



Leicestershire  
County Council



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## **SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2009**

### **REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **SUB REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

#### **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Commission a report to be submitted to the Cabinet concerning:
  - (a) the new sub-regional economic development Leadership arrangements (including emda Sub-Regional funding programme, Multi Area Agreement and Support Unit) and
  - (b) the Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Development Company (EDC).

#### **Background**

2. The Commission at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008 considered a report concerning the proposed establishment of an Economic Development Company (EDC) across Leicester and Leicestershire. The Commission supported the establishment of an Economic Development Company on the basis outlined in the report and asked for the following concerns to be drawn to the attention of the Cabinet:
  - i) the amount of further work yet to be undertaken (outlined in paragraph 18 of the report) to ensure the successful establishment of the new Company and would urge the Cabinet to ensure that all partners commit the appropriate level of resources required to avoid slippage on the proposed timetable
  - ii) the continued role of LeicesterShire Promotions within the proposed new structure, particularly in relation to its role of promoting the City and County as a tourist destination.

3. The Commission also requested an opportunity to give further consideration to mechanisms and structures for scrutiny of the new arrangements for delivering economic development and associated activity, hence the submission of this report.

### **Recommendation**

4. The Commission is asked to consider what comments it wishes to submit to the Cabinet on the new sub-regional economic development Leadership arrangements and establishment of an Economic Development Company for Leicester and Leicestershire.

### **Background papers**

Prosperous Places: Taking forward the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration: BERR - March 2008

Report of the Chief Executive to the Scrutiny Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008.

### **Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

A copy of the report has been circulated to all members of the Council via the Members' Information Service.

### **Officers to Contact**

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