

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

DECISION SCHEDULE



Friday 22nd June 2007

at 10.10 am

or immediately following Joint Culture, Leisure and Tourism and Regeneration and Liveability Portfolio at 10.00am (whichever is the later)

in Training Room 1, Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre,
Kendal Road

The Mayor Stuart Drummond responsible for Regeneration and Liveability will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**

No items

2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

2.1 Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and Neighbourhood Element Programme Outturns 2006/7 – *Head of Community Strategy*

2.2 The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 – *Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)*

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

3.1 Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 – 4th Quarter Monitoring Report – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

3.2 Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan 2006-11 – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

4. **REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

No items

REGENERATION & LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO
Report To Portfolio Holder
22nd June 2007



Report of: Head of Community Strategy

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND (NRF) &
NEIGHBOURHOOD ELEMENT PROGRAMME
OUTTURNS 2006/7

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Portfolio Holder of the 2006/7 financial outturn of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and Neighbourhood Element Programmes.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report sets out the financial outturn for the 2006/7 Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and Neighbourhood Element programmes.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Neighbourhood Renewal, the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and the Neighbourhood Element Fund are within the remit of the Regeneration, Liveability & Housing Portfolio.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non-Key.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Hartlepool Partnership – 15th June 2007.
Regeneration, Liveability & Housing Portfolio – 22nd June 2007.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To agree the 2006/7 financial outturn for the NRF and NE programme.

Report of: Head of Community Strategy

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND (NRF) &
NEIGHBOURHOOD ELEMENT PROGRAMME
OUTTURNS 2006/7

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Portfolio Holder of the 2006/7 financial outturn of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and Neighbourhood Element Programmes.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder has agreed the 2006/07 NRF and NE programmes at a number of meetings during late 2005 and 2006. Both funding streams are included within the Local Area Agreement (LAA). Central Government has set a limited carry forward of 5% on the LAA grant of which the NE fund is part. For the 2006/7 financial year NRF has been outside of this arrangement and has been set a carry forward of 5% of its allocation. From April 2007 the NRF will be included within the LAA Grant and will be subject to the same grant terms and conditions as the other funding in the LAA.

3. NRF PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2006/7

- 3.1 In total £4,849,163 of NRF was available to spend in 2006/7. This includes £18,237 carried forward from 2005/6. Appendix 1 sets out in detail the financial position at the 2006/7 year end. In total £4,723,686 was spent leaving £125,477 to be carried forward into 2007/8 which is 2.6%.

4. NEIGHBOURHOOD ELEMENT OUTTURN 2006/7

- 4.1 In total £412,800 of NE was available to spend in 2006/7. Appendix 1 sets out in detail the financial position at the 2006/7 year end. In total £380,119 was spent leaving £32,681 to be carried forward into 2007/8. As there has been limited underspend on projects funded by the other funding streams pooled in the LAA grant the carry forward will be within the 5% set by central government.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2007/8

- 5.1 As both the NRF and NE are to be included within the LAA grant for 2007/8 it is proposed that in future the financial monitoring of these grants be undertaken by the Cabinet as part of the wider LAA monitoring arrangements already established.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The report sets out the financial outturn position for 2006/7 for both the Neighbourhood Renewal and Neighbourhood Element Funds. A proportion of the funding allocated for 2006/7 will be carried forward into 2007/8 thus increasing the total amount of LAA grant available to be spent in 2007/8.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to:
- Agree the 2006/7 outturn for the NRF Programme;
 - Agree the 2006/7 outturn for the NE Programme;
 - Note the change to the financial monitoring arrangements for 2007/8.

PROJECT	BUDGET 2006/07	2006/7 SPEND	VARIANCE
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EDUCATION	£495,000		
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Primary/ Secondary Schools	£419,739	£419,739.00	£0.00
General Projects	£75,261	£75,264.01	-£3.01

£495,000	£495,003	-£3
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COMMUNITY SAFETY	£1,238,417		
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Community Safety Small Grants Fund	£10,000	£3,550.44	£6,449.56
ASB Officer & Analyst	£66,100	£61,642.42	£4,457.58
Envt. Enforcement Wardens	£150,000	£149,996.57	£3.43
Safer Streets & Homes (revenue) / Target Hardening	£224,000	£241,808.14	-£17,808.14
Dordrecht Prolific Offenders Scheme	£105,000	£105,160.29	-£160.29
NRF Project Assistant	£22,500	£22,365.73	£134.27
COOL Project	£61,600	£61,600.00	£0.00
FAST	£187,668	£191,637.05	-£3,969.05
Burglary Prevention - Endeavour HIA	£58,104	£51,006.21	£7,097.79
Landlord Accreditation Scheme	£10,000	£5,452.24	£4,547.76
LIFE - Fire Brigade	£33,000	£33,000.00	£0.00
ADDvance	£22,947	£22,924.44	£22.56
PINS	£23,040	£23,040.00	£0.00
Neighbourhood Policing	£273,000	£273,000.00	£0.00

£1,246,959	£1,246,184	£775
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JOBS & THE ECONOMY	£1,214,884
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Targeted Training	£50,956	£50,073.91	£882.09
Women's Opportunities	£37,454	£37,454.00	£0.00
Jobs Build	£77,792	£78,068.93	-£276.93
Workroute ILM	£137,000	£137,265.92	-£265.92
Hartlepool Worksmart - Improving the employment offer	£44,000	£46,371.67	-£2,371.67
Enhancing Employability	£23,367	£27,816.30	-£4,449.30
Progression to Work - assisting local people into work	£97,000	£97,582.93	-£582.93
Volunteering Into Employment	£80,967	£80,967.00	£0.00
Incubation Systems and Business Skills Training	£175,000	£174,871.36	£128.64
Business & Tourism Marketing	£24,456	£26,297.84	-£1,841.84
OFCA Social Enterprise Support - Community Employment Outreach	£150,000	£132,802.65	£17,197.35
Homelessness Project	£70,000	£69,999.00	£1.00
Carers into Training & Education	£10,000	£10,000.00	£0.00
Owton Manor West NWRA	£35,000	£35,000.00	£0.00
West View Project	£30,000	£30,000.00	£0.00
RESPECT	£6,892	£6,892.00	£0.00
Grange Road Methodist Church	£30,000	£30,000.00	£0.00
HVDA Business Development Project	£15,000	£15,000.00	£0.00
BEC Carry over / BEC additional budget	£120,000	£120,000.00	£0.00

£1,214,884	£1,206,464	£8,420
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LIFELONG LEARNING	£215,000
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Active Skills - West View Project	£25,000	£25,000.00	£0.00
Hartlepool Deaf Centre	£30,000	£16,564.83	£13,435.17
Career Coaching - HVDA	£32,000	£30,801.00	£1,199.00
Level 3 Progression - HCFE	£79,000	£79,000.00	£0.00
Hartlepool "On Track" Project	£45,000	£3,912.59	£41,087.41
Administration of LLP	£4,000	£3,404.26	£595.74

