



# **CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## ***Committee Report***

**Public**

**Date of Meeting:** 12 APRIL 2007

**Title:** CARLISLE RENAISSANCE: PROGRESS REPORT

**Report of:** DIRECTOR OF CARLISLE RENAISSANCE

**Report reference:** CE 20/07

### **Summary:**

The purpose of this report is to give the Members of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to consider the Carlisle Renaissance Update Report submitted to the Executive on 19 March 2007.

### **Recommendations:**

The Committee is asked to consider and comment on the report and progress on taking forward Carlisle Renaissance.

**Contact Officer:** Tom Millar

**Ext:** 7018

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None



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# REPORT TO EXECUTIVE

## PORTFOLIO AREA: PROMOTING CARLISLE

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Date of Meeting: 19 MARCH 2007

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Public

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Key Decision: No

Recorded in Forward Plan: Yes

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Inside Policy Framework

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Title: CARLISLE RENAISSANCE - PROGRESS REPORT

Report of: DIRECTOR OF CARLISLE RENAISSANCE

Report reference: CE 15/07

### Summary:

This report provides information on the progress of Carlisle Renaissance on issues associated with governance and management, the Development Framework & Movement Strategy, the Economic Strategy, Learning City and the 2007 Interim Programme.

### Recommendations:

Members are requested to: -

- a) Note the report and progress on taking forward Carlisle Renaissance

Contact Officer: Tom Millar  
Programme Manager

Ext: 7018

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers: None

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Executive Committee receives a regular quarterly progress report on Carlisle Renaissance. Following agreement with the Overview & Scrutiny Management Committee at its meeting on 28 September 2006, Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee then consider this report at its next available meeting.
- 1.2 This report provides information on the progress of Carlisle Renaissance on issues associated with governance and management, the Development Framework & Movement Strategy, the Economic Strategy, Learning City and the 2007 Interim Programme.

## **2. GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

- 2.1 Following the report to Executive on 19 February (CE 12/07) officers are working with RENEW (the Academy of Sustainable Communities for the Northwest) to prepare a workshop for members and stakeholder partners (both public and private sector) to consider leadership and delivery models for Carlisle Renaissance.
- 2.2 This workshop is scheduled to take place in April 2007 and its objectives are to: -
  - Establish a common understanding of progress to date on Carlisle Renaissance and the barriers to progress
  - Listen to and learn from the experience of others engaged in the regeneration process elsewhere in the Country
  - Engage in a dialogue about the leadership and delivery of the renaissance agenda and the specific roles of stakeholders in the process
  - Build relationships and networks amongst public and private sector leaders and senior practitioners to support the renaissance agenda
- 2.3 The Northwest Development Agency (NWDA) has requested the City Council submit a Concept Proposal for funding support to assist in taking forward the renaissance agenda. This could include for example additional technical support in areas such as development management and project management linked to the Development Framework & Movement Strategy and the emerging Economic Strategy. It could include support for the establishment of a special purpose vehicle or other leadership/delivery mechanism (i.e. City Development Company, Urban Regeneration Company) for Carlisle Renaissance.
- 2.4 A draft Concept Proposal is currently being worked up subject to further discussions with members, officers and other partners, including the Carlisle Renaissance

Leadership Group (City and County Council Leaders and relevant Portfolio Holders) and the City Council Carlisle Renaissance Cross Party Working Group.

- 2.5 A Learning City Manager and Communications Officer are now in post and operating within the Policy & Performance team. This completes the core City Council delivery team structure approved by the Executive and reported to Council.

### **3. DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK & MOVEMENT STRATEGY (DF&MS)**

- 3.1 The consultant's report was received by the Executive Committee at its meeting of 19 February (CE 10/07) and a timetable for the preparation, consultation and adoption of a DF&MS Policy Statement was noted. This process has now commenced and the timetable for progressing the report is as follows:

- Special Executive - 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007
- Members Briefing - 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2007
- Infrastructure O&S - 5<sup>th</sup> April 2007
- Executive 23<sup>rd</sup> - April 2007
- Full Council – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007

- 3.2 The Public Inquiry for the Tesco planning application(s) on the Viaduct Estate Road site commences on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007. This area is identified as the location for a transformational scheme in the DF&MS. On this basis the Director of Carlisle Renaissance has prepared information that will be used to support the City Council's position at the Inquiry.

