

**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture)**

**Date: 22nd September 2011**

**Subject: Scrutiny Board Inquiry Draft Terms of Reference – Inquiry into how developments in Leeds are bringing skills, training and jobs to local people.**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**1. Summary of Main Issues**

1.1 In 2008 the All Party Urban Development Group (a cross party parliamentary body of MPs and Peers) published its report, *Building Local Jobs ensuring local communities gain employment from regeneration*. This report concluded that there were five factors that can help link regeneration to employment opportunities for local people:

- using section 106 planning agreements to secure commitment to local employment objectives;
- building partnerships between local authorities, employment agencies, further education and employers at the pre-development stage;
- forecasting all possible employment opportunities during planning, construction and post-development phases;
- using targeted employment strategies to link training to employer demand; and
- ensuring that regeneration leaves a positive employment legacy by creating long term opportunities, jobs with career prospects, and ongoing support for employees.

1.2 At its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011, the Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board discussed the employment and training opportunities the many developments taking place in the City could provide the people of Leeds. As a result of these

discussions the Board agreed to undertake an Inquiry into how the City Council, either as a developer, enabler or purchaser could promote, influence and create local employment and promote training opportunities. The Board also wanted to explore how the obstacles to linking local people to development jobs, such as, the cost of training and procurement law and practice could be removed.

1.3 Members of the Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board are now asked to consider the proposed terms of reference for an Inquiry into how the City Council can maximise its existing powers to promote, influence and create local employment and training opportunities around major development projects and the purchasing of services.

1.4 Guidance has been sought from the Chief Officer for Employment and Skills and the Chief Economic Development Officer in order to recommend specific areas of focus for the inquiry.

1.5 In line with Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 12.3 the views of the relevant Director and Executive Members have been sought. Any views expressed will be communicated to the Board by the Principal Scrutiny Advisor.

## **2. Scope and time table for the Inquiry**

2.1 The Inquiry is structured as follows:

### Session One – October

#### Intelligence

- Understanding what we currently do
- How we identify and maximise employment and training opportunities and the role and interplay of different City Council Directorates, employment agencies, further education and employers at the pre-development stage;
- How the City Council and education establishments link training/learning to employer demand

### Session Two - December

#### Available Tools to provide or encourage employment

- Understanding the variety of tools available to encourage employment and training and the need for matching the appropriate tools to the appropriate situation.
- The use of section 106 planning agreements
- Exploring how the City Council's Procurement policies and practices could positively encourage local employment opportunities
- The use of the City Council's own assets in securing employment opportunities
- Understanding the legal constraints

## Session Three - January

### Sustainable employment

- How we ensure that regeneration leaves a positive employment legacy by creating long term opportunities and jobs with career prospects.
- The role of the private sector and education sector

### Observations, conclusions and recommendations

- To discuss the Board's observations, conclusions and recommendations

## **3.0 Submission of Evidence**

3.1 There is a range of available approaches to evidence gathering which the Board could seek to adopt as part of the scrutiny inquiry process. Approaches include:

- Submission of documentation and reports
- Discussion with key stakeholders
- Visits to selected establishments, as appropriate, to engage with service users and staff
- Visits to and/or discussions with other organisations identified as delivering best practice, as appropriate

## **4 Witnesses**

4.1 The following witnesses have been identified as possible contributors to the Inquiry:

- Officers from the City Development Directorate and Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate
- Officers from Procurement
- Councillor Richard Lewis – Executive Member - Development and Economy
- Councillor Peter Gruen – Executive Member – Neighbourhoods, Housing and Regeneration
- Representative from the Sustainable Economy and Culture Partnership Board
- Representatives from the Further Education Sector and other learning providers
- Representative from the Chamber Skills Board

## **5. Post Inquiry Report Monitoring Arrangements**

5.1 Following the completion of the Scrutiny inquiry and the publication of the final inquiry report and recommendations, the implementation of the agreed recommendations will be monitored by the Sustainable Economy and Culture Board (or its successor) or a specific working group as stipulated by the board.

5.2 The final inquiry report will include information on the detailed arrangements for how the implementation of recommendations will be monitored.

## **6. Measures of Success**

6.1 It is important to consider how the Scrutiny Board will deem if their inquiry has been successful in making a difference to local people. Some measures of success may be obvious at the initial stages of an inquiry and can be included in these terms of reference. Other measures of success may become apparent as the inquiry progresses and discussions take place.

## **7. Recommendations**

The Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board is recommended to:

7.1 Note the information contained within this report, make further recommendation to update the terms of reference where necessary and agree the terms of reference for the inquiry.

7.2 Note that the terms of reference may incorporate additional information during the inquiry should the Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board identify any further scope for inquiry.

## **8. Background Papers**

None