£215,000	£158,683	£56,317
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MANAGEMENT & CONSULTANCY	£165,000
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Management & Consultancy	£66,468	£61,494.97	£4,973.03
Neighbourhood Renewal Officer	£36,867	£27,903.53	£8,963.47
Skills & Knowledge	£2,000	£1,410.00	£590.00
NAP Development	£40,000	£40,000.00	£0.00

£145,335.00	£130,808.50	£14,526.50
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HEALTH & CARE	£925,000
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Occupational Care for Kids - Dyke House	£40,000	£39,229.00	£771.00
Owton Rossmere Health Development Worker	£40,000	£39,691.00	£309.00
Mental Health Development Project	£62,906	£62,906.00	£0.00
Mobile Maintenance Worker	£20,022	£20,000.00	£22.00
Belle Vue Sports Project	£39,000	£39,000.00	£0.00
Smoking Issues	£72,500	£72,500.00	£0.00
Early Implementation of Integrated Care Teams	£25,000	£24,301.00	£699.00
Cardiac Rehabilitation through Exercise	£25,000	£24,764.08	£235.92
Connected Care/Health Trainers	£65,416	£57,389.29	£8,026.71
Anchor Trust Community Development	£31,154	£31,154.00	£0.00
Alzheimers Day Service	£61,920	£61,920.00	£0.00
Hartlepool Carers	£20,600	£20,600.00	£0.00
Reducing Childhood Obesity...	£104,700	£104,529.00	£171.00
MIND Manager & NDC Support Network	£47,000	£47,000.00	£0.00
Mental Health Carers Support	£20,782	£20,782.20	-£0.20
TNEY/MIND Common Mental Health Needs	£41,000	£40,873.82	£126.18
Discharge Planning Post	£24,000	£24,816.60	-£816.60
VCS Core Costs	£155,166	£155,166.00	£0.00
LIFE Channel Campaign	£2,025	£1,938.75	£86.25
Disabled Facilities Grants	£27,500	£27,031.53	£468.47

£925,691	£915,592	£10,099
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HOUSING	£128,000
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Housing Market Renewal Support for Scheme Delivery	£128,000	£128,000	£0.00
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£128,000	£128,000	£0
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ENVIRONMENT	£120,000
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Environment Team	£100,000	£101,532.02	-£1,532.02
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Environmental Education	£23,731	£18,268.48	£5,462.52
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£123,731	£119,801	£3,931
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NAP PRIORITIES	£363,947
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North Hartlepool NAP	£153,000	£127,648.81	£25,351.19
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Dyke House NAP	£65,339	£62,434.42	£2,904.58
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Burbank NAP	£23,000	£19,975.02	£3,024.98
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Rift House/Burn Valley NAP	£50,883	£52,853.00	-£1,970.00
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Owton NAP	£51,176	£48,469.77	£2,706.23
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Rossmere NAP	£23,049	£11,770.66	£11,278.34
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£366,447	£323,152	£43,295
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THEME	2006/7 ACTUAL
Education	£495,003
Community Safety	£1,246,184
Jobs & the Economy	£1,206,464
Lifelong Learning	£158,682.68
Management & Consultancy	£130,808.50
Health & Care	£915,592
Housing	£128,000
Environment	£119,801

NAP Priorities	£323,152
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TOTAL 2006/7 ACTUAL	£4,723,686
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TITLE	2006/7 BUDGET	2006/7 SPEND	VARIANCE
Owton	£89,700.00	£89,700.00	£0.00
North Hartlepool - Central	£21,400	£17,022.78	£4,377.22
North Hartlepool - WV/KO	£66,400	£58,866.54	£7,533.46
North Hartlepool - Headland	£24,800	£24,695.60	£104.40
Dyke House/Stranton/Grange	£110,500	£118,039.90	-£7,539.90
Burbank	£20,000	£9,028.95	£10,971.05
Capacity Building	£80,000	£62,765.07	£17,234.93
TOTAL	£412,800	£380,119	£32,681

REGENERATION & LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO
REPORT TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER
22nd June 2007



Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)

Subject: The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update the Portfolio Holder of the position in respect of Building Control charge levels and to seek agreement for the proposed new charges with effect from 1 July 2007.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

2.1 The Local Government Association has produced a model scheme of charges and in the past has produced annual advice of guidance levels for charges.

2.2 The Local Government Association has not produced guidance on levels of charges this year. Inevitably as individual authorities have changing circumstances and needs it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain national uniformity, which was one of the main reasons for producing the guidance. The charges Regulations require authorities to set charges at such a level to cover their relevant costs. As this authority's current charge levels are in accordance with the last guidance issued, together with the fact that the authority has achieved compliance in respect of the requirement for recovery of costs, it is proposed that the charges be increased by a maximum of 5% to reflect budget requirements to maintain service delivery.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

3.1 The Portfolio Holder has authority in relation to the Building Control Charges Scheme.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

4.1 Non Key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

5.1 Portfolio Holder meeting 22nd June 2007.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

6.1 Officer advice is that the Portfolio Holder formally adopts the proposed levels of charges incorporating a maximum 5% increase.

Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)

Subject: THE BUILDING (LOCAL AUTHORITY CHARGES) REGULATIONS 1998

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Portfolio Holder of the position in respect of Building Control Charge levels and to seek agreement for the proposed new charges with effect from 1 July 2007.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 1 April 1999 the Government devolved the setting of Building Control charges to individual Local Authorities by way of the introduction of The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998. These regulations were drafted in the form of “principles” with sufficient detail and precision to provide that all Building Control Authorities have a consistent scheme throughout England and Wales.
- 2.2 The main direction from Government is that income derived from such charges should at least equal the cost of the fee earning element of the Building Control Service (plan checking and site inspection) over any three year period. It should be noted, however, that many other Building Control Services, such as works for people with disabilities, safety at sports grounds and pre application enquiries and advice do not attract a charge. The Council is required to set its own charges to recover the cost of the Charge Earning Building Control Services. The aim is therefore to break even.
- 2.3 At its meeting of the Environment Committee held on 30 March 1999 the Council agreed to adopt the Local Government Association Model Scheme as the basis of the Hartlepool Borough Council Scheme of Charges, as a result of the requirements of The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998.

3. SCHEME OF CHARGES

- 3.1 To maintain a degree of consistency nationally, the Local Government Association produced a model scheme, which ensures that charges are made on a common basis but which also allows some flexibility for local adjustment as dictated by the requirement of the charges regulations in relation to the recovery of costs.
- 3.2 The Council's present Building Control Charging scheme, was approved by the Portfolio Holder at the meeting on the 22nd March 2006. The scheme is based on the recommendations of the Local Government Association.
- 3.3 The Local Government Association has again this year decided not to publish levels of recommended charges for authorities, preferring to leave that judgement to individual authorities in order that their own circumstances can be taken into account.