- 3.3 The adopted DF&MS Policy Statement is expected to form part of the information / evidence submitted by the City Council for the Local Plan Public Inquiry which commences on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2007. In particular it will relate to Policy DP2 (Regeneration) of the Revised Redeposit Local Plan which identifies the Viaduct Estate Road and the Rickergate areas as a focus for physical regeneration activity

- 3.4 Dependant on the scope of the adopted DF&MS Policy Statement the City Council may need to revise the Local Development Scheme (LDS) to account for additions / amendments to the schedule of planning policy documents (i.e. Supplementary

Planning Documents, Area Action Plans) that will support the Local Plan. Changes to the LDS would need to be agreed with Government Office for the North West (GONW), which is a co-sponsor of the DF&MS report

3.5 Changes to the LDS will also have to be considered within the context of available resources. Discussions are taking place with the NWDA concerning the potential use of funding from the 2007 Interim Programme to resource further planning activity associated with the DF&MS.

3.6 As part of the Interim Programme the County Council have commenced work on a review of options for reducing the severance impact of Castle Way, which was identified as an important issue in the DF&MS Interim Report published in July 2007. The scope of this work includes: -

- Implications for traffic capacity
- Environmental considerations
- Public realm / signage / street furniture
- Pedestrian crossing facilities
- Traffic calming / carriageway treatments
- Access to the Castle and Devonshire Walk Car Park

3.7 Also part of the Interim Programme, a brief is being prepared by the City Council for the commissioning a Historic Quarter Development Strategy. The Historic Quarter was identified in the DF&MS Interim Report as a potential Core Character Area and as a priority for intervention by the NWDA in its Historic Towns & Cities Programme.

## **4. ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

4.1 The third and final stakeholder workshop took place on 28<sup>th</sup> February and was followed by a joint Community & Infrastructure Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) workshop on 1 March. The final draft Economic Strategy will be reported to the Executive Committee at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Members of the joint O&S workshop have requested a further meeting in May 2007 to consider the final draft.

- 4.2 The 2007 Interim Programme includes a range of projects that support the emerging Economic Strategy and will directly impact upon residents in the next few months. For example, the Cavaghan & Gray Recruitment Project will provide over 80 people from local neighbourhoods with pre-employment training and guaranteed jobs, which will be created as a result of new investment in production facilities at its Eastern Way plant. Details of progress on the Interim Programme are reported to the Community & Corporate Resources O&S Committees on a quarterly basis.

## **5. LEARNING CITY**

- 5.1 Following the appointment of the Learning City Manager a review of the City Council's adopted Learning City Strategy is now underway. This work will assist in addressing the issues raised in the Peer Review concerning the delivery of our priorities and enable us to take account of the Leitch Review of Skills which was published in December 2006. We continue to review the Learning City Strategy.
- 5.2 Linked to both Learning City and the DF&MS discussions are ongoing with representatives of the University of Cumbria concerning the location of a new headquarters and business school in Carlisle. A number of options are being considered and the Director of Carlisle Renaissance is participating in a Development Group (which includes representatives of the University, Carlisle College and the County Council) to assess the potential of a Learning Village.
- 5.3 The Learning Village concept, which was originally identified in the Carlisle Renaissance Prospectus in 2005, would involve the co-location of secondary, further and higher education and associated facilities within the immediate area to the east of Georgian Way. A scoping report is being prepared as part of the 2007 Interim Programme and will be completed in April 2007.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 Members are requested to: -
- a) Note the report and progress on taking forward Carlisle Renaissance

## **7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 To ensure that the Executive is fully briefed on progress and issues arising in respect of Carlisle Renaissance

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

- Staffing/Resources – None
- Financial – This report refers the preparation of a Concept Proposal for funding support from the NWDA for Carlisle Renaissance. At this stage it is anticipated that existing City Council approved funding for delivery activities can be used to ‘match’ any NWDA funding.
- Legal – This report refers to the preparation of a Development Framework & Movement Strategy Policy Statement in accordance with the City Council's Policy Framework Procedure Rules
- Corporate – This report refers to a review of the City Council's Learning City Strategy, which supports one of the City Council's corporate priorities
- Risk Management – Carlisle Renaissance is included in the Corporate Risk Register. Risk registers will be/have been prepared for all projects in 2007 Interim Programme.
- Equality Issues – None
- Environmental – This report refers to the preparation of planning policy documents
- Crime and Disorder – None
- Impact on Customers – This report refers to a recruitment project that will assist local residents into employment