report from the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development which gives Board Members the opportunity to ask questions of the Director who chairs the Corporate Priority Board which matches the Scrutiny Board's portfolio, or the Director's nominee.</p>	25 - 26
11			<p>LEEDS CITY REGION</p> <p>To receive a report from the Chief Executive's Department updating Members on some of the latest developments relevant to both the Leeds City Region and to the issue nationally and including possible recommendations for Members' consideration.</p>	27 - 38
12			<p>WORK PROGRAMME</p> <p>To consider the attached report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development regarding the Board's work programme, together with a copy of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions pertaining to this Board's Terms of Reference for the period 1st August 2006 to 30th November 2006.</p>	39 - 48

Item No	Ward/Equal Opportunities	Item Not Open		Page No
13			<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>To note that the next meeting of the Board will be held on 10th October 2006 at 10.00am in the Civic Hall, Leeds.</p>	

Agenda Item 6

SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT)

TUESDAY, 18TH JULY, 2006

PRESENT: Councillor B Cleasby in the Chair

Councillors P Davey, D Hollingsworth,
G Latty, M Lobley, A Lowe, A Millard and
A Ogilvie

8 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular to Jean Dent, Director of Development who had been unable to attend the Board's first meeting of the 2006/2007 municipal year.

9 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor R Lewis.

10 Declaration of Interests

The Chair declared a personal interest under the Work Programme as a Member of the Airport Consultative Committee (Minute 11).

11 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a further report on the development of a work programme for Scrutiny Board (Development) and appended a draft work programme which included a list of the topics discussed at the last meeting of the Board.

Also appended to the report were copies of the following documents for the information/comment of the meeting:

- (a) Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1st July 2006 to 31st October 2006.
- (b) Budget and Policy Framework Decisions.

Jean Dent, Director of Development reported and responded to Members' questions and comments. In brief, the main issues discussed were:-

12th September 2006 Board meeting

Transportation

- The need for a presentation on the short, medium and long term transport policy for the city incorporating what has been delivered

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Tuesday, 12th September, 2006

against targets as set in the Local Transport Plan (LTP1) and what is being planned for the future

- To consider 'softer' transport measures to ease the traffic flow through the City, including traffic light timings during the rush hour period.
- The need to encourage commuters to make more park and ride journeys by increasing the car park capacity at train stations and encouraging bus companies to make bus journeys more appealing e.g. by providing air conditioning etc.
- The need to invite METRO to the meeting in order that they can explain the work being undertaken with the bus companies and discuss some of the issues which the Transport Executive and the local authority face over the lack of control of bus services in the City.
- The need to invite the Managing Director of First Bus to respond to issues around the quality of buses which are in service.

10th October 2006 Board Meeting

Olympic Games 2012

- The need to bring forward this item from the January 2007 meeting.
- Members noted that this item is being led by Learning and Leisure Department with Yorkshire Forward providing the regional lead and the Cultural Partnership giving the lead from Leeds.
- That the Director of Learning and Leisure update the Board on how the Council is progressing on this item and on the way in which people/ organisations are being involved. The report to include reference to the progress made on the South Leeds Pool.

Climate Change Strategy

- To provide an update on the short and medium term work being undertaken by the Water Asset Management Group in the Development Department around flooding and risk assessment in the City.
- To provide a report setting out the scope and timetable for the development of a longer term assessment strategy to deal with climate change.

21st November 2006 Board Meeting

Worklessness

- The need to look at the development of an integrated strategy which should include all the work being undertaken by the Council and other agencies to address the issue of worklessness. This should include the day services review looking at people on incapacity benefit and people with mental health problems and learning difficulties.
- The need to look at what the Senior Youth Service is doing to encourage young people to gain qualifications in order to increase their chances of employment.
- That Board Members be provided with previous relevant Scrutiny Board reports that relate to worklessness.

The Chair thanked Jean Dent for her attendance and her helpful contributions to today's meeting.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the contents of the report and appendices be noted.
- (b) That approval be given to the draft work programme, subject to the Principal Scrutiny Adviser incorporating the issues raised and the changes requested at today's meeting as outlined above.

12 Minutes of the Last Meeting of Scrutiny Board (Development)

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2006 be approved as a correct record.

13 Executive Board Minutes

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the minutes of the Executive Board meetings held on the 14th June and 15th July 2006 be noted.
- (b) That Board Members be provided with a copy of the policy document for the planning of primary school places presented at the 14th June 2006 Executive Board meeting (Minute 13 refers).

14 Overview and Scrutiny Board Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 5th June 2006 be noted.

15 Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED - To note that the next meeting of this Board will be held on Tuesday, 12th September 2006 at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Hall, Leeds.

(The meeting concluded at 10.30 a.m.)

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 16TH AUGUST, 2006

PRESENT: Councillor M Harris in the Chair

Councillors D Blackburn, R Brett, A Carter,
J L Carter, R Harker, J Procter and
K Wakefield

33 Substitute Member

Under the terms of Executive Procedure 2.3 Councillor R Lewis was invited to attend the meeting on behalf of Councillor Blake.

34 Exclusion of Public

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Appendix 1 to the report referred to in minute 37 and Appendix 1 to the report referred to in minute 50 on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information or confidential information, defined in Access to Information Rules as indicated in the minute.

35 Declaration of Interests

Councillor J L Carter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item relating to Adel Primary School (minute 38) as a governor of the school.

Councillors D Blackburn, J L Carter and Harker declared personal interests in the item relating to Leeds Grand Theatre (minute 45) as members of its board of management.

36 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6th July 2006 be approved and that those of the Access to Information Appeals Committee held on 19th and 20th June 2006 be noted.

DEVELOPMENT

37 Deputation to Council - Disposal of Drighlington Old School and Land

The Director of Development submitted a report in response to the deputation to Council by the Drighlington Conservation Group regarding lack of consultation on the disposal of Drighlington Old School and land.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the report designated exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(1) and circulated at the meeting, it was

RESOLVED – That the Board notes:

- (a) the concerns expressed in the deputation from Drighlington Conservation Group
- (b) the consultation which has taken place to date
- (c) that the petition from Drighlington residents did receive due consideration from officers and the Executive Member for Development, but that on balance the view was taken that it was necessary to progress the disposal in order to deliver the Primary School Review programme
- (d) that representatives of Drighlington Parish Council will have a further formal opportunity to submit any objections on the development of the school upon submission of a planning application by the successful purchaser of the site
- (e) that discussions are underway to secure the rebuilding of the clock tower, the clock face and mechanism, and the weather vane in appropriate locations within the community
- (f) that the Council is the legal owner of the site and buildings and therefore does have the right to dispose of them
- (g) that Development Department will continue to progress the disposal of the school to meet the targets of the Primary School Review, and maintain an ongoing dialogue with Local Ward Members.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

38 Deputation to Council - Adel Primary School

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report in response to the comments made by the deputation to Council by parents of pupils at Adel Primary School with regard to building works at the school.

RESOLVED – That the Board supports the recommendations which Education Leeds have made to the school as follows:

- (a) That the modified project be completed.
- (b) That the school review the success of the scheme during the next academic year and prioritise any potential alterations, to be funded by the school, through a premises development plan.
- (c) That the school fully consult staff, pupils, parents and the local community prior to any future projects.
- (d) That the authority use the issues raised by this project as a case study to highlight the importance of stakeholder consultation on Capital schemes to other schools.

(Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest Councillor J L Carter left the meeting during consideration of this matter)

39 Deputation to Council - Proposals for Meanwood Primary Planning Area

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report in response to the deputation to Council about the Executive Board's decision to publish statutory notices proposing the amalgamation of Miles Hill Primary and

Potternewton Primary with a new primary school occupying the Potternewton site.

RESOLVED – That the concerns expressed by the deputation and the next steps in the process, as described in the report, be noted.

40 School Clothing Allowances

The Director of Children’s Services submitted a report on action taken following a Council decision to increase the School Clothing Allowance budget.