4 PROPOSED CHARGES

- 4.1 In the absence of detailed guidance from the Local Government Association it is proposed that the Council increases its charges to Tables A (new dwellings) and B (Extensions to dwellings) by a maximum of 5% and Table C (other work – mainly commercial) by an average of 1.6%. A schedule of the proposed charges will be available at the meeting. Note Table C charges are based on estimated costs of building works and although inflationary increases are automatically built in, (as building costs rise) a small increase has been made to the base charges only to keep in line with Tables A and B charges.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Building Control Service is subject to increasing competition from the private sector, making expenditure on staff and income difficult to predict. However, levels of income against expenditure are monitored continuously and it is anticipated, given present workload levels, and pressures on salaries that income from the proposed charge levels will not be less than the level of expenditure on the charge account.

6. **CONCLUSION**

6. Given that there has been no specific guidance from the Local Government Association on levels of charges and that Hartlepool Borough Council's Building Control Scheme is currently covering its relevant costs it is proposed that charge levels to Tables A and B are increased by a maximum of 5% and that Table C is increased on average by 1.6% to cover anticipated costs for the coming year.

7. **OFFICER ADVICE**

- 8.1 Officer advice is that the Portfolio Holder formally adopts the proposed levels of charges incorporating the 5% and 1.6% increase as indicated.

2.2 APPENDIX 1

Building Control
Regeneration and Planning section
Bryan Hanson House
Hanson Square
Hartlepool
TS24 7BT



HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

BUILDING CONTROL

CHARGES SCHEME 2007 – 2008

Effective from 1 July 2007



SCHEME FOR THE RECOVERY OF CHARGES

Introduction

It has been the intention of successive governments to ensure that the cost of the Building Regulations service is recoverable from the charges made. Charges are made under the provisions of The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 (SI 1998/3129) which came into force on 1st April 1999.

This scheme should be read in accordance with the Regulations particularly in relation to matters of detail, including those of interpretation. Copies of the Regulations are available from HMSO.

This scheme may be amended, revoked, or replaced by the Authority at any time. You are therefore advised to satisfy yourself that this document is current.

Purpose of the Building Regulations

Building Regulation standards have evolved to secure the health and safety of those persons in and around buildings, to assist with energy conservation and to provide access and facilities for disabled persons.

Level of Charges

We believe that the charges referred to in this scheme represent genuine value for money. Local authorities are required to recover their costs incurred over a three-year accounting period. If you wish to discuss in detail our level of service or charges, please contact us for further information.

Principles of this Scheme

Charges have been set for the functions prescribed in Regulation 4 of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998, namely:

- **A Plan charge**, payable when plans of the building work are deposited with the Authority.
- **An Inspection charge** payable on demand after the Authority carry out the first inspection in respect of which the charge is payable.
- **A Building Notice charge**, payable when the Building Notice is given to the Local Authority.

- **A Reversion charge**, payable for building work in relation to a building:-
 1. Which has been substantially completed before plans are first deposited with the Authority in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Approved Inspectors Regulations, or
 2. In respect of which plans for further building work have been deposited with the Authority in accordance with Regulation 20 of the Approved Inspectors Regulations,
on the first occasion on which those plans have been deposited.

- **A Regularisation charge** which is payable at the time of the application to the Authority in accordance with Regulation 21 of the Building Regulations.

You are advised that:

- The sum of the Plan charge and the Inspection charge will be equal to the Building Notice charge.
- The Reversion charge shall be equal to the Building Notice charge.
- The Regularisation charge shall be 20% greater than the Building Notice charge.
- Any charge, except the Regularisation charge, which is payable to the Authority shall be subject to value added tax at the standard rate.
- Where the charge is based on an estimated cost of work and the estimated cost is below £5,000 a separate inspection charge is not payable.
- Where the charge is for the erection of a detached building which consists of a garage or carport or both having a floor area not exceeding 40m² in total and intended to be used in common with an existing building, and which is not an exempt building the inspection charge is payable as a single stage payment at the time of plan deposit. Details of buildings which are exempt are contained within Schedule 2 of the Building Regulations.
- Where an extension to a dwelling, the total floor area of which exceeds 60m², including means of access and work in connection with that extension, the charge is based on the estimated cost of the work in accordance with Table C subject to the sum of the plan charge and the inspection charge or the Building Notice charge being not less than the charge payable for category 5 in Table B (£489.00).
- Where an extension or alteration to a dwelling consists of the provision of one or more rooms in a roof space, the charge is based on the estimated cost of the work in accordance with Table C subject to the sum of the plan charge and the inspection charge or the building notice charge being not less than the charge payable for category 4 in Table B (£369.00).

Building works solely for Disabled Persons.

Charges are not payable in respect of work which is carried out for the benefit of a disabled person in accordance with Regulation 9 of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 which states that:

- (1) "A local authority is not authorized to fix by means of a scheme and recover a charge-
 - (a) where they are satisfied that the whole of the building work in question consists of an alteration: and
 - (b) where the building work is
 - (i) solely for the purpose of providing means of access to enable disabled persons to get into or out of an existing building and to or from any part of it or of providing facilities designed to secure the greater health, safety, welfare or convenience of such persons; and
 - (ii) is to be carried out in relation to :-
 - (a) an existing building to which members of the public are admitted (whether on payment or otherwise); or
 - (b) an existing dwelling which is, or is to be, occupied by a disabled person".
- (2) "A local authority is not authorized to fix by means of a scheme and recover a charge which consists solely of a charge in respect of building work for the provision or extension of a room in a dwelling where they are satisfied that the sole use of the room is or will be-
 - (a) for the carrying out of medical treatment of a disabled person which cannot reasonably be carried out in any other room in the dwelling; or
 - (b) for the storage of medical equipment for the use of a disabled person; or
 - (c) to provide necessary accommodation or a necessary facility by adapting or replacing accommodation or a facility which already existed within the building which was incapable of being used or used without assistance, by the disabled person.
- (3) In this regulation, "disabled person" means a person who is within any of the descriptions of persons to whom section 29(1) of the National Assistance Act 1948 applied, as that section was extended by virtue of section 8(2) of the Mental Health Act 1959, but not taking into account amendments made to section 29(1) by paragraph 11 of Schedule 13 to the Children Act 1989".

Principles of the scheme in respect of the erection of small domestic buildings, certain garages, carports and extensions.

