

BROMLEY ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Meeting: Economic Partnership
Date: 9th November 2010
Subject: Bromley's Economic Framework
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1. Recommendations.

The Partnership is asked to:-

- 1.1 Endorse the changes to the objectives under each of the Strategic Priorities proposed by the Sub-Groups as part of the Economic Framework for 2010 -13 as set out in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 Consider the process for using the Economic Framework in the development of partner organisations' forward plans.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its April meeting the Economic Partnership endorsed the three Strategic Priorities within the Draft Economic Framework.
 - SP1 Sustaining and growing business and investment
 - SP2 Vibrant and thriving town centres
 - SP3 Improving employment opportunities for residents
- 2.2 The Partnership asked the two existing sub-groups: Business Competitiveness and Investment, and Skills and Employment to develop, manage and monitor an action plan for Strategic Priorities 1 and 3 respectively and for consideration to the mechanism to develop, manage and monitor Strategic Priority 2. The Partnership also agreed that an updated version of the Economic Framework should be provided to a future meeting together with regular updates on the individual action plans.
- 2.3 Subsequently a Town Centres Sub-Group was established, chaired by Howard Oldstein to take forward Strategic Priority 2. This priority has seen the greatest changes to its delivery plan, in particular, further work clarifying and refining its objectives. The Town Centres Sub-Group has met on two occasions since its establishment. The sub-group was made up of chairs of business and traders groups from across the borough. Although there was some interest in meeting together to discuss practical ways to develop the groups in each of the areas represented and to share good practice there was considerably less engagement

with the process of monitoring and implementing the Strategic Priority 2. Howard Oldstein has now resigned chairmanship of this sub group and the remit and make up of the group will be subject to a review led by Town Centre Management, with a view to a possible re-launch in early 2011. It may be that any re-formed group could act as an advisory or sounding board for town centre issues for the Economic Partnership, but will not play the role of a formal sub-group. In the light of these changes, delivery of the action plan for Strategic Priority 2 will now come under the oversight of the Business Competitiveness and Investment Group which is also responsible for Strategic Priority 1.

- 2.4 An update regarding each of the Strategic Priority delivery plans form part of the items 8 and 9 on this agenda.

3. Using the Economic Framework in preparing for 2011/12

- 3.1 The Economic Framework provides the basis for the Council and partners to assess economic activities and their fit with the strategic priorities for the borough. The Council will in the next few months develop its Renewal and Recreation Portfolio Plan for 2011/12. This will include identifying how and where it can contribute to the Economic Framework's priorities and objectives. Partners are asked to consider how their can include the Economic Framework in their forward planning.