RESOLVED – That the action taken as a result of the Council decision to increase the School Clothing Allowance budget by £400,000 be noted.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

41 Office Accommodation - Neighbourhoods and Housing Department

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report highlighting the outcomes of the Option Appraisal and business case for the demolition and disposal of South Point and the consequent relocation of Neighbourhoods and Housing staff into alternative accommodation within the Departmental Portfolio.

The report outlined the following options:

- 1 Remain in existing site with basic remedial works and essential maintenance only
- 2 Major refurbishment of South Point
- 3 Demolish and rebuild at South Point
- 4 Dispose of South Point and purchase alternative accommodation
- 5 Dispose of South Point and lease alternative accommodation
- 6 Dispose of South Point and new build on alternative sites
- 7 Dispose of South Point and refurbish one of two existing Council properties

The report detailed alternative courses of action in pursuit of the preferred Option 5.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the disposal of the site at South Point
- (b) That staff from South Point be decanted into existing sites within the Neighbourhoods and Housing Departmental portfolio (Housing Services, Environmental Health and Community Safety), involving the overall rationalisation of Neighbourhoods and Housing Departmental office accommodation portfolio and the best placing of staff to deliver services to their client groups.
- (c) That a new site be leased which will allow for all of the current Property Management Service to occupy one ‘fit for purpose’ site –the site identified for potential relocation being at View Point in Bramley

- (d) That the early negotiations for heads of terms in respect of View Point at Bramley and, as a fall back position, Temple Point at Colton be noted

42 Former Royal Park Primary School

Further to minute 152 of the meeting held on 12th November 2003 the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing and the Director of Development submitted a joint report seeking approval for the marketing of the Royal Park property for refurbishment or redevelopment as a mixed use development with the Council retaining an operational presence in the form of a library and some community space and retaining the freehold in the property but with no restriction as to the make up of the scheme other than would be required through the planning process.

The report outlined the following options:

- 1 To seek approval for a further £904,000 in mainline Capital Programme funding for the original scheme.
- 2 The retention of the building by the Council and its preservation and protection until such time as a sufficient range of Council and community uses and funding streams can be identified
- 3 To dispose of the building for refurbishment, through the grant of a long leasehold interest, with the Council retaining the freehold interest and having the use of a library and some community space.
- 4 To market the site for refurbishment or redevelopment, with the retention of Council interest through the freehold of the land, with guidance as to the general form of redevelopment required, including the incorporation of a library and other community space.

The report concluded that best consideration would be achieved through option 4 with any other option being likely to represent a less than best disposal.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the work undertaken to test the viability of implementing the proposals considered at the November 2003 Executive Board meeting be noted.
- (b) That the decision made at the meeting of 12th November 2003 be rescinded.
- (c) That the property be marketed in accordance with option 3 above.
- (d) That the Board notes that the pursuance of any proposal resulting from this decision will require the Council to use its powers under the 2003 General Consent to dispose of the property at less than best consideration.

43 The Golden Triangle Partnership - Private Equity Model

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on proposed expenditure of £1,000,000 in 2006/07 in respect of a scheme to assist local people who are first time buyers, low income workers and households in need

to purchase properties in the area defined as the Golden Triangle in the Leeds, Harrogate and York districts.

RESOLVED – That authority be given for the injection into the Capital Programme of £1,000,000 fully funded by Regional Housing Board grant and that expenditure in the same amount be authorised.

44 Ombudsman's Report - Adaptations to a Council House

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services and the Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a joint report on a recent finding of maladministration and injustice by the Local Government Ombudsman with regard to a complaint about adaptations to a Council house to meet the needs of the disabled tenant.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the Ombudsman's report and findings be received and noted.
- (b) That the fundamental changes to procedure and policy instituted as a result of the case be noted.
- (c) That the Council's response to the Ombudsman as set out in paragraph 4 of the report be approved.

LEISURE

45 Leeds Grand Theatre Refurbishment Works

The Directors of Learning and Leisure and Development submitted a joint report on the latest position in respect of phase 1 of the Leeds Grand Theatre refurbishment scheme, proposals for phase 2 of the scheme and the proposed heads of terms for the lease of the theatre to the Leeds Grand Theatre Company.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That authority be given for an injection of £193,566 into the Capital Programme to be funded by £150,000 from Opera North Trust and £43,566 from Leeds Grand Theatre.
- (b) That the bringing forward of the £300,000 Arts Council England grant from phase 2 works into phase 1 be authorised subject to the ACE formal approval currently being sought.
- (c) That £1,294,881 of Leeds City Council funding be brought forward from phase 2 into phase 1.
- (d) That authority be given to incur additional expenditure of £1,788,447 on costs associated with the phase 1 refurbishment works at Leeds Grand Theatre (Capital Scheme Number 03611/PH1/000).
- (e) That the Board notes expenditure of £175,000 on fees on phase 2 of the Grand Theatre (Capital Scheme Number 03611/PH2/000) for the preparation and submission of applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England for grant aid towards the phase 2 works involving the selective refurbishment of the Grand Theatre and the restoration of the Assembly Rooms.
- (f) That the potential funding of £9.124m as outlined in detail within paragraphs 3.8 and 3.9 of the report be noted, and that a further report

be brought to this Board when both costs and funding have been subject to further determination.

- (g) That approval be given to the Heads of Terms that have been provisionally agreed with the Leeds Grand Theatre and Opera House Ltd for their lease of the Leeds Grand Theatre.

46 Deputation to Council - Swimming Pool Horsforth

The Director of Learning and Leisure submitted a report in response to the comments made by the deputation to Council by local residents for the provision of a swimming pool in north west Leeds.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the request to support a feasibility study into the provision of a new swimming pool in Horsforth be part supported by the City Council up to a maximum of £2,500.
- (b) That recognised, bona fide consultants be engaged to undertake the feasibility study should match funding be found, and that the consultants' brief be drawn up in consultation with the Director of Learning and Leisure.

ADULT HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

47 Commissioning Plan for Mental Health Day Services

The Director of Adult Services submitted a report setting out proposals for the modernisation of mental health day services, based on a more person centred service model meeting an individual's assessed needs flexibly, in their local communities and wherever possible, within mainstream services rather than in settings catering only for people with mental health problems.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the plan for day services as outlined in the report be approved.
- (b) That the implementation of the agreed service model within the time scales contained in the report be agreed.
- (c) That further reports be brought to this Board as the new service is implemented and further briefings be offered to Members through the course of the project.

CENTRAL AND CORPORATE

48 Capital Programme Monitoring Update

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report providing quarterly monitoring information on the Capital Programme and highlighting the continuing investment made by the Council in the city, explaining the pressures on future schemes and providing details on the latest resources and expenditure estimates for the capital programme.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and endorsement given to the measures being taken by the Director of Corporate Services, in liaison with the other directors to ensure the affordability and sustainability of the Capital Programme.

DEVELOPMENT

49 Deputation to Council - Withdrawal of Bus Services from Wetherby to Tadcaster via Boston Spa

The Director of Development submitted a report in response to the deputation received by Council at the meeting on the 21st June 2006 in connection with the withdrawal of the 780 bus service between Wetherby and Tadcaster via Boston Spa.

RESOLVED – That the Director of Development write to North Yorkshire County Council and Metro informing them of this Council's support for the retention of this bus service.

50 Deputation to Council - Former Blackgates School at Tingley

The Director of Development submitted a report in response to the deputation to Council by local residents against the sale, demolition and redevelopment of the redundant Blackgates School at Tingley.

Following consideration of Appendix 1 to the report designated exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(1), and circulated at the meeting, it was

RESOLVED – That the concerns of the deputation be noted but that the disposal of the former Blackgates Infants School, Bradford Road, Tingley be progressed as detailed in the submitted report.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18TH AUGUST 2006
LAST DATE FOR CALL IN : 25TH AUGUST 2006

(Scrutiny Support will notify relevant Directors of any items called in by 12.00 noon on Wednesday 30th August 2006)

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Agenda Item 8

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 3RD JULY, 2006

PRESENT: Councillor Driver in the Chair
Councillors B Anderson, J Bale,
P Grahame, B Lancaster and T Leadley

12 Late Items

Reference was made to a late item of business, Agenda Item 8 (Minute No 17 refers), the response of the Environment and Committee Safety Corporate Priority Board to the final Inquiry Report of the Scrutiny Commission (Avoiding Alcohol Misuse), which had been sent out after the agenda despatch.