- (1) Where building work comprises-
- (a) erection of one or more small domestic buildings: or
 - (b) erection of a detached or attached building which consists of a garage or carport (or both) with a total floor area not exceeding 40m² and which is intended for use with an existing dwelling: or
 - (c) extension of any dwelling by a floor area not exceeding 60m², including extension by the erection or extension of an attached or detached garage or carport which is intended for use with the dwelling,

The charges for that building work are set by reference to the floor area of the building or extension as the case may be, and in the case of the work mentioned in sub-paragraph (c) above, the charges so determined shall cover any associated work relating to means of access.

- (2) Where any building work of a kind mentioned in paragraph (1)(c) comprises or includes the erection of more than one extension to a building used or intended to be used for the purposes of a single dwelling, the total floor areas of all such extensions shall be aggregated to determine the relevant charge payable.
- (3) Where the aggregation of the floor area of all extensions referred to in paragraph (1)(c) does not exceed 60m², the relevant charge is based on the total floor area of the extensions.
- (4) Where the total or the aggregation of the floor area of one or more extensions referred to in paragraph (1)(c) exceeds 60m², the relevant charge is based on the estimated cost of the building work as prescribed in Regulation 6 of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 and shall be calculated in accordance with Table C.
- (5) Where work consists of the alterations of a dwelling to form a room or room(s) in a roof space the charge payable shall be calculated in accordance with Table C.

Details of charges are given in Table A in respect of the erection of small domestic buildings.

Details of charges are given in Table B in respect of extensions of any dwelling by a floor area not exceeding 60m² and of the erection of a detached or attached building which consists of a garage or carport or both with a total floor area not exceeding 60m² and intended for use with an existing dwelling.

- (6) When it is intended to carry out additional building work on a dwelling at the same time that any of the work to which type of work categories 3,4, and 5 in Table B relates then the charge for this additional work shall be calculated by reference to Table C

All Other Building Work

All charges other than those referred to above are determined by reference to the estimated cost of the building work. These charges relate to any existing or proposed use of a building or whether the building work is in respect of the construction of a new building or an alteration or extension to an existing building. These charges are detailed in Table C.

Estimates

In order to determine the correct charge a written estimate of the cost of the building work should be received by the authority when the plans, or the building notice is deposited. A written estimate is required when building work reverts to a local authority in accordance with Regulation 11(2) of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998. The "Estimate" is required to be such reasonable amount as would be charged by a person in business to carry out such building work (excluding the amount of any value added tax chargeable).

If the estimated cost of work has been established by an authority other than the authority in which the development is to be built or by a business development director working on behalf of local authority building control then this estimated cost shall be considered as being reasonable.

Reductions

- 1 Except as detailed in paragraph (2) below, where one application or building notice is in respect of two or more buildings or building works all of which are substantially the same as each other a % reduction in the charge will be made for all work detailed in Table C.
- 2 Where one application or building notice is in respect of two or more buildings and relates to building works that consists of the provision or replacement of extension of windows, roof lights, roof windows and external doors and the building work is substantially the same a 25% reduction in the building notice charge will be made.
- 3 Where in accordance with Regulation 8b of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 an application or building notice is in respect of building work which is substantially the same as building work in respect of which plans have previously been approved or building works previously inspected by the same local authority, and where the local authority are satisfied that the owner of the plans who

deposits them or who gives a building notice in respect of them, is the same person who originally deposited the plans or gave a building notice in respect of them, a % reduction in the charge will be made.

- 4 In relation to work to which Table B applies the reduction shall be calculated as a percentage of the average plan charge of each individual extension and in relation to Table C the reduction shall be calculated as a percentage of the plan charge of those buildings or building works which are substantially the same as each other.

Payment by Installment

The Authority accepts payment by installment in respect of all building work detailed in the Tables at the discretion of the Building Control Manager. The authority on request will specify the amounts payable and dates on which installments are to be paid.

Other Matters

- where a plan charge has been paid and not refunded, the authority will in any case they consider reasonable decide not to make a further plan charge in respect of plans subsequently deposited for substantially the same building work;
- where for any reason notice of passing or rejection of plans is not given within the period required by Section 16 of the Act the plan charge paid shall be refunded;
- any plan charge, inspection charge, reversion charge, or building notice charge is to be payable by the person who carries out the building work, or on whose behalf the building work is carried out, and any regularisation charge is to be payable by the owner of the building.
- Delegated powers on occasions to Head of Planning and Economic Development to fix fees at a level outside the margins.

Non Payment of a Charge

Your attention is drawn to Regulation 10(2) of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 which explains that plans are not treated as being deposited for the purposes of Section 16 of the 1984 Act or Building Notices given unless the Council have received the correct charge.

Transitional Provisions

Where before 1st July 2007 plans have been deposited or a Building Notice has been given in respect of any building work and, on or after that date, plans are deposited or such a notice is given in respect of substantially the same building work, any charges which would be payable under a scheme in relation to the building work which is substantially the same shall, if the Council consider it reasonable, not be payable.

The Building (Prescribed Fees) Regulations 1994 shall continue to apply in relation to building work for which plans were first deposited or a Building or Initial Notice was given before 1st April 1999.

Charges for building work for which plans were first deposited or a Building Notice given before the coming into effect of this scheme will continue to be payable in accordance with the scheme that applied at the time the plans were deposited or the Building Notice was given.

Further Advice

Further advice may be obtained from

Building Control Manager
Department of Regeneration & Planning
Bryan Hanson House
Hanson Square
Hartlepool
TS24 7BT

Tel: (01429) 523290
Fax: (01429) 523599
Email garry.hutchison@hartlepool.gov.uk

Hartlepool Borough Council



(TABLE A)

CHARGES FOR ONE OR MORE SMALL DOMESTIC BUILDINGS AND CONNECTED WORK

[Charges for Table A include works of drainage in connection with the erection of a building or buildings, even where those works are commenced in advance of the plans for the building(s) being deposited]

Plan Charge

1. Where a plan charge is payable in respect of the erection of one or more small domestic buildings shown on the deposited plan the plan charge payable for that building or those buildings or for those works is the total of the amounts shown in, or calculated by reference to columns (2) and (3) of the Table as relevant for the number of dwellings in that building or those buildings.

Inspection Charge

2. The inspection charge payable in respect of the erection of one or more small domestic buildings or connected works is the total of the amounts shown in, or calculated by reference to, columns (4) and (5) of Table A.

Building Notice Charge

3. The building notice charge payable in respect of the erection of one or more small domestic buildings is the total of the plan charge and the inspection charge which would be payable in accordance with the Table if plans for the carrying out of that work had been deposited in accordance with the Building Regulations.

Reversion Charge

4. The reversion charge payable in respect of the erection of one or more small domestic buildings is the amount of building notice charge which would be payable under these Regulations if a building notice in relation to the carrying out of that work had been given in accordance with the Building Regulations at the time the reversion charge is payable.

