

PORTFOLIO:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Report of
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR
MRS MARILYN BOWMAN**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Shop Doctor

The final phase of the Shop Doctor support programme is now underway with help on offer to small retail businesses in and around Currock, Upperby and Harraby. Initial interest and take up has been encouraging and it is hoped that advice and actions recommended through this programme will help the shopkeepers in those areas to offer a better local service to their customers, and in doing so increase footfall, spend per customer and greater profit to enable them to compete with larger stores elsewhere.

Roman Gateway

As part of the Roman Gateway project, which included the successful events around the opening of the new gallery at Tullie House on 24th June, the Council have also substantially completed the new public realm works in and around the bottom end of Castle Street, and the new installations in Bitts Park and behind the Sands Centre which very firmly link the Hadrian's Wall path to the City Centre. The whole area around the Cathedral, Tullie House and Castle Street is now much more attractive to residents and visitors alike and we will now look to build on these improvements to encourage private sector owners to also invest in their businesses to further add to the commercial success of this part of the City Centre.

Local Development Framework

Work on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy is continuing and the options consultation paper is currently going through the Committee cycle and will be before Members of this Council at its September meeting. The first stage of consultation generated over 1400 comments which was an increase on the consultation response on our previous Local Plan work. Even with this

increase in responses we are keen to ensure work continues to timescale and the cross party working group of Members are actively contributing to the process to help keep it on track.

Adoption of the Highway – Crindledyke

The highway at Crindledyke Close was finally adopted by the County Council on the 20th June 2011. Formal notification is awaited at the moment but this has been outstanding for some considerable time and it has been an issue for which we have been seeking a resolution over several years.

**Councillor Mrs M Bowman
Economic Development Portfolio Holder**