This had been accepted as a late item of urgent business under the provisions of Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 because to delay receipt of the formal response would hinder the business of the Committee in that they would not be able to agree monitoring arrangements.

13 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were made.

14 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cleasby and Pryke

15 Minutes - 5th June 2006

- (a) Scrutiny Commission (Flooding within Leeds) (Minute No 5(b) refers)
Councillor Leadly indicated that the meeting he had attended, which was referred to in this minute, was actually a 'Regional Spatial Strategy Review Meeting', rather than an Emergency Planning Meeting.
- (b) The Advisory Role of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Minute No 8 refers)
The Chair indicated that he was endeavouring to arrange a meeting with Councillors Harris and Andrew Carter in order to progress this subject.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the above matters arising be noted

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday 4th September 2006.

- (b) That subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

16 Vision for Leeds- 'Narrowing the Gap'

Further to Minute No 10, 5th June 2006, the Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development and received evidence from Council Officers relating to strategies associated with the Council's 'Narrowing the Gap' objective contained in the Vision for Leeds document and also on the development of the Local Area Agreement for Leeds 2006-2009.

In attendance at the meeting were Kathy Kudelnitsky (Leeds Initiative), Sue Wynn (Neighbourhoods and Housing) and Jane Stageman (Chief Executive's Department). In brief summary, the main issues discussed were:

- Additional information was circulated at the meeting relating to the Index of Multiple Deprivation Statistics 2004, Intensive Neighbourhood Management Areas and 2004/05 Floor Targets – a combination of national and local benchmarks used to assess the progress of local partnerships and Neighbourhood Renewal Funding against Government targets;
- 'IoD Crime Domain 2004' statistics were queried, and it was felt that more detailed questions on matters such as this would perhaps be best addressed by any Working Group which the Committee might establish to look at matters in greater depth;
- A matrix was requested for submission to a future Committee or Working Group meeting, detailing the different levels of problems in different 'Super Output' areas;
- The differing problems in different areas, and the problems for the Council in providing appropriate, interconnected responses via Intensive Neighbourhood Management Areas initiative. This included helping the area to decide its own priorities and supporting and empowering individuals and groups in these areas to effect sustainable change on their own behalf;
- The need for the City as a whole to accept collective responsibility for the narrowing the gap agenda and sharing the relative affluence of the City as a whole to effect changes in areas of need;
- The role which the Local Area Agreement for Leeds 2006-2009 could play in terms of multi-agency approaches to some of the problems associated with areas of deprivation and how OSC might contribute to the process;
- The effectiveness or otherwise of 'broad brush' initiatives in tackling local issues;
- The question of 'buffer funding' to help alleviate the continuing problems of 'borderline' Super Output Areas if they suddenly fell out of that official category and suffered financially as a result.
- The current role of District Partnerships in tackling this issue.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted, and the subject be added to the Board's work programme for further consideration at the October meeting

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting
to be held on Monday 4th September 2006.

- (b) That in the meantime, officers circulate more detailed data to OSC Members by the end of August, to enable Members to begin to grasp the extent of the problems and current initiatives.

17 Scrutiny Commission - (Avoiding Alcohol Misuse) - Response to Recommendations

The Committee considered the response of the Environment and Community Safety Corporate Priority Board to the findings of the Scrutiny Commission on Avoiding Alcohol Abuse, which had been circulated as a late item of urgent business (Minute No 12 refers).

The Chair proposed that an OSC Working Group be established to pursue the implementation of the Commission's recommendations over the next 12 months, and this was accepted. The Chair suggested that the Working Group should comprise himself and any OSC Member or former Commission members who wished to participate, names to be forwarded to the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development, who would advise Members of dates and times for Working Group meetings.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above, the report be received and noted.

18 Work Programme

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted the Committee's work programme, updated to reflect decisions taken at previous meetings, together with a relevant extract of the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions and a copy of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on 14th June 2006.

Amongst the themes discussed for future Inquiries were the items referred to at the last meeting (Minute No 10 refers), as well as the workforce skills aspect of 'Narrowing the Gap' and Traffic and Transport Management across the City.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above comments, the Board's work programme be approved and accepted, and further discussions take place between the Chair and the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development regarding defining and scheduling the subjects to be covered.

19 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 4th September 2006, at 10.00am (Pre-Meeting 9.30am).

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Originator: R Mills

Tel: 247 4557

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Development)

Date: 12th September 2006

**Subject: Presentation on the Short, Medium and Long Term Transport Policy
for the City**

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 At the Scrutiny Board (Development) meeting on 18th July 2006 Members agreed to receive a presentation at the meeting today on the short, medium and long term transport policy for the city. The presentation is to incorporate what has been delivered against targets set in the Local Transport Plan (LTP1) and what is being planned for the future.

2.0 Presentation

2.1 An officer from the Development Department will lead the presentation.

2.2 A representative from METRO has been invited to attend to explain the work being undertaken with the bus companies and to discuss some of the issues which the Transport Executive and the local authority face over the authority's lack of control of bus services in the city. The Managing Director of First Bus has also been invited to attend to respond and contribute to this discussion.

2.3 The attached report (appendix) provides information on the development of a final delivery report for the first West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006, highlighting key achievements in Leeds over this period.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:

- (i) receive the report, presentation, comment and ask questions as appropriate.
- (ii) consider what (if any) further information is required.

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REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT)

DATE: 12 SEPTEMBER 2006

SUBJECT: WEST YORKSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2001 – 2006 FINAL DELIVERY REPORT

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Specific Implications For :

Ethnic Minorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled People	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report provides information on the development of a final delivery report for the first West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 2001 – 2006, highlighting key achievements in Leeds over this period.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The first West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (LTP1) was produced in July 2000 through a partnership of the five West Yorkshire district authorities and Metro. The document contained objectives, strategies, programmes and targets covering the five year period from April 2001 to March 2006.

2.2 Annual Progress Reports have been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) and have provided information on the implementation of the Plan proposals and progress towards the achievement of targets.

2.3 A final delivery report for LTP1 was a requirement set by the DfT to demonstrate the impacts of LTP1 over the full five year period.

2.4 The LTP1 final delivery report was submitted to the DfT on the 31st July 2006 and complied with specific guidance which was issued by the DfT.

2.5 The assessment of the delivery of LTP1 forms part of the calculation of financial allocations for the remaining four years of the second Local Transport Plan (LTP2).

3 INFORMATION

Delivery Report Guidance

- 3.1 The DfT provided specific guidance to local authorities regarding the requirements of a delivery report. The guidance stated that a delivery report should set out:
- The overall impact of the first Local Transport Plan including the impact on the locality, on local services and on the wider policy objectives of the local authority;
 - What progress has been made towards the targets local authorities set during the first local transport plan period; and
 - How the plan strategy, including the capital programme, has been delivered and the funding available has been spent.
- 3.2 Local authorities were required to comment on at least two policy aims or service delivery themes per plan area which had benefited from the development and implementation of the first LTP. The West Yorkshire final delivery report concentrated on economic growth and regeneration, health and social inclusion as areas which illustrated the wider benefits of the first LTP.
- 3.3 Authorities were also instructed to summarise what had been delivered over the five years in five key delivery areas. All reports were required to consider three strategy areas (public transport, road safety and sustainability) plus two others which could be selected by local authorities to reflect the strategies that had been of most local importance, from seven themes (cycling, walking, parking, school travel, workplace travel plans, disabled issues/social inclusion and principal road maintenance/bridge strengthening). The West Yorkshire final delivery report covered the areas of school travel and principal road maintenance/bridge strengthening.

