

# **Norwich City Council**

## **SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **Item 6**

#### **BRIEFING PAPER for meeting to be held on 16 December 2010**

#### **Audit Commission inspection of Economic and Housing Growth arising from the work of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership**

##### **Context**

The Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) was established in 2006 and is a public sector grouping comprising Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council, Norfolk County Council and the Broads Authority. The main remit of the GNDP is to provide the Strategic planning framework to deliver housing and job targets established in the East of England Plan. The partnership is supported by a small officer secretariat funded from the growth areas budget and is managed by a member policy group comprised of representatives of the 5 constituent authorities. The partnership has no executive authority. It's main task has been coordinating the work on the preparation of the Joint Core Strategy and as a partnership it makes recommendations to the constituent authorities.

In March 2010 the Audit Commission undertook an assessment of the work of the GNDP in delivering economic and housing growth in the Greater Norwich Housing Area. Attached is a copy of the outcome of the inspection. The inspection team made three recommendations (summarised on page 5 of the report) concerning the mechanism of delivering housing and jobs growth; value for money in terms of achievements and costs and the engagement with the development sector.

In considering the report members may wish to note that the government has a stated intention to review the land use planning process and this will form part of the localism bill. As a consequence it will be necessary in 2011 to review the role and purpose of the GNDP in the context of a change in the way planning policy and control is delivered at a local and strategic level. Therefore any comments the Scrutiny Committee may have, on either the audit report or the role and function of the GNDP, would be timely for any such review.

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