

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES**

Venue: Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham.

Date: Monday, 8 January 2007

Time: 9.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Minutes of a meeting of the Tourism Panel held on 4th December, 2006. (copy attached) (Pages 1 - 4)
4. Minutes of a meeting of the Town Centre Management Group held on 4th December, 2006. (copy attached) (Pages 5 - 7)
Please note that a copy of the Action Plan is provided separately for Members.
5. Revenue, Fee Billing and Trading resources Monitoring Report for 2006/2007 (herewith) (Pages 8 - 10)
 - Finance and Accountancy Manager to report.

**TOURISM PANEL
MONDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 2006**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Boyes, Hall, Littleboy and Walker.

together with:-
Matthew Beck, Chief Executive of MAGNA

and the following officers:-

Julie Roberts	Town Centre & Markets Manager
Guy Kilminster	Manager, Libraries, Museums & Arts
Dawn Runciman	Events & Promotions
Karen Oliver	Assistant Tourism Officer

42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor I. St. John	Cabinet Member, Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure
Councillor G. Robinson	Senior Adviser, Economic and Development Services
Richard Jones	Chief Executive, South Yorkshire Destination Management Partnership
Joanne Edley	Tourism Manager
Marie Hayes	Commercial and Promotional Manager

43. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 30TH OCTOBER, 2006

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th September, 2006.

Resolved:- That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

44. MATTERS ARISING

The following issues were raised:-

- (i) South Yorkshire Destination Management Partnership

It was reported that there had been two useful meetings, one of which had been to visit the newly refurbished Sheffield Museum.

Concern was expressed that the Chief Executive of the SYDMP could not attend today's meeting.

(ii) Recording of Visitor Numbers

The question was asked as to whether visitors e.g. staying in guest houses, through school exchanges and international link visits, sports teams/clubs etc were included in the visitor numbers.

It was reported that these were difficult to collect. However, they would be taken account of in the economic impact study.

It was pointed out that although Magna collected visitor numbers, it was not possible to identify how many visitors were from Rotherham.

45. ROTHERHAM TOWN CENTRE EVENTS 2006/2007

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Events and Promotions Officer, in respect of the following:-

- summary of the events included in the 2006/2007 programme
- events which had taken place in 2006
- proposed events for the remainder of 2006, mainly associated with the Christmas festivities
- factors to be considered when planning of the 2007/2008 programme

Particular reference was made to the following events:-

- Continental Market
- Big Screen
- Yorkshire Day
- Rotherham in Bloom
- Rotherham Show
- Rotherham Arts Festival and the Speigeltent
- Colourscape
- Renaissance Day
- Christmas Illuminations and Switch on Evening
- Christmas activities:- including Access to Shopping event; Real Christmas Reindeer; Santa's Grotto and festive animatronics; live festive entertainment; craft and collectables market; retail initiatives

Reference was also made to outline proposals for 2007 in respect of:-

- Rotherham's 80th anniversary as a market town
- Bollywood Oscars

It was, however, pointed out that the limited budget would mean that events had to be prioritised.

The involvement of Culture and Leisure Services, Renaissance PR and

Marketing Group and the Community and Voluntary Sector was gratefully acknowledged.

Members pointed out that events should be organised which made the most of the history of Rotherham and surrounding districts e.g. Market Charter granted by King John, Robin Hood, Ivanhoe, etc.

Concern was expressed that some Parish Councils appeared not have received the Rotherham in Bloom information.

It was reported that Magna would be holding a South Yorkshire Food Festival in November 2007, which could be linked into the market's anniversary.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That the process for determining the 2007/2008 events programme, as outlined in the report now submitted, be noted.

46. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following issues were reported:-

(i) Cooling Towers at Blackbourn - Big Arts Project

It was reported that negotiations were now taking place about the possibility of not demolishing them and for the towers to become part of a Big Arts Project. The Towers had been nominated to Channel 4 and was one of the remaining six projects being considered.

It was pointed out that, although the towers were not listed, they were of historical importance.

A request was made for a letter of support for the project.

