

## AGENDA ITEM NO 12

### SELECT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REGENERATION – 12 JANUARY 2005

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION (ECONOMIC REGENERATION) WORKING GROUP

##### REPORT OF THE LEAD OFFICER TO THE COMMITTEE

#### 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the recommendations made to the Select Committee by the Economic Regeneration (Economic Regeneration) Working Group.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A meeting of the Economic Regeneration Working Group of this Committee was held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.
- 2.2 The purpose of the meeting was to receive a presentation on transport infrastructure and to discuss the related issues. The report presented to the Working Group has been attached for your information.
- 2.3 Arising from the presentation and the discussion on pertinent issues that followed, reference was made to a need to give consideration to highlighting the advantages of using buses as it was felt that educating people would be the greatest challenge. A member also commented that a more general study should be carried out on identifying the reason for the decline in the elderly using buses, even though they had free bus passes. The elderly may not be using buses due to the buses not being designed comfortably or it could be that they did not feel safe going out at certain times of the day. Bus passes for the elderly were off peak and this may not suit them according to their travelling needs. CENTRO had a policy whereby a bus stop was erected 200 yards from houses but it needed to be established whether there were any hills in between. It was requested that if the intention was to change the perspective of people and to get them to revert to using public transport then the people and businesses should be asked what they wanted.

#### 3.0 PROPOSALS

- 3.1 On consideration of the above matters, the Working Group resolved to recommend the Select Committee on Economic Regeneration to incorporate the comments made by the Working Group in the report on the Local Transport Plan 2 to be submitted to the Select Committee on the Environment.

4.0 FINANCE

4.1 There are no direct costs to this Committee at this juncture.

5.0 LAW

5.1 Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its statutory functions.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

6.1 This report accords with the Council's policy on equal opportunities.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 That the proposal set out in Section 3 above be approved.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.



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LEAD OFFICER TO THE SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REGENERATION

Contact Officer: Dr R Sims – Ext 5005