COUNCIL 16 MARCH 2015

CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT

REPORT OF	Councillor Pat Hackett
CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR	Economy
CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER	Kevin Adderley, Strategic Director- Regeneration & Environment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his portfolio.

1. NEW COLLEGE PROJECT, TOWER ROAD

This project continues to make good progress and will be completed by September 2015. It will provide a high quality teaching and learning environment for Wirral residents in Wirral Waters.

2. OFFICE DEVELOPMENT, EGERTON DOCK

This project is making rapid progress on site and will provide high quality office development on a strategic site for an important local company who will use the new building as their national Head Quarters

3. BROADBAND UK

This initiative being undertaken by the Liverpool City Region continues to make good progress. It provides access to superfast broadband capability, which is crucial to creating the environment for business growth and employment creation. Wirral currently has around 97% of business and residential areas covered by the private sector and from this initiative

4. BIRKENHEAD TOWN CENTRE

Neptune Developments are expected to submit their master plan for Birkenhead Town Centre in March 2015 and this will then need to be considered by the Council.

5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The latest round of public consultation on the plan closed earlier this month and the comments received will now be analysed and then put into a report which will be presented to Members in June 2015

6. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

Devonshire Park have now submitted their plan and this is being consulted upon with local people and statutory agencies. It is expected to go to an independent inspector in the next couple of months.

Hoylake Vision are also consulting on the latest version of their plan.

7. WIRRAL CONSERVATION AREA FORUM

This group continues to develop and there is a very positive working relationship with the Council on a number of strategic issues which effect conservation areas across Wirral. The Forum and the Council are also meeting regularly with English Heritage to discuss strategic issues and to work, along with the Heritage Officer, on a refresh of the Heritage Strategy.