

Kirklees Council

Scrutiny Lead Member Report

Lead Member: Cllr Shabir Pandor (Appointed at council 15.11.23)

Panel: Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Panel

Period of Update: **From:** 20 November 2023 **To:** 15 January 2024

Panel Highlights

(Include examples of pre decision work, scrutiny getting out and about, etc)

Lead Member Briefing November - January

David Shepherd, Strategic Director Growth and Regeneration
Cllr Elizabeth Smaje, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee
Cllr Moses Crook, Cabinet Member for Housing and Highways
Edward Highfield, Service Director for Skills and Regeneration

Panel meeting 20 November 2023

At the meeting the Panel considered 'Interim Housing Position Statement for Boosting Supply', Cultural Heart Gateways 3-4 and an informal discussion on Corporate Risk. Councillor Graham Turner, Cabinet Member for Finance and Regeneration, advised the Panel that the report on the interim housing position statement outlined the aim to boost housing supply, in light of the fact that there is no longer a five year housing land supply, which needed to be addressed.

Panel meeting 15 January 2024

The Panel considered the Transport Strategy and Transport Programme. Cllr Crook Cabinet member for Transport and Highways, explained that the strategy was still in development which would allow the panel an opportunity to comment on the transport vision and the development of the Kirklees Transport Strategy.

Outcomes:

In response to the information on the Interim Housing Position Statement for Boosting Supply, the Panel asked that a specific item be brought to a future meeting which would report on the individual council sites and how they are progressing.

In response to the Transport Strategy, the Panel had an opportunity to comment on the strategy while it is still in development. The Panel raised a number of issues which it hoped the strategy would address. These included the lack of reliable public transport, including bus and rail, the lack of electric charging points, the reduced need for reliance on the private car and the council's ambition to achieving net zero by 2038.

Monitoring Work

(If monitoring previous recommendations please identify what difference Scrutiny has made)

The recommendations from the ad hoc scrutiny panel into Building Safety & Compliance Combined Action Plan will be monitored by the Panel and an update is scheduled for March 2024.

Looking Ahead

(What are the next issues the Panel plans to look at?)

The Panel will next meet on the 26 February 2024, and the items on the agenda will

include an update on small centres (Marsden) and the Local Plan.

Lead Member comment:

The Panel has already began working through what is a very busy work programme. I look forward to continuing to work with Panel members, to scrutinise, influence and add value to key issues against the backdrop of the significant challenge the Council is facing.