Regularisation Charge

5. The regularisation charge payable in respect of the erection of one or more small domestic buildings is an amount equal to 120 percent of the total of the building notice charge which would be payable in accordance with the Table if a building notice for the carrying out of that work had been given at the time of the application for regularisation in accordance with the Principal Regulations.

Interpretation of Table A

6. For the purposes of the Table, the reference in the heading to column (1) is a reference to the number of dwelling(s) / type(s) in the building or buildings referred to.

TABLE A

Charges for Small Domestic Buildings



Dwellings up to 300sq metres

Number of dwellings or types	PLAN CHARGE		INSPECTION CHARGE	
	Basic Charge	Additional charge for each dwelling above the minimum in the band in column (1)	Basic Charge	Additional charge for each dwelling above the minimum in the band in column (1)
	£	£	£	£
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	167.63	-	419.62	-
2	227.12	-	580.77	-
3	302.82	-	738.66	-
4	373.12	-	853.30	-
5	448.82	-	944.15	-
6	529.94	-	1062.03	-
7	551.57	-	1134.49	-
8	573.20	-	1322.67	-
9	594.83	-	1510.86	-
10	600.23	-	1716.34	-
11	605.64	-	1880.73	-
12	611.05	-	2042.95	-
13	616.46	-	2207.34	-
14	621.86	-	2342.53	-
15	627.27	-	2504.75	-
16	632.68	-	2668.06	-
17	638.09	-	2830.29	-
18	643.49	-	2993.59	-
19	648.90	-	3119.05	-
20	654.31	-	3279.11	-
21	670.53	-	3353.73	-
22	681.35	-	3467.29	-
23	692.16	-	3577.60	-
24	702.98	-	3687.92	-
25	713.79	-	3810.12	-
26	724.61	-	3920.44	-
27	735.42	-	4030.75	-
28	746.42	-	4141.06	-
29	757.05	-	4251.38	-
30	767.87	-	4328.16	-
31 and over	778.68	5.40	4387.95	81.11

Hartlepool Borough Council



(TABLE B)

CHARGES FOR CERTAIN SMALL BUILDINGS, EXTENSIONS AND ALTERATIONS

Calculation of Charges

1. For works specified in column (1) of Table B:
 - a) the plan charge payable is the amount, if any, shown in column (2) of the Table in relation to that work;
 - b) the inspection charge payable is the amount, if any, shown in column (3) of the Table in relation to that work;
 - c) the building notice charge payable is the amount shown in column (4) of the Table in relation to that work;
 - d) the reversion charge payable is the amount shown in column (4) of the Table in relation to that work;
 - e) the regularisation charge payable is the amount shown in column (5) of the Table in relation to that work.

Interpretation of Table B

2.
 - a) Where the work in question comprises or includes the erection of more than one extension to a building used or intended to be used for the purposes of a single private dwelling the total floor areas of all such extensions shall be aggregated in determining the charge payable in accordance with Table B below. Where the aggregated floor area is above 60m² the charge payable is calculated in accordance with Table C.
 - b) In the Table below a reference to an extension is a reference to an extension which has no more than three storeys, each basement level counting as one storey.
 - c) Charges for applications relating to - applicable cavity wall insulation, applicable unvented hot water systems, any extension or alteration of a dwelling consisting of the provision of one or more rooms in a roof space including means of access - Refer to Table C.
 - d) If it is intended to carry out additional building work on a dwelling at the same time any of the work to which type of work categories 3,4 and 5 in table B relates that the charge for this additional work shall be calculated by reference to Table C.

TABLE B
Charges for certain buildings and alterations and extensions

All charges are in £ pound sterling	Full Plan Applications		Building Notice Applications	Regularisation Applications
	Amount of Plan Charge	Amount of Inspection Charge	Amount of Building Notice or Reversion Charge	Amount of Regularisation Charge
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Erection or extension of a detached or attached building which consists of a garage or carport or both having a floor area non exceed 40m ² in total and intended to be used in common with an existing building, and which is not an exempt building	119.15	-	119.15	142.98
2. Erection or extension of a detached or attached building which consists of a garage or carport or both having a floor area exceeding 40m ² but does not exceed 60m ² in total and intended to be used in common with an existing building, and which is not an exempt building.	119.15	129.36	248.51	298.21
3. Any extension of a dwelling the total floor area of which does not exceed 10m ² including means of access and work in connection with that extension	119.15	129.36	248.51	298.21
4. any extension of a dwelling the total floor area of which exceeds 10m ² but does not exceed 40m ² including means of access and work in connection with that extension	119.15	244.43	363.58	436.30
5. Any extension of a dwelling the total floor area of which exceeds 40m ² but does not exceed 60m ² including means of access and work in connection with that extension	119.15	368.68	487.83	585.40

Hartlepool Borough Council



(TABLE C). WORK OTHER THAN WORK TO WHICH TABLES A AND B APPLY

Building Notice Charge and Reversion Charge

1. The amount of the building notice charge or reversion charge for any work shall be that shown in Table C in relation to the estimated cost of that work.

Plan Charge

2. (a) The amount of the plan charge for any work the estimated cost of which is £5,000 or less shall be the amount of the building notice charge which would by virtue of paragraph 1 be payable in respect of that work.

(b) The amount of the plan charge for any work the estimated cost of which is more than £5,000 shall be 25 percent of the building notice charge which would by virtue of paragraph 1 be payable in respect of that work.

Inspection Charge

3. (a) No inspection charge is payable in respect of any work the estimated cost of which is £5,000 or less, notwithstanding that an inspection is carried out.

(b) The amount of the inspection charge for any work the estimated cost of which is more than £5,000 shall be 75 percent of the building notice charge which would by virtue of paragraph 1 be payable in respect of that work.

Regularisation Charge

4. The amount of the regularisation charge for any work shall be 120 percent of the building notice charge which would by virtue of paragraph 1 be payable in respect of that work.

TABLE C**Calculation of Charges for All Other Building Work**

Where the estimated cost is £1,000 or less the sum of	£51.06
Where the estimated cost exceeds £1,000, but does not exceed £2,000 the sum of	£102.13
Where the estimated cost exceeds £2,000, but does not exceed £5,000 the sum of	£170.21
Where the estimated cost exceeds £5,000, but does not exceed £20,000 (a) the sum of together with (b) for every £1,000 (or part thereof) by which the cost exceeds £5,000 the sum of	£170.21 £9.00
Where the estimated cost exceeds £20,000, but does not exceed £100,000 (a) the sum of together with (b) for every £1,000 (or part thereof) by which the cost exceeds £20,000 the sum of	£305.00 £8.00
Where the estimated cost exceeds £100,000, but does not exceed £1,000,000 (a) the sum of together with (b) for every £1,000 (or part thereof) by which the cost exceeds £100,000 the sum of	£945.00 £3.50
Where the estimated cost exceeds £1,000,000, but does not exceed £10,000,000 (a) the sum of together with (b) for every £1,000 (or part thereof) by which the cost exceeds £1,000,000 the sum of	£4,095.00 £2.75
Where the estimated cost exceeds £10,000,000 (a) the sum of together with (b) for every £1,000 (or part thereof) by which the cost exceeds £10,000,000 the sum of	£28,845.00 £2.00

REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO
Report To Portfolio Holder
22 June 2007



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – 4TH
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Portfolio Holder of the progress made against Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 in the final quarter of the year.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report shows details of progress against actions contained in the Departmental Plan and the latest position of key performance indicators. Key departmental achievements during 2006/07 are also highlighted.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for performance management issues in relation to the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder only.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

6.1 That the achievement of key actions and performance outturn information is noted.

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Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – 4th
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the key actions identified in the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2006/07 and the progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 31 March 2007.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Liveability has responsibility for the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan which was agreed in April 2006.
- 2.2 The Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2006/07 sets out the key tasks and issues along with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department during the year.
- 2.3 Each section within the department also produces a service plan, setting out the key tasks and issues facing them in the year. Each plan contains actions detailing how individual sections contribute to the key tasks and priorities contained within the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan and ultimately those of the Corporate Plan.

3. FOURTH QUARTER PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how Regeneration and Planning Services has performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included within the Departmental Plan for 2006/07.
- 3.2 On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are asked, via the Performance Management database, to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the performance plan and where appropriate, every performance indicator.

- 3.3 Officers are asked to provide a short commentary explaining progress made to date and asked to 'traffic light' each section based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the plans. The traffic light system is:-

RED	Action / PI not expected to meet target
AMBER	Action / PI expected to meet target
GREEN	Action / PI target achieved

- 3.4 Within the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan, there are a total of 156 actions and 80 performance indicators identified. Table 1 below summarises the progress made at 31 March 2007 towards achieving these actions and performance indicators:-

Table 1 – Regeneration and Planning progress summary

	Departmental Plan	
	Actions	PIs
Green	140 (89.8%)	55 (68.8%)
Amber	8 (5.1%)	9 (11.3%)
Red	8 (5.1%)	16 (20.0%)
Total	156 (100.0%)	80 (100.0%)

- 3.5 The majority of actions have been completed as planned however 8 of the actions are classed as 'red rated' and were not achieved in 2006/07. A number of issues that arose were beyond the control of the department. Several of the projects that did not achieve target have been highlighted to the Portfolio Holder in previous quarterly reports.

Table 2 – Actions not completed on target/not on target

Ref	Action	Milestone	Comment
CSP 003	Review areas in town centre, and other areas across the town, covered by 'no drinking in public place' Byelaws and re-designate, as appropriate under Local Authority (alcohol consumption in public places) Regulations	Aug 06	Portfolio Holder advised of slippage in the timetable in the Q1 report. Extensive consultation has taken place with police, residents and licensed premises and this has taken longer than expected. Statutory notice now placed in local press. Report to be prepared for Licensing Committee in June 2007 for approval of areas to be covered. Implementation after further publicity required by August 2007.

Ref	Action	Milestone	Comment
RD 015	Development of Heugh Gun Battery Visitor Facilities	Mar 07	This scheme was delayed due to sponsors pursuing funding through the Restoration Fund which was ultimately unsuccessful. Alternative funds have now been secured however and start on site is expected in May/June 2007. The delay was beyond the department's control and was notified to Portfolio Holder in Q2.
RD 038	Prepare evidence base for new LDF – complete PPG17 audit	Dec 06	Specific consultants were needed and appointed but their workload dictated a later than anticipated completion date i.e. June 2007. A managed delay was appropriate to achieve consistency and quality of work required. Portfolio Holder advised of this delay in Q2 report.
RD 039	Prepare baseline information for SEA/SA on LDDs – receive Scoping Report	Sep 06	At the time this milestone was identified the extent and requirements of the SEA/SA process was unclear. Having engaged in the process a September milestone was found to be unrealistic. A revised timetable has now been set which allows for the establishment of joint Baseline information for the LDF and Community Strategy which will be used in Scoping Reports for individual LDF documents.
RD 018	Secure the future of Friarage Manor House and redevelop surrounding land	Site Marketing Sep 06	Delivery of this scheme is dependent upon actions and decisions of land-owners. Officers have acted in a facilitating role but complex issues relating to land ownership, charity commission rules and the requirement to test feasibility options, carry out archaeological surveys and investigate funding opportunities have delayed progression of the scheme.
PED 029	Roll out of NDC key commercial areas – York Road Environmental Improvements	Start Feb 07	Consultation is completed, however some delays on start on site due to utility contractors being behind schedule. NEDL will not confirm completion of their works for the next 6 months, main enhancements cannot start until utility diversions completed.
PED 046	Carry out appraisal of the Headland Conservation Area	Sep 06	Target not achieved due to the longer than expected time requirements for consultation and work with Steering Group. Currently at second round of public consultation and looking to incorporate this information into a

Ref	Action	Milestone	Comment
			draft report. Recommendations will then be discussed at a third round of consultation.
PED 003	Establish 3 year access audit programme to promote good practice in Accessibility to All	Aug 06	The 3 year programme was not established as planned as a result of staff sickness in the Building Control Section. Access audits have however still been undertaken during the year but the formal review and audit programme will not now be in place until early in 2007/08.

3.6 It can also be seen from Table 1 that 16 Performance Indicators have been highlighted as not meeting the set target. Nine of these indicators have been highlighted to Portfolio Holder in previous quarterly reports.

Table 3 – Performance Indicators not completed on target/not on target

Ref	Action	Target	Outturn	Comment
LAA H12	Number of houses cleared in HMR intervention area	200	55	Portfolio Holder advised of this indicator in previous quarterly reports. Delays were experienced due to statutory post CPO processes. Demolitions will however increase sharply following formal transfer of all sites to developers in Q1 of 2007/08.
LAA H13	Number of new homes constructed in HMR intervention area	50	0	Portfolio Holder advised of this indicator in previous quarterly reports. Delays to new builds caused by post-CPO technical work now resolved - target will be exceeded in 2007/08.
PED PI1	Percentage of Building Control applications determined within 8 weeks	100%	86%	This indicator was reported to Portfolio Holder in Q2 and Q3. Recruitment difficulties in this area of work along with the serious illness of two staff members have led to the lower outturn figure.
BV204	Percentage of Planning Appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning application	33%	61.11%	Reported in earlier quarterly reports. This figure is based on a small number of appeals. The new Local Plan was adopted in April 2006 and there has been an element of testing of the Plan. Further there have been a number of sensitive and locally contentious applications this year where the balance between refusal and approval was finely drawn.

Ref	Action	Target	Outturn	Comment
BV225	Actions against domestic violence	11/11	7/11	Reported to Portfolio Holder in Q3. These scores relate to a checklist indicating compliance against the BVPI. A strategy has been prepared with our partners to achieve the remaining points and the 11/11 score will be a target in the 2007/08 departmental plan.
LAA CS17	Deliberate fires (Hartlepool)	853	890	Reported to Portfolio Holder in Q2. This includes both deliberate property fires and deliberate fires to materials of limited/no value (e.g. piles of rubbish/ bonfires). Deliberate property fires are reducing, but the problem area is still small "rubbish" fires.
LAA CS23	Reduce year on year the number of first time entrants to youth justice system	274	298	Reported to Portfolio Holder in Q3. This figure is rising nationally due to the police being more stringent on recording crimes/ incidences.
LAA JE4	Employment Rate (Neighbourhood Renewal narrowing the gap)	62.8%	59.5%	Unemployment has increased both nationally and locally and Hartlepool has seen two major job losses with the closure of Bonne Bouche and Rye Valley Food plants. These losses have significantly affected outturn figures. The difficulty in achieving unemployment rate targets was reported to Portfolio Holder in Q3.
LAA JE5	Unemployment rate (Hartlepool)	3.8%	5.0%	
LAA JE6	Unemployment rate (Neighbourhood Renewal narrowing the gap)	4.9%	7.2%	
LAA CS16	Percentage of people who are satisfied with the quality of service provided by the Police (NRS) (Mori Survey)	50%	48%	This LAA indicator is largely beyond the control of the department. In addition the survey was carried out during summer 2006 and therefore only few months after introduction of Neighbourhood Policing across the town. At year end, residents were expressing satisfaction with visibility of Police.
LAA CS20	Criminal Damage	2440	2530	This LAA indicator is slightly (3.7%) above target, but the level has reduced from 2709 in 2005/06. This crime is a priority for further reductions in 2007/08.

Ref	Action	Target	Outturn	Comment
LAA JE11/ RP8	Number of new businesses created in Hartlepool	125	119	This target was narrowly missed. The Brougham Enterprise Centre works were extended after securing additional £650k Single Programme funding and the disruption contributed to the outturn position. Benefits of this increased investment should however be seen in future years.
PED PI3	Percentage of planning complaint investigations concluded in 4 months	80%	65.1%	The authority's Enforcement Officer left his post during the year causing a dip in performance. A replacement has been appointed and the backlog of applications has been prioritised. The position should progressively improve.
SSD PI1	Average number of days lost to Sickness Absence within the department	7.08	8.79	The target was exceeded largely as a result of a number of long term genuine cases occurring in the last quarter of the year. Absence management arrangements are in place and performance is reported to Performance Management Portfolio Holder as part of the overall Council sickness update. The department remained best performing in the Council for days lost during 2006/07.
PED PI6-6d	Landscape Planning and Conservation: % of planning consultations processed [and returned to Development Control Section] within 14 days	95%	86%	This internal target was not met as a result of high workload particularly in relation to the new grant scheme, conservation area appraisal and the Planning Working Party on Conservation. However the department's overall performance on the processing of planning applications was again better than the national BVPI targets.

3.7 Portfolio Holder's attention is drawn to some of the key achievements of the department during the past year as follows:-

- Enhancements to Brougham Enterprise Centre were completed during the year and are proving popular with existing and new tenants. Hartlepool's rate of new VAT registered businesses was the ninth highest in Great Britain and work to place to ensure our economic regeneration priorities for Hartlepool were reflected within the draft Regional Economic Strategy for the North East.

- Working with local communities, Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) were updated for both Dyke House/Stranton/Grange and Burbank areas, and work on updating the Rift House/Burn Valley Plan is underway. We have also assisted New Deal for Communities in completing a NAP for their area.
- Under the management of the Community Safety Division, the Hartlepool Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) became only the second in country and first in the North East to achieve an “all green” status on 6 newly introduced and very challenging national key performance indicators. The Youth Offending Service was formally inspected during 2006/07 and was found to have “consistently performed well against required targets” and that “sound performance management systems were in place”. The service was awarded scores of 4 ‘good’ and 1 ‘adequate’.
- Within Planning, the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted in October 2006 and we continue to perform better than the Government targets for processing ‘major’, ‘minor’ and ‘other’ planning applications.
- The Hartlepool Partnership had its annual review with Government Office in November 2006 and retained its GREEN rating.
- Residents continue to be involved in the ongoing development and governance of the Housing Market Renewal (HMR) programme and in 2006/07 CPO Public Inquiries covering three redevelopment sites and over 620 properties were successfully concluded to ensure transfer to two developers for demolition and building of 330 homes.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the achievement of key actions and performance outcome information is noted.

REGENERATION & LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

Report To Portfolio Holder

22nd June, 2007



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY ACTION PLAN 2006-11

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report informs the Portfolio Holder of the key points of the recently launched Regional Economic Strategy (RES) Action Plan and the implications for Hartlepool.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

2.1 This report reminds the Portfolio Holder of the Council's comments on the consultation draft of the Action Plan in January, 2007. It then summarises the key points of the Action Plan, following its formal launch on 18th May, 2007, bringing out the implications for Hartlepool. In summary, the Action Plan acknowledges several areas of business support and skills development where the Council will continue to have an important role to play. It also more fully acknowledges Hartlepool within the "Place" theme, although the indicative level of resource from One NorthEast for that theme is a cause for potential concern, highlighting the need for the Council to continue its work within the development and delivery of the Tees Valley City Region Investment Plan.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

3.1 The Regional Economic Strategy Action Plan seeks to provide an investment framework for a wide range of interventions effecting economic performance and is therefore highly relevant to the Portfolio.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

4.1 For information.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

5.1 Portfolio Holder, 22nd June, 2007.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

6.1 That the report be noted.

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY ACTION
PLAN 2006-11

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report informs the Portfolio Holder of the key points of the recently launched Regional Economic Strategy (RES) Action Plan and the implications for Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In January the Portfolio Holder approved comments to One North East in response to the draft RES Action Plan, which had been out to consultation from October, 2006. Those comments reflected discussions with ONE, the other Tees Valley Local Authorities and the Tees Valley Partnership. In essence, the comments sought:

- a) greater clarity in the presentation of strategic priorities (the “transformational interventions”);
- b) recognition of the Tees Valley Coastal Arc, including Hartlepool Quays, as part of the transformational intervention, “Investing in the Economic Hearts of our City Regions”;
- c) recognition of the effectiveness of integrated investment programmes (as well as “fewer bigger strategic investments”);
- d) a more explicit prioritisation of the promotion, enhancement and protection of the region’s cultural, national and heritage assets;
- e) acknowledgement of the role of local authorities in business support and in promoting economic inclusion;
- f) a sharper focus within the “skills” section, on raising aspirations and addressing higher level skills gaps;
- g) acknowledgement of the role of local strategic partnerships and local area agreements;
- h) adequate funding for the “Place” theme;
- i) recognition of the potential economic impact of the Tall Ships’ Race 2010.