Overview of the West Yorkshire LTP1 Final Delivery Report

- 3.4 The key transport impacts of LTP1 have been:
- Spreading economic growth and assisting in economic regeneration by accommodating increased economic activity in the main urban centres whilst restraining the growth in car traffic;
 - Constraining traffic growth;
 - Improved road safety with casualty reductions exceeding national and local targets, leading to the lowest ever casualty figures for West Yorkshire;
 - Better road conditions;
 - Raising the profile of transport at a local sub-regional and regional level;
 - Increasing the role of rail into urban centres for commuters and shoppers; for example journeys into Leeds by rail in the morning peak have risen from 9.5% in 2000 to over 12.5% in 2005;
 - Increasing the role of bus on a number of urban routes;
 - Improving social inclusion through concessionary fares, new MetroConnect services including improved rural transport and the AccessBus service;
 - A reduction in antisocial behaviour on public transport; and

- Transforming the way public transport users are treated as customers.

3.5 The successful actions during the LTP1 period included:

- A substantial programme of investment in bus and rail stations delivering higher standards of passenger comfort, security and information, including the completion of the Leeds Rail Station project by Railtrack in 2002, followed by the rail/bus interchange facility at the Rail Station funded by Metro in 2004 and other improvement schemes at Guiseley and Horsforth rail stations;
- Good progress on delivering a step change in bus facilities on core bus routes (including accessibility improvements and new bus lanes) through the Yorkshire Bus Initiative; two bus lanes have been completed in Leeds on Tong Road and Low Road and work commenced on the Wellington Road bus lane.
- A successful and well targeted road safety programme; 70 local safety schemes have been implemented in Leeds to target areas where there have been historic accident problems, other additional traffic calming schemes have also been implemented to improve road safety.
- Accommodating increased economic activity in the main urban centres whilst restraining the growth in car traffic; although there has been a growth in the number of people entering Leeds city centre in the peak period, car use, as a proportion of the total travel to work journeys is on a declining trend, decreasing by 6.7% between 1998 and 2005.
- Improvements to accessibility through the launch of new MetroConnect services for example in Leeds, the Aire Valley MetroConnect service has been operating since October 2003 to assist local communities to access employment opportunities in the Aire Valley;
- Good progress on school travel including school travel plans, of which 95 school travel plans have been submitted for schools in Leeds, Safe Routes to School, MyBus and the new SchoolPlus ticket;
- Launch of the largest real time passenger information system in the country covering South and West Yorkshire;
- Improved safety and security including the provision of CCTV at new bus stations and on a proportion of the West Yorkshire bus fleet;
- Delivery of successful, off-road cycle routes for example the Wetherby – Thorp Arch (Phase One) route;
- Significant improvements to the public realm, including enhanced pedestrian facilities such as the pedestrianisation and environmental enhancement of Briggate and City Square.
- Good progress in highway network maintenance with programmes that have established the condition of carriageways; and
- Substantial reductions in the backlog of bridges and structures maintenance and strengthening.

Expenditure

- 3.6 Over the period of LTP1 capital funding was allocated by the DfT to spend on schemes costing less than £5million. The Integrated Transport allocations from the DfT included 'bonus' funding, with the amounts being based on the assessment of the Annual Progress Reports.
- 3.7 Over the period of LTP1 £138.5million was allocated to West Yorkshire for Integrated Transport improvements which included £29.5million for Leeds; £149million was allocated to West Yorkshire for maintenance work which included £48million for Leeds.
- 3.8 A significant amount of capital was also spent on transport/highway infrastructure by the local authorities either from capital receipts or prudential borrowing. In total, including the allocation from the DfT, £30.3million was spent on Integrated Transport improvements in Leeds and £63.5million was spent on maintenance work.
- 3.9 In addition, funding was also provided from the DfT for advanced works for the Supertram scheme, the Inner Ring Road Stage 7 and East Leeds Link Road.

Targets

- 3.10 Good progress has been made towards delivering both the core and local targets which were set for LTP1; 68% of the targets have been achieved or are on track.

Road safety

- 3.11 Excellent progress has been made in reducing the numbers of children killed or seriously injured (KSI) in West Yorkshire. 133 children were KSI across West Yorkshire in 2005/06 (including 39 in Leeds) which equates to a 51% reduction since the base year of 1994/1998 exceeding both the LTP target of a 25% reduction by 2005/06 and the national target for a 50% reduction by 2010. Performance in this area reflects a continuing commitment by the district authorities in West Yorkshire to improving safety. This commitment is reflected in the setting of a stretched target in the second LTP for a 40% reduction for child KSI casualties by 2010, against the 2002/04 average.
- 3.12 Significant progress has been made in reducing the number of people KSI. The number of people KSI in West Yorkshire has fallen by 27% since the 1994/98 base year, and has fallen by 36.5% in Leeds, exceeding the target level for West Yorkshire of a 20% reduction.
- 3.13 The casualty rate for slight injuries has also been met with a reduction of 24% across West Yorkshire and a reduction of 28% in Leeds, against the target level. This is significantly below the 5% target level set for 2005.

Public transport

- 3.14 Improving rail patronage has contributed significantly to the overall increase in public transport patronage in West Yorkshire. Rail passenger numbers have increased by 43% since 1999/00 exceeding the target of 25%. Over 23 million rail passenger journeys per year are now made in West Yorkshire, an increase of 7 million since 1999/00; approximately 18,000 people arrive into Leeds by rail in the morning peak, reflecting on-going investment in public transport in West Yorkshire.

Rural accessibility

- 3.15 Modelling information shows that 98% of rural households in West Yorkshire are within 800m or a 13 minute walk of an hourly or more frequent bus service. This exceeds the target level of 90% set last year.

Air quality

- 3.16 Annual air quality targets, relating to NO₂ have been reached in the main district centres of Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds and Wakefield indicating improved air quality across West Yorkshire.

Walking and cycling

- 3.17 The decline in the number of cyclists recorded across West Yorkshire has been halted with the level of cycling activity stabilised during the last 2 years of the LTP1 period. This reflects the level of investment in cycle infrastructure, promotion and training delivered by the district authorities during LTP1.

- 3.18 The aim to ensure that long term walking trips do not decline has been achieved. Between 1998 and 2006 morning peak walking levels into the five main urban centres across West Yorkshire grew by 33%, and by over 75% into Leeds city centre.

Traffic growth

- 3.19 Targets to reduce morning peak hour traffic growth to the major centres have been achieved in four of the five centres. In Leeds the challenging target of no increase in peak hour traffic has been attained in spite of continuing strong economic growth.

- 3.20 Average weekday traffic volumes across West Yorkshire have grown by only 3% since 1999 which is significantly below the target 5% growth during the LTP1 period.

Road condition

- 3.21 Good progress has been made on improving the condition of the roads in West Yorkshire. The required standards have been reached for road condition for principal roads and for footways. Progress has also been made on non-principal roads although the required standards have not been met. Progress on all maintenance targets has been recorded in the final delivery report as 'no clear evidence' following changes in the way that the data is collected.

- 3.22 Authorities have however been able to keep pace with the continuous deterioration of the network as a result of normal traffic use, weather degradation and the impact of utility reinstatements. There is strong evidence that the rate of repair is now exceeding the rate of deterioration with a resulting net improvement in the condition of the network.

- 3.23 There are two indicators which are not on track for West Yorkshire (bus patronage and cycling trips) as detailed below:

Bus patronage

- 3.24 The target for bus patronage growth in West Yorkshire was for total patronage to grow by 5% by 2006/07 from a 1999/00 base.

