

Scrutiny Chairs - DUE Topics for consideration		
Portfolio		Cabinet Member for Regeneration
Area for Scrutiny		Economic Development (including inward investment)
Council Priorities	Cabinet Priority:	Regeneration, skills & employment
	Council Plan:	'To create a thriving local enterprise economy' and 'To increase the number and diversity of businesses attracted to the borough'
Context		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dudley has a good pedigree in terms of successfully encouraging businesses to set up in the borough, e.g. Invest in Dudley Bureau est early 1990s dedicated to encourage inward investment into borough and then working at a sub regional (Black Country) level (working with Black Country Investment)</li> <li>▪ Linkages at a national level with <u>UK Trade &amp; Investment</u> and at a local level <u>Invest Black Country</u> including <u>Black Country LEP</u> and <u>Marketing Birmingham</u></li> <li>▪ Initiatives supporting inward investment include: (1) <u>Dudley Business First initiative</u> providing a single point of contact for inward investment enquiries; (2) <u>Dudley Business Investment Zone</u> (joint partnership with Dudley MBC and private sector); (3) Funding through Dudley Business Loan Fund; Black Country Regional Growth Fund and European funding (4) <u>Commercial Property Search</u> –interactive property finder within the Borough (5) New Heritage Regeneration Ltd</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">UK Competitiveness Index</a> (Dudley's rank is 346 out of 379)</li> </ul>
Rationale		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Links with Birmingham City Council's White Paper (vision for regeneration) – City Region level covering economic development, skills, employment infrastructure investment and strategic planning)</li> <li>▪ Supports the priorities of the Black Country LEP Strategic Economic Plan (2014 - 2021) under the themes of (i) improving business competitiveness (ii) infrastructure and the environment; and (iii) transport infrastructure, by promoting the Black Country as a place to invest</li> <li>▪ Supports the 'Business' theme of the Black Country European Union Strategic Investment Framework (2014 – 2020) by supporting businesses to export, innovate and access finance</li> <li>▪ Links into the wider borough regeneration agenda including inward investment</li> <li>▪ Supports the objectives in the borough's Economic Strategy and in particular the Business &amp; Enterprise theme: 'To encourage the development of a dynamic and diverse business base and job opportunities through support to new and existing businesses in the Borough'</li> </ul>
What are we asking from the Scrutiny Committee?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determining the role of inward investment at a local, sub regional, regional, and national level</li> <li>▪ Determining the inward investment value of what's is and what could be on offer (raising Dudley's rank in UK Competitiveness Index)</li> <li>▪ Considering whether Dudley could do more nationally to encourage inward investment locally</li> </ul>

<b>Environment Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>Portfolio</b>	Cabinet Member for Environment & Culture Cabinet Member for Transportation
<b>Area for Scrutiny</b>	Environmental Management, Commercial Services
<b>Link to Council Plan</b>	<p><b>Cabinet Priority:</b> Cleaner, greener &amp; environmentally friendly and people being served better.</p> <p>Theme - To provide the most customer friendly and responsive services of any council in the Country, (Activities) Explore and develop new methods of recycling the Borough's waste &amp; Make the most of the Green Belt, Rights of Way and access to the countryside and ensure that free leisure activities like walking and cycling are available to everyone.</p> <p><b>Council Plan:</b> To encourage sustainable waste management practices amongst the Borough's residents and businesses and to provide increased opportunities for recycling; to protect, preserve and develop for appropriate use the unique heritage of the Borough for this and future generations and to preserve and improve the quality and biodiversity of the natural and built environment.</p>
<b>Context</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Environmental Management Division is responsible for a number of services that may have the potential to be expanded and operated on a commercial basis.</li> <li>• Although services like trade waste have operated successfully over a number of years, competing with the private sector, there may be scope for a number of other services to either enter the commercial market or build on existing success, having traded with other Council directorates for a number of years.</li> <li>• It is clear that the current financial constraints imposed on local authorities will not ease in the foreseeable future and therefore any additional revenue will make a welcome contribution, easing the Council's financial burden and securing employment.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Rationale</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help compliment and support existing Council services.</li> <li>• Build on existing commercial expertise within the Environmental Management Division.</li> <li>• Determine constraints of existing legislation and help determine the boundaries of new legislation such as the Localism Act.</li> <li>• Offer potential employment opportunities and further extend the Environmental Management Division's established apprenticeship programme.</li> <li>• Help remove boundaries that often constrain Council services and restrict investment.</li> <li>• Establish a framework that will free Environmental Management from traditional bureaucracy associated with trading Council services.</li> <li>• Help secure employment by seeking out new opportunities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are we asking from the Scrutiny Committee?</b></p>	<p>Scrutiny Committee to consider scope for a commercial strategy that will help support existing Council services, secure jobs and identify additional revenue streams.</p>