3. THE RES ACTION PLAN

- 3.1 Over 100 responses were received by ONE during the consultation period and the revised RES Action Plan was launched by ONE on 18th May. The remaining parts of this section summarise the key points of the Action Plan with particular reference to the concerns raised in our January response.
- 3.2 The Action Plan's introduction maintains the emphasis on increasing Gross Value Added per capita, creating new businesses and providing employment as the "headline" indicators of performance; offshore technologies and tourism, two sectors very relevant to Hartlepool, have been added to the sectors predicted to generate the necessary growth.
- 3.3 The Action Plan re-defines the "transformational interventions" from the draft Action Plan. Five are now set out:
1. Building a new enterprise surge
 2. Boosting productivity and innovation in business
 3. Creating 21st century transport and digital connections
 4. Supporting world class skills and increased economic activity
 5. Investing in the economic hearts of our region.

Comparison with the draft plan's interventions shows that the need for ongoing investment in telecommunications and transport infrastructure is given a greater profile, whilst the "Place" theme, represented by the fifth intervention above, has been broadened to give greater profile to the Region's market towns and rural service centres as well as the two City Regions of Tyne and Wear and the Tees Valley. More detailed comments on these interventions are set out below.

- 3.4 The Action Plan continues to stress the importance of building leadership capacity in the Region, partly by seeking to align national, regional, sub-regional and local priorities; in this respect it is pleasing to note the acknowledgement of Local Area Agreements (one of the points made in our January submission) and also multi area agreements, in relation to which the Tees Valley has made significant progress in recent months.
- 3.5 Whilst the Action Plan defines its five "transformational interventions" as at para. 3.3 above, the more detailed text of the Plan is not wholly consistent with the terminology of the interventions, creating, in places, some difficulty in establishing clear priorities for investment.
- 3.6 The Action Plan's section on the "Business" theme recognises the importance of stimulating and supporting new enterprises, providing quality support to existing businesses and targeting investment on areas where the Region is building international competitiveness.

Strategic sectors to be developed include the process industries, healthcare, energy, and tourism and hospitality, in respect of which Hartlepool and the Tees Valley are well placed to contribute. The Action Plan refers to several existing and proposed initiatives where the Council is well placed to make an input, although the lack of significant reference to the roles of local authorities in business support is disappointing, despite a collective projected average annual investment by local authorities of £100m.

- 3.7 The Action Plan's "People" theme encouragingly highlights the importance of employer demand-led training, a targeted sectoral approach, raising aspirations, higher level skills, and reducing worklessness, all of which are areas where the Council is already active. Specifically, there is welcome commitment to continuing capital investment, aligned with Building Schools for the Future and the LSC's capital programme, both of which are, of course, very relevant to Hartlepool's circumstances. There also appears to be more specific focus on local initiatives, including by local authorities and the voluntary and community sector, in tackling economic participation in deprived communities.
- 3.8 The "Place" theme within the Action Plan now has a more detailed description of priorities in the Tees Valley City Region, which includes

"Coastal Arc – Completing the TVR site at Victoria Harbour; preparing for Hartlepool's hosting of the Tall Ship's (sic) 2010; and looking further ahead to redevelop the coastal towns of Hartlepool and Redcar and the South Tees Industrial Sites".

Other priorities relate to the Tees Valley's key growth sectors, Teesport, Durham Tees Valley Airport, Stockton Middlesbrough, Darlington Gateway and "Green Infrastructure", the last representing a strategic approach to green infrastructure investment designed to transform the Tees Valley's image and environment. This representation of priorities is more helpful to Hartlepool's interests than was the draft Action Plan. However the lack of reference to "Hartlepool Quays" is disappointing, and inconsistent with the emerging RSS which supports the polycentric development and redevelopment of the Tees Valley City Region by giving (equal) priority in regeneration terms to Hartlepool Quays alongside other regeneration areas within the sub-region.

- 3.9 The "Place" theme also acknowledges the continuing role for Tees Valley Living and Visit Tees Valley, in their respective areas of housing market renewal and tourism, as part of the overall sustainable communities agenda. There are also references to the need to examine and develop various joint ventures and other investment vehicles to address issues of failure in the property market and maximise the leverage effect of public sector funding. It is likely therefore that One and English Partnerships will be expecting such an

approach to be taken with respect to major development and regeneration projects, rather than there being a “traditional” grant-funded approach.

- 3.10 The Action Plan’s references to major transport projects include the Tees Valley Bus Improvements and the feasibility work for the Tees Valley Metro/Rail enhancement; improved rail access to Teesport is also identified as a key issue.
- 3.11 With respect to the need to promote and enhance the region’s assets, the role of the Coastal Framework, to which we and Redcar and Cleveland Council contributed significantly, is recognised – we continue to seek due recognition of the potential of the Tees Valley Coastal Arc in this context. The Action Plan also commits to the development of a programme of regional festivals and events, including the continued delivery of Culture 10 and a programme post 2010 – clearly highly relevant to our plans to develop a programme in Hartlepool up to and beyond the Tall Ships’ Race 2010.
- 3.12 In relation to financial resources, the Action Plan seeks to indicate, in broad terms, the levels of resource being allocated by key partners to each theme. Whilst some funding will clearly relate to more than one theme, the “headline” figures for ONE itself are

Average annual investment 2006-2011

Business	£120m
People	£20m
Place	£80m

The “Place” allocation represents a reduction from the figures of the draft Action Plan and is a cause for concern, given that many of the City Region-related projects and activity would seek support from that source. The comments at 3.9 above relating to joint venture agreements and maximising private sector leverage gain added significance in this funding context.

- 3.13 In terms of delivery, the Action Plan recognises that the investment planning approach, as represented by the Tees Valley City Region Investment Plan for example, is the right framework for moving forward. The Council will clearly need to continue its engagement with other organisations in the Tees Valley in taking forward both the governance and delivery arrangements and the development of specific regeneration programmes and initiatives, e.g. Victoria Harbour, housing market renewal, continuing town centre regeneration and the southern business zone.

4. SUMMARY

- 4.1 The RES Action Plan recognises many areas of enterprise development, business support, skills development and employment where the Council has, and will continue to have a key role to play. In relation to the “Place” theme, Hartlepool’s potential within the Tees Valley City Region is more explicitly and fully recognised than it was within the draft Action Plan, although the lack of recognition for “Hartlepool Quays” is disappointing. The level of ONE resources available for the Place theme is of concern and the Council will need to engage fully in discussion at the regional and sub-regional level in the continued development and delivery of the City Region Investment Plan to seek to safeguard Hartlepool’s interests in this respect.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the report is noted.