



**AGENDA ITEM: 5(f)**

**CABINET: 13 January 2014**

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**Report of: Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration**

**Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (Transformation)**

**Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor D. Westley**

**Contact for further information: Mr I Gill (Extn. 5094)**

**(E-mail: [ian.gill@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:ian.gill@westlancs.gov.uk))**

**Mrs. P. Huber (extn 5359)**

**(E-mail: [paula.huber@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:paula.huber@westlancs.gov.uk))**

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**SUBJECT: DRAFT WEST LANCASHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY  
2015-2025**

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Borough wide interest

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To agree the draft West Lancashire Economic Development Strategy for public consultation purposes.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That the draft West Lancashire Economic Development Strategy (Appendix A) be approved for consultation from 14 January to 25 February 2015, having regard to any agreed comments of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration to make minor amendments to the Strategy to correct typographical or factual errors, prior to it going out to public consultation.

2.3 That call-in is not appropriate for this item as this report has already been considered by the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 27 November 2014.

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### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

3.1 Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report on the Draft Economic Development Strategy on 27 November 2014 and resolved:-

#### **“38. DRAFT WEST LANCASHIRE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2015-2025**

Consideration was given to the report of the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration that provided information in relation to the Draft West Lancashire Economic Development Strategy 2015-2025 and the consultation exercise proposed between 14 January and 25 February 2015 that sought the views of the Committee prior to consideration by Cabinet on 13 January 2015.

Members raised comments and questions in relation to:

- Consultation period (length) – sufficient time for feedback.
- Consultation exercise – wider audience participation within and outside the Borough.
- Format of documentation - provision for different audiences as part of the consultation process (shorter version / print size / layout etc.)

Reference was also made to the good quality of the document that had been produced and the strength of the ‘Key Asks”, as identified at paragraph 5.4 of the report, particularly references to the provision and improvement of Secondary Schools in Skelmersdale and in relation to the Skelmersdale Rail Link and Station/Transport Hub, and a possible rail freight link to the Simonwood industrial area.

The Deputy Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration attended the meeting, provided an overview of the consultation proposed and provided clarification on issues raised.

**RESOLVED:** That the content of the report and the draft Economic Development Strategy 2015-2025 document (Appendix A) be noted.

3.2 A copy of the report is attached as Appendix 1.

### **4.0 COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HOUSING AND REGENERATION**

4.1 The Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the report on the draft Economic Development Strategy.

4.2 In relation to timescales on the Ormskirk Movement Strategy being undertaken by LCC, officers have clarified the position with the County Council and it is understood that the Strategy work will take 2 years with a further 5 years for implementation. The timescales set out in the draft Strategy will be amended accordingly.

- 4.3 The draft strategy will now be released for consultation and any comments made brought back for consideration by Cabinet.
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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

### **Appendices**

1. Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 27 November 20124 report of the Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration