

Committee(s):	Date(s):
Port Health & Environmental Services	18 November 2014
Subject: Economic Development and Local Authority Regulation	Public
Report of: Director of Markets and Consumer Protection	For Information
Summary	
<p>In 2013 the Better Regulation Delivery Office commissioned a study concerning economic development and local authority regulation. The report has now been published (see the Executive summary at Appendix 1 and includes a case study about the City Corporation's Port Health and Public Protection Service and Economic Development Office (Appendix 2).</p> <p>Following publication of the report, further work is being undertaken to continue to support compliant businesses both inside and outside the Square Mile. It represents a good example of cross-boundary work between departments within the City as 'joined-up government'.</p>	
Recommendation	
Members are asked to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the report 	

Main Report

Background

1. During 2013 the City Corporation participated in research that was undertaken on behalf of the Better Regulation Delivery Office (BRDO) to explore the links between economic development and regulatory activity, with the intention of determining the scale of joint working and examples of good practice.
2. The purpose of this report is to inform your Committee of the outcome of the investigation following the publication of the report 'Economic Development and Regulation' by BRDO in October 2014. The Executive Summary may found at Appendix 1.
3. 'HOST', a policy research company acting on behalf of BRDO, approached the City Corporation in June 2013 for examples of joint working between business and Local Authority Regulatory Service (LARS). Information was provided and interviews held with senior officers to establish the ways in which the issue was being tackled by the City Corporation. This resulted in a case study (Appendix 2) which outlines how the City Corporation has shown innovation with business.

4. Specific examples are cited in the case study about the way in which the Port Health and Public Protection (PH&PP) Service, together with the Economic Development Office (EDO), is supporting business via LARS.
5. Of particular note is the work done to support the development of London Gateway Port from planning to construction, including 'future proofing' the business.
6. In parallel to this initiative, in April 2014 BRDO published a regulators' code that outlined how regulators should carry out their activities in a way that supports those they regulate. The principles have been incorporated into the Port Health and Public Protection Policy Statement on Enforcement that was approved by your Committee in September 2014.

Current Position

7. After the BRDO report was published, the Director of Economic Development gave a presentation to PH&PP staff about the work of EDO and discussion took place on how this collaboration can be extended in future. This will be followed up by officers to offer advice to small and medium enterprises, both existing business and those looking to set up in the City, as well as considering how else PH & PP can assist in supporting and enabling economic growth for compliant businesses inside and outside the Square Mile.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. The work undertaken by PH&PP supports the strategic aim in the Strategic Plan: to provide modern, efficient and high quality local services and policing within the Square Mile the workers, residents and visitors with a view to delivering sustainable outcomes.

Conclusion

9. The publication of the BRDO report 'Economic Development and Regulation' includes a case study that demonstrates how PH&PP and the EDO support business. There is further scope for collaboration between the EDO and PH&PP to assist City businesses, and those outside the Square Mile. It represents a good example of cross-boundary work between departments within the City as 'joined-up government'.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Executive Summary to the BRDO report: 'Economic Development and Regulation'
- Appendix 2 – City of London Corporation and London Port Health Authority Case Study

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