

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

13 August 2007

The meeting commenced at 9.00 a.m. in the Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Peter Jackson (Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mike Blair, Transportation and Traffic Manager
Gemma Clough, Principal Regeneration Officer
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

24. Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 – 1st Quarter Monitoring Report *(Director of Neighbourhood Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 in the first quarter of the year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Director of Neighbourhood Services outlined the progress made against the key actions identified in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 and the progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 30 June 2007.

Within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan there are a total of 62 Actions and 72 Performance Indicators identified. The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood and Communities has responsibility for 55 of these actions and 59 of these performance indicators. The report summarised the progress made, to the 30 June 2007, towards achieving these actions and performance indicators. One particular indicator was highlighted as not expected to achieve target; this was NSD045, Complete spend analysis across the Neighbourhood Services Department, which had been anticipated for completion in June 2007. The Director reported that due to some delays with

the software required to undertake this task, the work had only recently begun. The Director requested that the target for this action be reprogrammed for completion in October 2007.

Decision

1. That the change to the action milestone NSD045 be approved.
2. That the achievement of key actions and outturns of performance indicators be noted.

25. Draft One – Owton Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update *(Head of Regeneration)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To seek comments on draft one of the Owton Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update. A copy of the draft plan was submitted along with a summary document highlighting the priority concerns and the actions to address these.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report set out the background to Neighbourhood Action Plans with a specific focus on the Owton NAP. The current position was outlined with regard to the consultation process, from the initial community conference to the formation of the draft NAP along with some of the residents' key concerns identified in the plan. The report also described the revised format of the NAP and explained that a resident's summary pamphlet was to be produced to outline the key elements of the Owton NAP Update. Finally, the report identified the financial implications of the NAP once endorsement had been sought from the Owton Forum, the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder, the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and the Hartlepool Partnership.

The Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and congratulated officers on the production of an excellent plan that showed the extensive community partnerships that existed in the Owton area.

Decision

That the update of the Owton Neighbourhood Action Plan be received.

26. Proposed Residents Parking Scheme – Clifton Avenue and Eldon Grove *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To consider extending the current permit parking control zone to include

Clifton Avenue (between Linden Grove and Wilton Avenue) and Eldon Grove (between Clifton Avenue and Park Road).

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Several requests have been received from residents asking for the introduction of a permit controlled zone in order to ease traffic congestion and provide parking availability close to the residential properties. Resident's directly affected by this proposal had therefore been consulted. Consultation had taken place with residents in the area over a five-week period to determine the level of support or otherwise for the proposal. The number of returned consultations was relatively high with the majority of residents who returned the consultation expressing that they would favour the introduction of residents only permit parking controls. Most residents agreed that without any parking control measures, any available on street parking space would diminish. The Transportation and Traffic Manager did caution that the consultation had been carried out prior to the recent announcement of an increase in the charge for residents parking permits. It was indicated that under the new charging regime, this would be an area where permits would cost £20 each per annum.

The Portfolio Holder considered that the residents should be consulted further on the introduction of permits in light of the recent proposals to increase the charges. The Portfolio Holder suggested that should the further consultation reveal that a majority of residents in the two streets were still in support of the scheme, then it should proceed.

Decision

1. That further consultation be carried out on the request to create resident's only permit parking on the remaining unregulated section of Clifton Avenue (between Linden Grove to its junction with Wilton Road) and on Eldon Grove (Between Clifton Avenue to its junction with Park Road). If the results of this further consultation continue to support the introduction of permit parking, then the scheme should proceed.
2. If the introduction of the residents parking zone is to proceed, subject to 1 above, the necessary Legal Orders be advertised.

27. Winterbottom Avenue / Miers Avenue *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To consider a request from the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum for the above location to be added to the local safety scheme list.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

At the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum on 13 June, a request was made for the junction of Winterbottom Avenue and Miers Avenue to be

considered for safety measures. The main reason for the request is poor visibility when entering Winterbottom Avenue from both sides of Miers Avenue. This was due to two bus stops (one either side of Miers Avenue) being located close to the junction. It would not be practical to move the bus stops along the road, due to almost certain objections from residents but there is a wide tarmaced verge area between the footpath and the carriageway at both bus stops and the ideal solution would appear to be to create lay-bys. This would remove waiting buses from the carriageway, significantly improving visibility, and would be less likely to attract objections from residents, as the bus stops would not be moving along the road to new locations.

