AGENDA ITEM NO

SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY – 24TH JANUARY 2005

RESOLUTION OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REGENERATION

REPORT OF THE LEAD OFFICER TO THE COMMITTEE

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider the recommendations made by the Select Committee on Economic Regeneration in relation to the implications for the retention of business and the attraction of new business to vandalised sites.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Economic Regeneration Working Group held on 5th October, 2004 support for local businesses was discussed. The purpose of the meeting was to give initial consideration to the creation of conditions for successful business growth and job creation and presentations were made in respect of the work of Future Skills Dudley and the Business Support Unit operated by the Directorate of the Urban Environment.
- Arising from the presentations and the discussion on pertinent issues that followed, reference was made to the implications for the retention of business and the attraction of new business to sites where extensive vandalism had been, and was continuing to be, suffered and particular reference was made to the Silver End Industrial Estate. The Working Group considered that this was a matter that the Select Committee on Community Safety should pursue and, in relation to the issue of business crime generally, the Working Group considered that this should be an issue the Local Strategic Partnership should address.
- 2.3 The recommendations of the Economic Regeneration Working Group were referred to the Select Committee on Economic Regeneration and were considered on 3rd November, 2004.

3.0 PROPOSALS

3.1 That, regarding the site referred to in paragraph 2.2 above, the Select Committee on Community Safety be asked to ascertain if partnership working to address the issue can be explored and that, should the Select Committee on Community Safety not wish to pursue this, the matter be referred back to the Select Committee on Economic Regeneration for further consideration.

- 3.2 That the Select Committee on Community Safety be requested to refer the issue of business crime generally to the jobs theme group for crime and disorder reduction of the local strategic partnership for detailed consideration.
- 4.0 FINANCE
- 4.1 There are no direct costs at this juncture.
- 5.0 LAW
- 5.1 Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its statutory functions.
- 6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
- 6.1 This report accords with the Council's policy on equal opportunities.
- 7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS
- 7.1 That the proposal set out in Section 3 above be approved.
- 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS
- 8.1 Report to Select Committee on Economic Regeneration 3rd November, 2004
- 8.2 Notes of Economic Regeneration Working Group held on 5th October, 2004.

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LEAD OFFICER TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REGENERATION

Contact Officer: Dr R Sims – Ext 5005