Resolved: That the Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure be asked to consider providing a letter of support for the Project.

(ii) Rotherham Churches Tourism Initiative – Sarah Crossland

It was reported that notification had been received that the Rotherham Churches Tourism Initiative was coming to an end after 8 years at the end of December.

A new project called HERITAGE INSPIRED, which will be working with historic faith sites across South Yorkshire, was to be set up. Sarah would be Project Manager of that project from 1st January, 2007, and would welcome the opportunity to come and talk to the panel about the project and a continuing relationship with Rotherham.

Resolved:- That the Panel's thanks and best wishes be sent to Sarah, and her colleagues.

(iii) Scrutiny Review – Christmas Illuminations

Reference was made to the Call-in which gave rise to this review. It was pointed out that this began as a savings issue in respect of district trees and had been broadened out to look at the whole issue of providing Christmas lights and trees.

The following points were made:-

- the increased cost associated with the Review's recommendations
- the difficulties in obtaining local sponsorship
- competing Council priorities
- opportunity for greater community involvement

47. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Tourism Panel be held on MONDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 2007 at 2.00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Rotherham.

TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP
Monday, 4th December, 2006

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Dave Potts	Project Officer
Michelle Musgrave	Head of Neighbourhood Development
Bernadette Rushton	Assistant Town Centre Manager

38. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER, 2006

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th November, 2006.

Agreed:- That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

39. MATTERS ARISING

Review of the Function of the Group

It was reported that a comprehensive review of the other groups supporting the town centre strategy was being undertaken during January 2007. It was anticipated that a plan would be drawn together for the end of February, 2007.

40. TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN UPDATE

A copy of the updated Action Plan is attached separately.

41. TOWN CENTRE MARKETING PLAN

It was reported that there was no report from the Assistant Town Centre Manager, due to the officer being on jury service.

However, the Events and Promotions Officer provided a verbal report in respect of town centre events already held in 2006, those to be held over the Christmas period and those being considered for 2007.

The report covered the following:-

- summary of the events included in the 2006/2007 programme.
- events which had taken place in 2006
- proposed events for the remainder of 2006, mainly associated with the Christmas festivities
- factors to be considered when planning of the 2007/2008 programme.

Particular reference was made to the following events:-

- Continental Market
- Big Screen – filmed school nativities to be screened
- Yorkshire Day
- Rotherham in Bloom
- Rotherham Show
- Rotherham Arts Festival and the Speigeltent
- Colourscape
- Renaissance Day
- Christmas Illuminations and Switch on Evening
- Christmas activities:- including Access to Shopping event; Real Christmas Reindeer; Santa's Grotto and festive animatronics; live festive entertainment; craft and collectables market; retail initiatives

Reference was also made to outline proposals for 2007 in respect of:-

- Rotherham's 80th anniversary as a market town
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It was, however, pointed out that the limited budget would mean that events had to be prioritised.

The involvement of Culture and Leisure Services, Renaissance PR and Marketing Group and the Community and Voluntary Sector was gratefully acknowledged.

It was reported that Magna would be holding a South Yorkshire Food Festival in November 2007, which could be linked into the market's anniversary.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That the process for determining the 2007/2008 events programme, as outlined in the report now submitted, be noted.

42. TOWN CENTRE ACTION GROUP (CRIME)

The Town Centre and Markets Manager reported that a proposal had been put forward by South Yorkshire Police to use powers to introduce a Dispersal Order on the town centre, under Section 30 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003. This would allow the Police or Police Community Support Officers to ask any group of 2 or more people (who may be causing a nuisance in the town centre, but not sufficiently to merit them being arrested under public nuisance order) to disperse and leave the town centre.

It was proposed to put this in place immediately. The press would be notified this week.

The group welcomed this proposal.

