

## **Economic Regeneration**

When councillors and officers were asked for their views on what should be the subject of scrutiny review over the course of the year, the category with the most suggestions was Economic Regeneration.

As a result the Overview and Scrutiny Board requested the Mayor to provide a briefing note which addressed issues around his Economic Strategy and this was discussed (with the Mayor and representatives of the Torbay Development Agency) at the meeting of the Board held on 12 September 2012.

In accordance with its Work Programme, the Board are now requesting a further briefing note addressing the following points:

### **Revised Economic Strategy**

At the meeting of the Board on 12 September, the Mayor said that he had requested that the current Economic Strategy be revised and that consideration of the revised Strategy was due at the meeting of the Council in December 2012. The Board asked that it be given the opportunity to critically engage with the consultation process on the emerging Economic Strategy.

- What is the current position in relation to revising the Economic Strategy?
- When will the consultation take place?
- When will it be considered by the Council?

### **South Devon Link Road**

South Devon Link Road will bring many benefits in relation to economic growth. The Road will provide improved access, attract increased investment into the area and improve employment prospects. It is estimated that 7,960 new jobs will be created as a result of improving the road network with 3,500 based in Torbay.

- How are we planning now to ensure that Torbay realises the benefits of the South Devon Link Road from Day 1?
- How will 3,500 jobs be created in Torbay?
- How will the emerging Economic Strategy recognise that the Road will provide opportunity for inward and outward migration with the subsequent need for all possible means to be used to ensure that skills can be maintained and enhanced in Torbay?

## **Coastal Communities Fund**

The Coastal Communities Fund has been established by the Department for Communities and Local Government to “help coastal towns and villages provide training and employment opportunities”.

On 11 February 2013, it was announced that Torbay had been allocated £1,385,656 to support the development of start-up and home-based businesses, social enterprises, an apprenticeship scheme, and the creation of major new green tourism infrastructure in Brixham, Paignton and Torquay. The project will create 280 direct and 42 indirect jobs.

- How will this programme be delivered in Torbay? Is match funding required?
- What will be the outcomes of the programme in Torbay?
- How will the jobs be created? How will we ensure that those jobs are sustained?
- How will success be measured?

## **EU Transition Zone Funding**

There are indications that Devon (including Torbay and Plymouth) will receive EU Transition Zone funding over the next six years.

- What is the Funding and what is your understanding of the current position?
- What would the allocation of this Funding mean in Torbay?
- How are we ensuring that Torbay is in the best position to make the most of the Funding?

## **Local Enterprise Partnership**

The Heart of the South West LEP’s purpose is to lead and influence outcomes for economy of Devon, Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay by improving economic growth and job creation.

- What role will/does the LEP play in the above issues and schemes?
- How are we ensuring that Torbay’s needs are adequately reflected in the region?