- 3.25 Prior to LTP1 there had been a long term decline in bus patronage of between 2% to 3% per annum in West Yorkshire, broadly in line with the national trend for reduced bus use outside of London. At the time of setting the target there was evidence that investment in public transport, for example bus stations, Quality Bus Corridor schemes and new buses, was starting to have a positive impact on bus patronage. Accordingly, in consultation with bus operators, a 3% patronage growth target was set.
- 3.26 Bus patronage rose by 2.1.% during the first three years of the LTP. As the target appeared to be achievable it was decided, in consultation with operators, to stretch the target to a 5% increase by the end of LTP1. Bus patronage then fell in both 2003/4 and 2004/05 and again this year to 2.4% below the base.
- 3.27 The reasons for the decline include poor reliability at certain periods and above inflation fare increases as a result of the cost of fuel, labour and insurance. Nevertheless bus patronage has increased in some parts of West Yorkshire, including Leeds where the East Leeds Quality Bus Initiative saw patronage increase by 2.5% during 2004/5.

Cycling trips

- 3.28 The target for cycling trips in West Yorkshire was to double the number of trips between 1996 and 2006 and to double it again by 2010.
- 3.29 The large decline experienced in the early part of LTP1 appears to be at an end and monitoring from 160 on-road sites across West Yorkshire, including 62 in Leeds, clearly shows a levelling out of cycle levels. Additionally, a number of on-road urban count sites close to Leeds city centre have shown an increase in cyclists between 1994 and 2004 over and above the general trend across West Yorkshire.

4 CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 Excellent progress has been made in delivering the strategies and programmes presented in LTP1. This report includes some of the key achievements in Leeds over this period.
- 4.2 Expenditure on Integrated Transport improvements and maintenance has been above the amount allocated by the DfT.
- 4.3 Achievement of targets is generally good and the delivery report sets out in full the reasons why some targets were not achieved.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Members of the Scrutiny Board (Development) are requested to note the contents of this report.

6 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 6.1 A copy of the final delivery report will be placed in the Group offices and a summary document is currently available.

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 12th September 2006

Subject: Members' Questions

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Chair has requested that an opportunity be given to Members at this meeting to ask questions of the Director of Development who chairs the officer City Development Corporate Priority Board. The Corporate Priority Board matches this Scrutiny Board's portfolio.
- 1.2 This session provides Members with an opportunity to discuss for example current issues relating to the delivery of the strategic outcomes in the Corporate Plan.
- 1.3 The Director of Development will attend the meeting to answer Members questions which should be given in advance of the meeting today.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Board identifies any issues for further scrutiny arising from the Members' questions session.

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Originator: Nicole Brock /
Catherine Hall
Tel: 247 4725

Report of the Chief Executive's Department

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 12 September 2006

Subject: Inquiry into Leeds City Region

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

- Ethnic minorities
- Women
- Disabled people
- Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 During the 2005-6 municipal year, Scrutiny Board (City Development) undertook an inquiry into the development of the Leeds City Region as an appropriate mechanism for furthering the economy of the area, and the implications of this work for the delivery of the council's corporate plan outcome; "Leeds as a highly competitive, international city".
- 1.2 Scrutiny Board was presented with information from a range of witnesses over four separate sessions. The Board is now planning to review the evidence and reach some recommendations.
- 1.3 The concept of how city regions as functional economic spaces might be better harnessed remains a live issue, especially in the run up to the Local Government White Paper and to the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. This report therefore presents some of the latest developments relevant to both the Leeds City Region and to the issue nationally.

2.0 Local Developments

2.1 The Leeds Business Case

At the last Scrutiny meeting when this topic was on the agenda, the Leeds Business Case submission to Rt Hon David Miliband MP (and subsequently Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP) was discussed including the elements within that document relevant to the Leeds city region. Members may recall that the Leeds Business Case put

forward a limited number of proposals designed to enhance the competitiveness of Leeds and the city region. A delegation from Leeds and the city region presented the Business Case to Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP on July 17 2006. Transport Minister Gillian Merron MP also attended that meeting. During the meeting, the questions posed by the Ministers and civil servants focused heavily around appropriate mechanisms including enhanced accountability to develop effective city region working, either through existing arrangements or by developing new governance mechanisms. A number of developments flowed from that meeting including: a commitment from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) civil servants to engage in a dialogue with Leeds officers on specific issues raised concerning the city's mixed communities proposals; a desire to develop discussions on the transport proposals involving the Department of Transport and a desire to engage on city region governance proposals. Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP has written to Leeds and our city region partners outlining a number of questions which she would like to see explored by September 2006. (see attached appendix 2).

Most of the other Core cities have also now made their presentations to the Secretary of State.

2.2 Leeds City Region Development Programme

In the meantime, Leeds City Region partners are working on a second iteration of the City Region Development Programme (CRDP) which seeks to inform Government's thinking on the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. The Programme will be launched both locally and also at a parliamentary event in Westminster in November 2006. Within the Programme there is a particular emphasis on a 20 year Vision for Transport across the Leeds City Region. The report also highlights a number of specific proposals aimed at accelerating economic growth in the city region. One specific example is the European Spallation Source project proposed for Burn Airfield at Selby where a Yorkshire Forward / White Rose University Consortium partnership is bidding to host the European Spallation Source (ESS) – a £1 billion neutron scattering research facility, which would be the most powerful such facility in the world. Several other European countries are currently bidding to host this prestigious facility, including Germany, Hungary and a Scandinavian consortium.

Priorities in the City Region Development Programme have been informed by a number of detailed empirical research studies looking at facets of the Leeds City Region economy. These include research on the role of the financial and business services sector and how this sector can be better supported and the city region's residential offer and how this relates to its economic growth trajectory.

2.3 Developments on the Worklessness and Skills agenda

As part of the recent Welfare Reform white paper, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) established a City Strategy programme. The programme provides financial and procedural support to link local providers and partners into a consortium dedicated to tackling worklessness and developing solutions to the specific barriers that prevent people accessing the labour market.

In May 2006, the Government invited the Core Cities (who had already started some ground work via their business case submissions) together with those towns and cities ranked highest in the worklessness data set of the Index of Deprivation to

submit expressions of interest in becoming a City Strategy pilot. The focus of the initiative is on individuals who are farthest from the support available from the welfare state (such as Incapacity Benefit Claimants, Older Workers and Black and Minority Ethnic Communities) and to ensure that access to support is streamlined for individuals. Consortia were also asked to ensure that provision available meets the needs of local employers and develops clearer routes from training and skills development to the workplace.

Given the timescale set for submission and the relative immaturity of the city region partnership, it was not feasible to develop a city region consortia bid. Leeds submitted an expression of interest, as did Bradford, but neither were successful. Feedback has been received from DWP and it is noted in the Secretary of State's letter (see appendix 2 below) that support can be made available to further our proposals. Both of these indicate the potential for bidding in future rounds of the City Strategy programme when they become available.

2.4 Transport agenda

A 20 Year Vision for Transport in the City Region is being developed, led by WYPTE. There is a need to identify transport schemes of city region significance to underpin the economic growth objectives of the City Region Development Programme. This Transport Vision for the Leeds City Region will be used to influence strategic economic, land use and transport planning decisions.

A city region bid was submitted in late July 2006 to the Department of Transport for Transport Innovation Fund (TIF) pump prime funding to develop a better understanding of the current and future impacts of transport congestion on economic performance. This congestion strand of TIF funding is intended to support local authorities investigating innovative proposals that include the enhancement of public transport as well as demand management measures.

The bid has been developed with the support of a city region 'Congestion partnership' of local authorities across the city region as well as representatives from the private sector and Yorkshire Forward. The bid has been submitted by WYPTE on behalf of all city region authorities, they would act as the accountable body for DfT funding. A decision on this round of pump priming grants is expected in late autumn 2006.

3.0 Developments on the city region policy agenda nationally

Since the June 2006 Scrutiny Board meeting, there has been a significant acceleration in the pace of debate and discussion on city regions. This has been fuelled both by a series of ministerial speeches and press briefings on the subject and also via the publication of further policy papers exploring the issue. Some of the press reporting of this issue has not been wholly accurate. Clearly this debate is building momentum prior to the publication of the Local Government White paper which is now anticipated in autumn this year and the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 (with related reports including the Lyons Inquiry and Eddington Transport study expecting to be published later this year). The detail in appendix 1 summarises the most significant of those recent developments.