43. DATE, TIME AND VENUE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Town Centre Management Group be held at the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham on Monday, 8th January, 2007 at 3.30 p.m. to 5.15 p.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Economic and Development Services Matters
2.	Date:	8th January 2007
3.	Title:	Revenue, Fee Billing and Trading resources monitoring report for 2006/2007
4.	Programme Area:	Economic and Development Services

5. Summary

This report advises on the performance against budget for the Economic and Development Services Programme Area Revenue, Fee Billing and Trading resources for the period – **April 2006 to end November 2006**. The Programme Area is currently forecasting to underspend it's revenue budget by £230k by the end of the financial year.

6. Recommendations

That Members note the anticipated outturn position for the Economic & Development Services Programme Area Budgets as at end November 2006.

That this report be referred to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel for information.

7. Proposals and Details

Members are asked to receive and comment upon budget monitoring reports on a monthly basis from June onwards. This report reflects financial performance against budget for the period 1st April 2006 to 30th November 2006. The attached **appendices** give a summary of the projected 2006/07 revenue position for the Programme area;

Appendix A – E&DS Summary Report.

Appendix A1 to A5 – Service Level Summary Report.

- Following the November round of budget meetings the Programme Area has identified that it is likely to achieve an underspend of £230,000 against its total net revenue budget of £17,234,000.

Rotherham Investment and Development Office

At this point in the financial year the Service is reporting a £150,000 underspend against its revenue budget. This is a consequence of the funding bid received from Transform South Yorkshire from December 2006, which will generate £150,000 worth of savings against the Service's budget in 2006/07, despite cost pressures including a shortfall on outdoor markets rental income, the overall position on the account should still realise the projected £150k saving.

Planning and Transportation

The overall position on this account is currently a projected balanced budget, however there are cost pressures on Land Charges (£106,000) and the Transportation (£131,000) budgets which are currently compensated for by excess fee income from Development Control (£271,000).

Asset Management

At this point in the financial year the Service has a projected underspend of £80,000 against its revenue budget. This is a consequence of an expected £195,000 surplus from Rotherham Construction Partnership's fee income for 2006/07 being used to off-set now confirmed pressures in respect of unbudgeted Office Accommodation costs across such areas as repairs and maintenance (£98,000), utility price increases (£76,000) and other facilities based costs (cleaning, rental payments and costs associated with opening of new Customer Services Centres) which have recently escalated. Due to the nature of costs associated with this position, service management will find it difficult to effect sufficient savings to address this level of overspend within the existing budget. Consequently a bid will be made against the Authority's capital minor works funding allocation to cover the repairs and maintenance costs, whilst a separate bid to the Authority's contingency reserve will also be made in respect of the unfunded utility price increase. The current forecast outturn position is therefore based on the assumption these bids will both be successful.

Streetpride

There are pressures in respect of the Service's car-parking budget, but these are currently being managed through savings on works budgets and design and contract management. Further to reports presented to Cabinet member on the 17th July 2006

and 16th October and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel on the 3rd November 2006 there is now a confirmed (following the Adjudicator's decision) issue in respect of contractual and litigation costs of £400,000 which have fallen payable to Ringway in respect of the Authority's ground maintenance contract. These costs are for the 2005/06 financial year. These costs cannot be contained within the existing budget due to the size of the cost pressure and so a bid against the corporate Contingency Fund to cover the immediate payment which is due by the 21st December will be made.

Business Unit

There are no significant cost pressures or savings to emerge as this point in the year.

Corporate Accounts

Vacancy Factor – A nil variance is projected at this stage in the financial year.

8. Finance

Please refer to the attached appendices for detailed financial analysis.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The projected outturn position is based on firm indications of rising cost pressures and identifiable savings. These are examined as a matter of urgency but they may have an impact on the accuracy of the currently reported position. There is a risk associated with the accuracy of the currently reported Asset Management position as it is dependent on successful bids against corporate funding sources, which at this time cannot be known with certainty.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The CPA Resources Action Plan sets out the requirement to improve the financial monitoring and reporting to Members and to maintain and improve budget monitoring and control. Programme Area spend is aligned only to Programme area and corporate priorities.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

This is the sixth budget monitoring report for the Programme area for 2006/07 and reflects the position from April 2006 to November 2006. This report has been discussed with the Executive Director, Heads of Service of Economic and Development Services and Corporate Finance.

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