There would be a significant cost implication for a scheme of this nature, and therefore it would need to be prioritised on the same basis as all other schemes. Accident records show that there has been one slight accident at this location in the last 3 years, whilst speed surveys have given 85th percentile results of 35.4mph. The Transportation and Traffic Manager suggested that in view of the accident record and level of speeding recorded, Winterbottom Avenue/Miers Avenue be inserted into the safety scheme table (attached as an appendix to the report) at position 18.

The Portfolio Holder supported the proposal and requested that the Chair of the North Neighbourhood Forum be advised of this decision.

Decision

That in view of the accident record and level of speeding recorded, Winterbottom Avenue/Miers Avenue be inserted into the safety scheme table at position 18.

28. Moffat Road Traffic Calming Petition *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To advise the Portfolio Holder of a petition submitted requesting traffic calming in Moffat Road.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

A petition has been submitted primarily from residents of Moffat Road, along with other residents of the "M" block and some from further afield, which raises concerns over the speed of traffic in Moffat Road. The petition was made available to the Portfolio Holder at the meeting for information.

Ward councillors have supported the petition and indicated that funding could become available via various organisations. There are a number of sources from which funding may be available, these being a combination of the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum, Owton Manor Neighbourhood Action Plan, Housing Hartlepool and the Local Transport Plan. They have requested

that a traffic-calming scheme be designed for the M block and then priced, to give an idea of the level of funding required. Roads included in the proposals would be:- Moffat Road, Malcolm Road, Monach Road, Motherwell Road, Minch Road, Monkton Road and Macrae Road. This would also help to avoid simply moving speeding vehicles onto other roads, which could be the case if Moffat Road was tackled in isolation. There have been three accidents in the last four years on the roads listed.

The Transportation and Traffic Manager indicated that from the Local Transport Plan the funding available would only be a maximum of £5000 as a contribution towards a jointly funded scheme. The Principal Regeneration Officer highlighted that the funding from the Owton Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) could only be allocated by the Owton Forum should the issue be identified as a priority within the Owton NAP Update, and that this would be allocated via the commissioning process.

Decision

- 1 That the Portfolio Holder notes the petition and that the “M” block traffic calming proposals be approved in principle.
- 2 That a further report be submitted to a future Portfolio meeting presenting the detailed scheme, finalised funding arrangements and a summary of the consultation exercise to be undertaken.

29. Ordnance Survey Map Return Scheme *(Head of Technical Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To recommend an alternative digital map supplier for the Council that will enable it to continue to run its Map Return Scheme after the current agreement with Ordnance Survey expires on 30 September 2007.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Map Return Scheme is an agreement through which Local Authorities have been providing copies of Ordnance Survey maps, under copyright law, to applicants to support their planning applications. This has aided the planning process by ensuring that private applications include adequate mapping. In essence the maps provided to the applicant are returned with the application – hence it's name the Map Return Scheme (MRS). The current system works with the Council issuing three maps to applicants from its own in-house range of digital maps, supplied by Ordnance Survey as part of the Local Authority wide Mapping Service Agreement (MSA). Applicants are currently charged £16.75 for three maps, this consists of £13.59 for copyright and £3.16 for administration, and the council is invoiced quarterly by Ordnance Survey for the maps issued within this period.

The current Map Return Scheme has been extended to 30 September 2007 and Ordnance Survey is now offering a range of different options for Local Authorities to be able to provide mapping for planning applicants. This range of options will allow Authorities to continue to either provide the service themselves or defer all requests on to a third party.

Various companies have been in contact with Hartlepool Borough Council and have provided details of how such partnerships would work, what costs are involved, the use of mapping software portals, user training and user support. The financial implications were set out in a confidential appendix to the report. The appendix contained exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Decision

That NFS Mapping and Data Centre be used as the new source of mapping data for the Council's Map Return Scheme from 1 October 2007 with charges to the public being £15.00 for three maps.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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