4.0 Recommendations

- 4.1 That the Board supports the city region approach as the functionally coherent unit for developing interventions aimed at achieving enhanced economic growth. This particularly relates to interventions around transport connectivity; economic development (including innovation); skills and housing / building sustainable communities (i.e. places where people choose to live) where city region working can bring real added value.
- 4.2 That the Board endorses Leeds City Council's contribution to the broader city region partnership and to its efforts to enhance overall economic performance.
- 4.3 That the Board endorses the view that other regional and national public bodies, government agencies and departments with a remit to promote economic growth, improve transport connectivity, improve skills levels etc, should seek to align their strategy and delivery plans to the city region.
- 4.4 That the Board recognises that developing a city region strategy and policy in all areas will proceed at different rates dependent on the level of existing understanding, so for example transport thinking at a city region level is well advanced and moving forward, whereas a distinct city region skills offer is less well developed.

Appendix 1. Developments on the city region policy agenda nationally

Appendix 2. Letter from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Appendix 1

Developments on the city region policy agenda nationally

1. Core Cities

The Core Cities group made the issue of city regions a key element of its policy summit held in Bristol in late June, Ruth Kelly and John Healey both gave speeches to that event which are reported below. Each of the Core Cities has been building its own city region partnerships by consensus and none of them advocates an elected mayor solution to enhanced accountability and leadership across their city region. The group will be undertaking further work over the summer examining effective international models for city region governance other than mayors.

In addition the group is planning to produce a 'Manifesto' by September which will serve to express the collective views of Core Cities on a range of economic policy issues in advance of the CSR 2007.

2. Ministerial Comments

Ruth Kelly

As the minister responsible for agreeing the White paper Ruth Kelly's views are clearly pivotal. She has given a number of speeches alluding to her approach to increased devolution of functions from government to city regions.

Her speech to the Core Cities summit was of particular relevance and worthy of reading in full, however the following abstracts indicate the thrust of her argument;

"... getting governance over the right spatial area is essential. Many of these challenges cut across local authority areas, suggesting that some key decisions need to be taken across the city-region. Indeed empirical research across EU cities suggests that a better fit between administrative boundaries and the real, underlying economic geography, strengthens economic performance across the city-region. This isn't about turf wars or power grabs. It is about creating new ways of addressing economic inter-dependence."

"...in Yorkshire, the growth of Leeds as a financial and services centre has created jobs and fostered opportunity for a wide catchment area across the whole of West Yorkshire and beyond. This does not mean that Leeds is the only employment centre in the sub-region, nor that Leeds should be the only focus of our efforts: Wakefield, Halifax, Huddersfield and other places are all important in their own right. But it does mean that each of these smaller cities and towns, needs a distinctive economic strategy that helps it to contribute to, and complement, the growth pole of Leeds. We need our cities and towns to be both competitors and collaborators: to strive to excel individually in economic performance and in quality of life but also to recognise shared opportunities, put aside parochial concerns and maximise joint advantage."

...we need to ensure that leadership and accountability arrangements are commensurate with the powers on offer. I have no fixed blueprint here but I'm absolutely clear that if I'm to make the case in Whitehall for more devolution then I need to be able to explain in clear and simple terms to whom we will be devolving and how this will make sense to the citizen in the street.

If you want to help me win the case for devolution to cities then let's work together on governance arrangements that provide a clear mandate to take tough decisions across a city or a wider metropolitan area. Nothing less will equip our cities for the ever more competitive and globalised world of the decades to come."

At a speech to the International Mayors and City Leaders forum later that same week the Secretary of State spoke of the challenges of city leadership and tackling the international challenges of economic transformation, social inclusion, climate change and city investment.

".....this Forum is happening at an appropriate time for us, not only to listen to the experiences and expert advice of others, but to consider how we might take forward our policies on these key issues in the UK, on city leadership, on addressing the differences between cities and identifying those areas we can really learn from.

We are on the cusp of taking the crucial decisions for the next steps in devolution. We want to empower our cities and to engage our citizens.

And I want to draw on the best international expertise in making these decisions."

Phil Woolas

DCLG Minister of State for Local Government Phil Woolas giving a long interview in early August to the Birmingham Post was reported to have made a strong (but not exclusive) case for city region mayors. The press attributed the following comments to him:

"We will be saying to all the cities - but obviously the core cities are the main ones - if you want more powers, where is the leadership? Where is the accountability?"

"The difference is this - is your council leader the leader of the council? Or the leader of the city? With Ken Livingstone, there is no doubt. He is the leader of London."

The White Paper would propose a major relocation of powers from Whitehall to local councils, the Minister promised.

"It is going to be much more radical than the debate at the moment realises. I don't think most council leaders realise how radical we will be. "We are not talking about strong leadership for nothing."

John Healey

At the Core Cities Summit, John Healey Financial Secretary of the Treasury spoke on regionalism and localism in Treasury economic policy, highlighting the continuing disparities in economic performance across the UK and the challenges which CSR 2007 will present.

"Beyond this continuing drive to raise levels of productivity and regional growth, the Government's big policy task in the next decade is to come to terms with the long-term policy challenges of the:

- *expanding global economy with rapidly emerging new economies and competitive pressures;*
- *accelerating pace of technology change and diffusion;*
- *intensifying scarcity of national resources and threat of climate change;*
- *increasing insecurity in face of international crime and terrorism; and*
- *rapidly changing demography of our own country.*

And in the Comprehensive Spending Review - the CSR - as we assess the implications of these trends and the contribution to the economy of new policies on skills, transport, planning, housing, employment, better regulation, science and innovation we will need to consider in each policy area, the case for further decentralisation of decision-making.

But whether this may be to region, city or local level, proposals backed by evidence must meet the central policy test: Will this improve employment, economic performance and growth? And will it do so cost effectively?"

He discussed the appropriate spatial level for action to be taken:

"But in developing a stronger economic role for our local authorities, it is important to recognise, as this conference has, that economic spheres are rarely consistent with council boundaries.

Labour markets, commuting patterns, transport networks, housing markets, or retail catchments do not respect the administrative boundaries of local government and local authority strategies must reflect these economic realities.

It means that the regional and sub-regional economic context is important, as are the relations with RDAs in particular.

There is no principled or pragmatic choice between either regions or cities and local councils.

Rather there must be close co-operation and consistency on economic strategies and activities between the leading agencies at regional, city regional levels, and central government must support such collaboration."

John Healey spoke positively of the impact of RDAs to economic success and warned:

“If we weaken the role of RDAs, or simply carve out city regions from the regional economic strategy, then cities - and in particular the smaller cities and towns - would be the losers.”

John Healey’s views and those of fellow Treasury minister Economic Minister Ed Balls, were further developed in a paper published by the New Local Government Network in July entitled ***Evolution and Devolution in England: how regions strengthen our towns and cities***.

The paper argues for greater devolution to the regions and local government, and greater collaboration within city regions without imposing fixed models or new governance structures on towns and cities. Other suggestions include: new powers and flexibilities for local government and RDAs; caution on city-region governance models and scepticism about imposing sub-regional mayoral arrangements where they do not fit local identities; new regional select committee style bodies in Parliament; and a monthly Question Time in Parliament to discuss issues relating to each region in England.

The views were quite specific in seeking to defend the continued role of regional development agencies in economic policy for cities and city regions.

The paper also included some views on city region mayors using Leeds City Region as an example:

“Many people think of themselves as ‘Londoners’ before they see themselves as residents of Camden or Vauxhall. Whereas in West Yorkshire, residents are most certainly from Leeds or Wakefield or Bradford before they call themselves a ‘Leeds – city – regioner’. In our view the success of the elected London Mayor cannot be easily replicated within the English Regions or imposed on city regions.”

3. LGA Local Transport discussion paper

This report, commissioned by the Local Government Association and written by Tony Travers and Stephen Glaister, puts forward the authors’ views about ways in which the governance and funding of transport could be reformed.

This report is set in the context of recent debates about the future of local government, transport, city regions and funding. The report recommends building on existing institutions and mechanisms with a view to allowing the greatest amount of reform with the minimum of reorganisation and upheaval.

