

# REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

## DECISION RECORD

31<sup>st</sup> August, 2007

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am at Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Hartlepool

**Present:**

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond)

Officers:     Ralph Harrison, Head of Public Protection  
                  Jeff Mason, Head of Support Services  
                  Sally Forth, Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator  
                  Sarah Scarr, Landscape Planning and Conservation Manager  
                  Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

**13. Conservation Grant Scheme** (*Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*)

**Type of decision**

Non-Key

**Purpose of report**

To provide an update on the current budget position and possible criteria to be used for assessing applications.

**Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Conservation Grant Scheme started in the financial year 2006/07. with a budget of £50,000 being offered to 14 properties over the year. This financial year £30,235 has so far been offered to 7 properties. It is anticipated that further applications will be forthcoming for works to buildings and the scheme is likely to be over subscribed. Given this high demand it was suggested that criteria be introduced for the selection of schemes. Details were given of the proposed criteria however the Portfolio Holder felt that the current system of first come first served was fairer and reduced uncertainty for applicants. More funding would be sought through the budget process.

**Decision**

That the proposed selection criteria for conservation grant applications be

refused and the existing process continue.

**14. Trading Standards Service Plan 2007/08** (*Head of Public Protection*)

**Type of decision**

Non-key

**Purpose of report**

To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the Trading Standards Service Plan.

**Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Trading Standards Service Plan set out the Service aims and objectives, the background to the authority, Service delivery, resources, quality assessment and details of the review of the plan. The Portfolio Holder was advised that the number of programmed trading standards inspections carried out in 2006/7 was on target with 100% of high risk premises inspected. Details were given of high priority areas for 2007/08.

It was agreed that the following line in relation to age restricted products could be removed from the draft Service Plan:

“It is our policy to prosecute suppliers and to institute a revue of the premises licence under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003”

**Decision**

That the Trading Standards Service Plan 2007/8 be approved with the amendment discussed.

**15. Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 – Quarter 1 Monitoring Report** (*Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*)

**Type of decision**

Non-key

**Purpose of report**

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

### **Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2007/2008 was agreed by the Portfolio Holder in May 2007 and set out the key tasks and issues along with an Action Plan showing what was to be achieved by the department in the coming year.

The report provided details of the progress against the actions contained in the Plan and the first quarter outturns of key performance indicators. All the actions were progressing satisfactorily and while one performance indicator was not on target for completion satisfactory improvements in that area were being made.

### **Decision**

That the progress against key actions and first quarter outturn of performance indicators be noted.

## **16. Family Intervention Project Update** (*Head of Community Safety and Prevention*)

### **Type of decision**

Non-key

### **Purpose of report**

To provide an update on the progress of the Family Intervention Project.

### **Issue(s) considered by the Portfolio Holder**

The Portfolio Holder agreed in October 2006 that an application for funding be made to the RESPECT Unit for £100,000 in both 2006/07 and 2007/08 to establish a Family Intervention Project in Hartlepool. The grant was offered with an expectation that the FIP would be mainstreamed by the Council and partners at the end of the funded period. The main objective was to stop the anti-social behaviour of problematic families and restore safety to their homes and to the wider community. The key tool is the Family Contract which identifies areas where changes are needed for each family member and draws up actions for each issue identified.

The funding application was successful and a project co-ordinator commenced in post on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2007. A bid had recently been made for funding toward the post of Housing Support Worker and a Steering Group was set up, chaired by the Head of Community Safety and Prevention and including senior level representative from a number of organisations

including the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, the Department of Work and Pensions, the Children's Services Department and Housing Hartlepool. It was agreed that referrals would come through the Hartlepool Intervention Panel. To date 7 referrals had been made and work was on-going with 6 families on an outreach basis. Details were given of the specific issues affecting each family.

**Decision**

That the report be noted.

**J A BROWN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

**PUBLICATION DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007**