

**PORTFOLIO:**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
& ENTERPRISE**

Report of  
Portfolio Holder:

**COUNCILLOR  
MRS MARILYN BOWMAN**

### **1.0 Brampton Economic Action Group**

The Growing Carlisle Local Economy Strategy calls for actions that will support access to services in Long town and Brampton.

Work is now underway on developing a local economic development plan for Brampton. A group has been formed under the banner of Brampton Economic Action Group and this is made up of representatives of Brampton Chamber of Trade, Brampton Parish Planning Group, National Farmers Union, Tourism representation, Sustainable Brampton, Brampton Community Association, Rural Women's Network and Hadrian's Wall Heritage. I represent the City Council on the group and the Rural Support Officer and Business Development Officer provide the secretariat and project management to the group.

The group has agreed a set of terms of reference. These are concerned with a "task and finish" project relating to the drawing up of an economic action plan for Brampton and to bring forward suggestions as to how the projects contained in the plan will be delivered. At this point the group will disband. The meetings of the group, which to date has met twice, are facilitated by Bill Smith, Chief Executive of the South Lakes Development Trust. Mr. Smith and his organisation have experience of developing similar plans and delivery vehicles in other towns.

Now that the Brampton group has been established attention will turn to Longtown.

### **2.0 Brampton Business Centre and Telecentre**

Brampton Business Centre and Telecentre and Cumbria Chamber of Commerce and Industry are co operating on the development and marketing of a range of courses for small businesses. The first of these is concerned with web page design for small businesses and has been over subscribed with over 30 businesses registering to date. Further courses are planned over the autumn period covering a range of business related topics.

### **3.0 Village Hall Workshop**

Following on from last year's successful Village Hall workshop, the City Council, in conjunction with Carlisle Parish Councils Association and Voluntary Action Cumbria, are holding a further workshop. It will take place on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2008, at The Rockcliffe Centre**. The workshop will run from 9.30 a.m.- 12.30 p.m. with a buffet lunch provided afterwards. The workshop will include a mix of presentations, small group discussions and case studies from other village halls in the Carlisle district. Topics will include energy efficiency in halls, licensing, fire safety and food hygiene, legal advice, book keeping, increasing lettings and funding. Places are limited to 2 representatives from each village hall.

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