It highlights the existing role, legitimacy and democratic accountability of passenger transport authorities and explores the possibility of developing more powerful and accountable city region transport authorities taking greater control (from central government) over local bus and rail services and possibly extending their powers to include major roads and other elements of planning and regeneration. The authors suggest such bodies could be given greater fiscal freedoms to raise revenue and borrow against fares income.

4. Other studies

In the last quarter two significant pieces of work on other city regions have been produced. Firstly a series of essays looking at the economic importance of cities and city regions in the North West has been published by the North West Regional Development Agency and the IPPR Centre for Cities as ***Cities Northwest***. This publication includes contributions from both Liverpool and Manchester.

A substantial study has been published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on the North East of England. Entitled ***Building a Competitive City-Region: the Case of Newcastle in the North East***, this major international study, the first of its kind in the UK considered the prospects and potential of the city region economy. In terms of future governance arrangements it commented on the weak and fragmented governance arrangements across the region and suggested that consolidating the governance functions

of local authorities and governance capacity at city region level would be beneficial, suggesting a city region mayor as a possible governance solution.

The Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP
*Secretary of State for Communities and
Local Government*

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31 July 2006

Cllr Andrew Carter
Joint Leader of Leeds City Council
Cllr Mark Harris
Joint Leader of Leeds City Council
2nd Floor East Civic Hall
LEEDS LS1 1UR

Dear Cllrs Carter and Harris

I am writing to you both on behalf of the wider Leeds City Region group as part of thanking everyone for the preparations which aided the presentation of your business case for the Leeds City Region in London on Monday 17 July. Thank you also for the letter from all 11 Local Authority Leaders expressing their commitment to work with DCLG and engage positively with the city-region agenda.

My Ministerial colleague, Gillian Merron and I found it extremely helpful to hear directly from all of you about how you envisage building upon the tremendous assets that Leeds city-region has by continuing with the partnerships formed over developing the business case. You certainly conveyed well the success of Leeds, the scale of its assets and the important role Leeds city-region plays as a regional and national economic driver.

As I said at the Core Cities Summit in Bristol the other week, we are all facing an economic imperative more now than ever, and this means that we all must think creatively about how best to enable our cities to compete effectively in the face of increasing globalisation. I know you are alive to this issue, and have been giving considerable thought to those measures and issues which need to be addressed if we are to succeed. I, too, have been having discussions with Ministerial colleagues in DCLG and in other Departments, and we will be further working up policies and propositions ahead of the White Paper.

As I have also indicated, there are a number of issues which are key to successful cities: creating and maintaining economic opportunities, often through making tough decisions; harnessing and working closely in partnerships with the private sector; and strong city and city-region leadership. In particular I am keen to see appropriate governance arrangements in place - ones that are at the right spatial level and that have a better fit between administrative boundaries and underlying economic geography. This means allying strong city-region leadership with shared strategic regional priorities, and in this regard it is important that you work closely with the RDAs, who of course have a central role.

With this in mind and following your presentation, my department now needs to work closely with you to consider a phased approach to delivery along the principles I have set out above. Therefore could you please clarify for me some issues that arose from your presentation:-

- a) On economic growth, it was clear from the presentation that Leeds city-region covers a huge area and competes well economically alongside Manchester and Birmingham. It was very good to hear about the success of the Leeds economy, despite a shrinkage in its traditional manufacturing base, by capitalising on the knowledge economy with its growing Financial and Business Services. You estimated that the economic growth for Leeds city-region would show GVA at £59bn by 2016 and additional 65,000 jobs over the next 10 years - and that you had turned around the city in 15 years by working closely with the private sector. What will working at city-region level add in addition to the overall process of economic growth?
- b) On transport and governance, there is a strong emphasis in your proposals for transport on the need for increased financial flexibility and greater local discretion on spending. This raises important questions around governance and accountability which you said you need to give further consideration to: how in practice and by whom decisions on priorities would be reached for so large and diverse a city region; who will be accountable for decisions and for their delivery through the range of responsible authorities; how would the proposal for WYPTE to take a greater responsibility work? DfT colleagues and I have been discussing the issues arising from the business cases and will continue to do so. I would encourage you to continue to develop proposals which could improve on the existing practices, ensuring improved links between deprived and economic areas and we would like to know how your thinking on this develops. Also, what would be different about a city region local transport plan overview and city region level investment programme compared with working through existing programmes and stronger partnership working across local authority boundaries and at the regional level? Over the coming months DfT Ministers will be looking at what works and what does not in delivering bus services to identify the right framework and will make decisions in the autumn. Your perspective, including through the Business Case work, are useful inputs.
- c) On housing and planning, unfortunately there was no time to discuss this area in depth. However, please feel free to raise these with GO officials as you made me aware there were issues we could indeed pursue further.
- d) I would also like to understand how you see the proposals and governance arrangements in your business case having an impact on socio-economic deprivation.
- e) As you may be aware, I am keen to ensure that economic development and sustainable development go hand-in-hand. I would be interested in your view as to how your business case helps to achieve this.


- f) On skills, unfortunately you were not successful in being selected as a pathfinder area for DWP's consortia. However, you have already done a lot of work on the employment and skills proposals in your business case and I urge you to continue working with my officials in developing these further. This may also help in preparing for any subsequent invitations from DWP to develop a consortium.

You and I both recognise the importance of getting this right so I have asked my officials to work closely with you in developing your proposals further, and they stand ready to meet again over the summer if that would be helpful (and not just on those matters mentioned above). It would be helpful to me if you were able to respond on the particular points raised above, by 18 September if at all possible. Please feel free to reply directly to my officials if that would be easier – either Jessica Matthew (020 7944 6705) or Chris Stendall (020 7944 3928) at floor 4/G10, here in Eland House.

I look forward to hearing from you and considering your further thoughts as we continue to work on preparation of the Local Government White Paper. I am copying this to all Leaders and Chief Executives in those local authorities that are partners in your city-region business case, and to the RDA Chief Executive; and you will no doubt want to copy it to other partners.

I am writing similarly to all of the Core Cities, and copying letters to the Government Office, DCMS, DEFRA, DfES, DfT, DTI, DWP and HMT.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Kelly', written in a cursive style.

RUTH KELLY

Copies sent to:

Mr Phil Coppard, Chief Executive, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

Cllr Stephen Houghton CBE, Leader of the Council, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr David Kennedy, Chief Executive, Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Cllr Kristan Hopkins, Leader of the Council, Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Mr Paul Sheehan, Chief Executive, Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Cllr Ann McAllister, Leader of the Council, Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Ms Gill Dixon, Chief Executive, Craven District Council

Cllr Carl H Lis, Leader of the Council, Craven District Council

Mr Mick Walsh, Chief Executive, Harrogate Borough Council

Cllr Michael Gardner, Leader of the Council, Harrogate Borough Council

Mr Rob Vincent, Chief Executive, Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council

Cllr Robert Light, Leader of the Council, Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council

Mr Paul Rogerson, Chief Executive, Leeds City Council

Mr Martin Connor, Chief Executive, Selby District Council

Cllr Mark Crane, Leader of the Council, Selby District Council

Mr John E Foster, Chief Executive, Wakefield City Council

Cllr Peter Box, Leader of the Council, Wakefield City Council

Mr David Atkinson, Chief Executive, York City Council

Cllr Stephen Galloway, Leader of the Council, York City Council

Rt Hon Tessa Jowell MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Department for Culture Media & Sport

Rt Hon Alan Johnson MP, Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Department for Education and Skills

Rt Hon David Miliband MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Rt Hon Douglas Alexander MP, Secretary of State for Transport, Department for Transport

Rt Hon John Hutton MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Department for Work and Pensions

Rt Hon Alistair Darling MP, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Department of Trade and Industry

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, HM Treasury

Mr Tom Riordan, Chief Executive, Yorkshire Forward

Ms Felicity Everiss, Regional Director, Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber

Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Development)

