

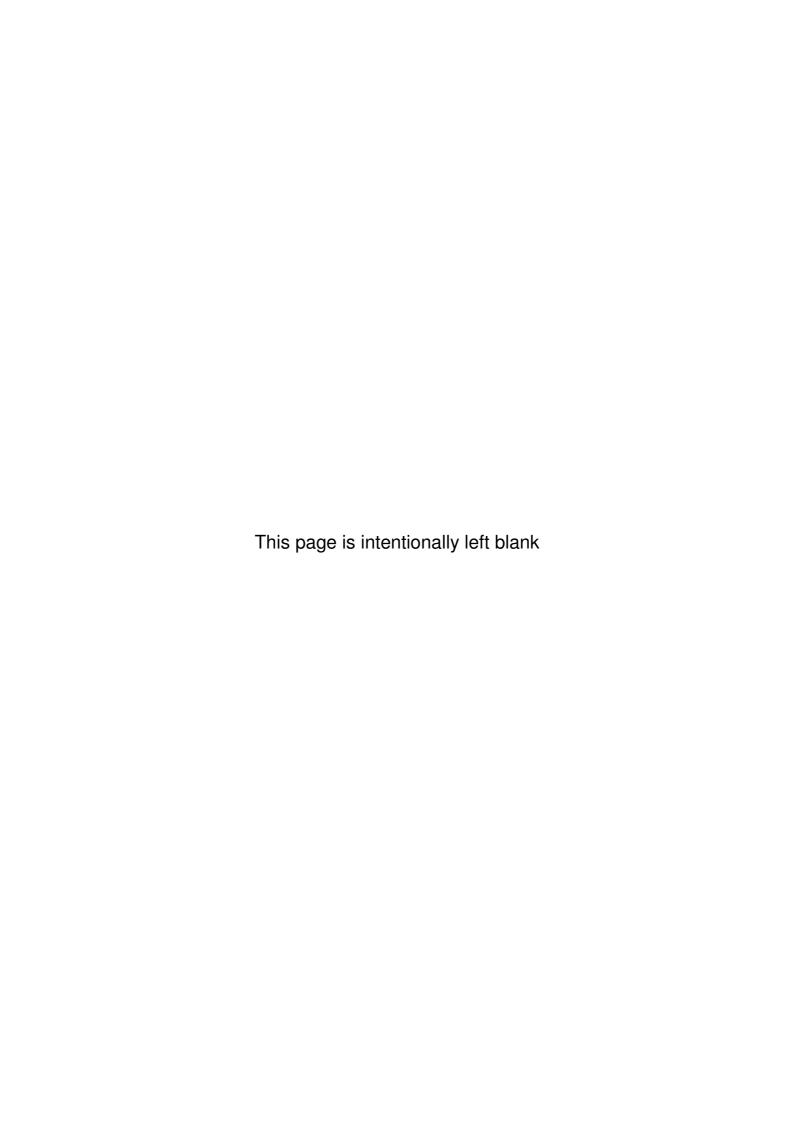
Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - Town Centre Vitality

Agenda and Reports for consideration on

Thursday, 14th January 2010

in Committee Room No. 1, Town Hall, Chorley
At 6.30 pm







Town Hall Market Street Chorley Lancashire PR7 1DP

08 January 2010

Dear Councillor

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK GROUP - TOWN CENTRE VITALITY - THURSDAY, 14TH JANUARY 2010

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group - Town Centre Vitality to be held in Committee Room No. 1, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 14th January 2010 commencing at 6.30 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

2. **Declarations of Any Interests**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the interest arises **only** as result of your membership of another public body or one to which you have been appointed by the Council then you only need to declare it if you intend to speak.

If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting. Normally you should leave the room before the business starts to be discussed. You do, however, have the same right to speak as a member of the public and may remain in the room to enable you to exercise that right and then leave immediately. In either case you must not seek to improperly influence a decision on the matter.

3. Minutes of last meeting (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Town Centre Task Group held on 3 December 2009 (Minutes enclosed).

4. Markets Issues (Pages 5 - 6)

The principal purpose of the meeting will be to consider issues around the importance of the Markets to the vitality of the town centre.

The Task Group may wish to consider, amongst other factors, the impact of the outcomes of past scrutiny inquiries; the impact of the recent Covered Market refurbishments; ways of enhancing the vitality of the Flat Iron Market; and the effectiveness of Themed Markets.

A copy of the Executive Summary and Recommendations extracted from the final report of the Overview and Scrutiny Inquiry into Chorley Markets published in September 2004 is attached to aid discussion. Notes on market stall occupancy rates and the current situation on the recently commissioned Consultants' review of the Flat Iron Market will be circulated at the meeting.

There will be an opportunity to question the Officers and determine preliminary recommendations for assessment at a later stage.

5. Witnesses

The Task Group has agreed to interview and/or consult the Executive Member (Business), the Disability Forum Co-ordinator and selected representatives of town centre retailers and market traders as part of the review process.

Members' instructions will be requested on the most appropriate means of obtaining and considering this evidence. Responses to e-mailed questions could be sought or witnesses could be interviewed separately or in an open forum at the next meeting.

The performance and activity reports requested of the Sports, Play and Physical Activity Manager and the Arts Development Officer at a previous meeting will be presented to the next Task Group meeting.

6. Town Centre Visit

The Task Group agreed at its last meeting to accept an invitation from Macclesfield Borough Council to visit the town and learn at first hand the measures being taken to improve the town centre. Arrangements for the visit agreed with the Chair will be reported to the meeting.

7. **Dates of future meetings**

onna Hall.

The Task Group will need to agree the dates of its final meetings.

Yours sincerely

Donna Hall Chief Executive Tony Uren

Democratic and Member Services Officer

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Distribution

- 1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Group Town Centre Vitality (Councillor Peter Wilson (Chair), and Councillors Julia Berry, Alistair Bradley, Anthony Gee, Marie Gray, Pat Haughton, Harold Heaton, June Molyneaux, Mick Muncaster, Geoffrey Russell and Stella Walsh for attendance.
- 2. Agenda and reports to Cath Burns (Economic Development Manager), Peter McAnespie (Policy and Urban Renewal Design Manager), Conrad Heald (Town Centre Manager) and Tony Uren (Democratic and Member Services Officer) for attendance.

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