Date: 12th September 2006

Subject: Work Programme

Electoral Wards Affected: All

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Board's current Work Programme for 2006/2007 is attached as appendix 1 and incorporates the decisions made at the last Board meeting.
- 1.2 This work programme is based on the Board receiving initial reports only. If the Board determines to undertake an inquiry on a particular issue as a consequence of receiving an initial report it would necessitate amending the work programme and reducing the number of topics to be considered. The agreed best practice is to have no more than 2 inquiries underway at any one time with the Board considering a single issue at each meeting.
- 1.3 A copy of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions is also attached as appendix 2. This is for Members reference and covers the period 1st August 2006 to 30th November 2006. It details those 'key decisions' pertaining to this Board's terms of reference.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Board is requested to:
 - (i) Consider and make any changes to the attached Work Programme following decisions made at today's meeting.
 - (ii) Receive and note the Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

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SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT) - WORK PROGRAMME

Appendix 1

This work programme is based on the Board receiving initial reports only. If the Board determines to undertake an Inquiry on a particular issue as a consequence of receiving an initial report it would necessitate amending the work programme and reducing the number of topics to be considered. The agreed best practice is to have no more than 2 inquiries underway at any one time with the Board considering a single issue at each meeting

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	DATE ENTERED INTO WORK PROGRAMME
Meeting date: 10th October 2006 - The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 21st September 2006			
Olympic Games 2012	To consider an initial report on the development and regeneration opportunities for Leeds as a consequence of the UK holding the Olympic Games in 2012	The Board on 18 th July agreed to bring this forward for consideration at this meeting	July 2006
Climate Change Strategy	<p>To receive an update on the short and medium term work being undertaken by the Water Asset Management Group in the Development Department around flooding and risk assessment in the city</p> <p>To receive a report setting out the scope and timetable for the development of a longer term assessment strategy to deal with climate change</p>	All Council departments are contributing to the development of this strategy	June 2006
Sustainable Construction Design Guide	To receive a report and have a presentation from consultants appointed by the Department to help develop a Sustainable Construction Design Guide	The Board is supportive of developing this strategy through the planning process to ensure that future construction techniques have less environmental impact	June 2006

SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT) - WORK PROGRAMME

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	DATE ENTERED INTO WORK PROGRAMME
Meeting date: 21st November 2006 -The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 2nd November 2006			
Worklessness	To consider an initial report on progress in the development of a strategic and coordinated approach to worklessness and the apparent mismatch of remit and targets set by Job Centre Plus and the Council	<p>The Board in July 2006 indicated that they wanted to include reference to the day services review looking at people on incapacity benefit and people with mental health problems and learning difficulties.</p> <p>In addition Members asked what the senior youth service is doing to encourage young people to gain qualifications to increase their chances of employment</p>	June/July 2006
Meeting date: 19th December 2006 -The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 30th November 2006			
Leeds Development Scheme Annual Monitoring Report	To receive the Leeds Development Scheme Annual Monitoring report	To consider how the department is progressing against policy objectives	June 2006
Meeting date: 23rd January 2007 - The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 4th January 2007			

SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT) - WORK PROGRAMME

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	DATE ENTERED INTO WORK PROGRAMME
Meeting date: 20th February 2007 - The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 1st February 2007			
Planning a Better Future – Planning and Development Services	To scrutinise progress on implementing the solutions agreed by the Executive Board	The Scrutiny Board (City Development) considered a report on this matter on 25 th April 2006 and agreed that progress on the solutions to the issues as outlined in the Director’s report to the Board be scrutinised at a future meeting of the Board	June 2006
Softer Transport Measures	To consider a progress report on the Leeds TravelWise Scheme which aims to promote sustainable travel through public transport and alternatives to travel by car		June 2006
Meeting date: 20th March 2007 - The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 1st March 2007			
Sustainable Construction Design Guide	To receive a progress report on the development of a Sustainable Construction Design Guide for the Department	The Board is supportive of developing this strategy through the planning process to ensure that future construction techniques have less environmental impact	June 2006
Night Time and Evening Economy	To consider a report reviewing the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impact of new licensing laws and whether partners are working effectively together • the lack of facilities for the new burgeoning residential community in the city centre 	To be discussed further with Paul Stephens in the Autumn 2006	June 2006
Meeting date: 24th April 2007 - The deadline for reports for this meeting is 10am 29th March 2007			
Parking in Town and District Centres	To consider the framework and prioritisation for introducing parking policies in our 28 town and district centres		June 2006

SCRUTINY BOARD (DEVELOPMENT) - WORK PROGRAMME

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	NOTES	DATE ENTERED INTO WORK PROGRAMME
Climate Change Strategy	To consider a progress report on the Department's submission to the Council's Working Group established to develop a climate change strategy for the Council	The initial scope and timetable for this work would be considered by the Board in October 2006. All Council departments are contributing to the development of this strategy	June 2006
Annual Report	To consider the Board's submission to the Scrutiny Boards Annual Report	In accordance with Council Procedure Rules the Overview and Scrutiny Committee co-ordinates submission of the Annual Report to Council	June 2006

Other Issues identified but not included in Work Programme

Environmental Management and Audit System (EMAS)

Consideration of the detailed budget of City Services (Consideration of the overall budget is within the remit of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee but individual Boards can look at the details if they wish)

Monitor delivery of major highways schemes-Inner Ring Road stage 7 and the East Leeds Link Road

City Centre Public Realm

Regeneration initiatives within Neighbourhoods and Housing which have an economic development aspect to them: the Lower Aire Valley and the West Leeds Gateway.

Super Casino

Marketing Leeds – Carry forward from previous Scrutiny Board

LEEDS CITY COUNCIL

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

For the period 1 August 2006 to 30 November 2006

Appendix 2

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
The former Royal Park Primary School To note the outcome of the work undertaken to investigate the viability of implementing proposals considered at November 2003 Executive Board meeting, and to seek approval for proposals in respect of marketing the property against a brief requiring the inclusion of community elements and on the premise the Council will retain long term control of the property by granting a long leasehold interest.	Executive Board	16 Aug 2006	Ward Members and Area Management Committee	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Development

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
Pudsey Bus Station - Associated Highway Works Authority to implement highway works associated with the redevelopment of Pudsey Bus Station	Executive Board	20 Sep 2006	Ward Members have been presented with the redevelopment proposals and are in support. A public exhibition was held in July 2005. Consultation with METRO is ongoing. Consultation with key stakeholders, emergency services and other affected bodies (specific to the highway works) will commence in February 2006	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Development
Leeds City Council's Shareholding in Leeds Bradford International Airport Leeds City Council to participate in a majority or outright disposal of it's shares in the Leeds Bradford Airport Company	Executive Board	20 Sep 2006		The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Development

Key Decisions	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Documents to be Considered by Decision Maker	Lead Officer (To whom representations should be made)
Leeds Local Development Framework and Leeds UDP Review - City Centre Action Plan (DPD, Stage 2C & D)	Executive Board	20 Sep 2006	Development Department and CMT as appropriate	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Development
Otley Heavy Goods Vehicle Traffic To seek approval for proposals for HGV management in the Otley area	Executive Board	20 Sep 2006	Neighbouring Local Authorities	The report to be issued to the decision maker with the agenda for the meeting	Director of Development

NOTES

Key decisions are those executive decisions:

- which result in the authority incurring expenditure or making savings over £500,000 per annum, or
- are likely to have a significant effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards

Executive Board Portfolios

Central and Corporate

Development

City Services

Neighbourhoods and Housing

Leisure

Children's Services (Support)

Children's Services (Lead)

Social Care and Health

Leader of the Green Group

Leader of the Labour Group

Advisory Member

Executive Member

Councillor Mark Harris

Councillor Andrew Carter

Councillor Steve Smith

Councillor John Leslie Carter

Councillor John Procter

Councillor Richard Harker

Councillor R Brett

Councillor Peter Harrand

Councillor David Blackburn

Councillor Keith Wakefield

Councillor Judith Blake