

# REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

## DECISION RECORD

14 March 2008

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Avondale Centre, Dyke House School, Hartlepool

**Present:**

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond)

Officers: Peter Scott, Director of Regeneration and Planning  
Rob Smith, Senior Regeneration Officer  
Sylvia Tempest, Environmental Standards Officer  
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

### **37. Economic Analysis of the Decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Station and Potential New Build** *(Assistant Director – Planning and Economic Development)*

**Type of decision**

Non key.

**Purpose of report**

To gain approval to undertake an economic analysis of the decommissioning and the potential new build of a nuclear power station. This work will be under the direction of the Hartlepool Economic Forum Steering Group.

**Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

Hartlepool nuclear power station is due for decommissioning in 2014 and would require a substantial programme to decommission and demolish it. There was likely to be a wide ranging requirement for services and labour to complete this, creating an economic impact.

The Government has announced its intention to develop a new nuclear power station programme and Hartlepool could feasibly accommodate a new nuclear power station. This would require a major construction programme and a substantial supplier chain. The operation of the plant would require a significant number of staff and an associate extensive

supplier chain.

As part of the debate surrounding this, the Hartlepool Economic Forum has indicated a desire for an independent economic impact assessment to help inform the debate. The study would seek to quantify potential economic impact to Hartlepool and not make judgement on the development of a new nuclear programme or comment on location issues.

The development of an economic impact study would need to be carried out by an independent body with a strong track record of evaluating economic impacts of major projects preferably with nuclear industry experience. The work would be tendered with a likely cost of between £20,000 and £25,000. Tees Valley Regeneration had offered £10,000 towards this cost and the balance would be provided from within Departmental budgets.

### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder approved the commissioning of an economic study of the decommissioning of the existing nuclear power station and the potential development of a new power station under the direction of the Hartlepool Economic Forum Steering Group. He stated that an environmental study should also be commissioned as the Council needed a balanced approach. These two studies should be separate but liaise together and funding for the environmental study would be estimated and reported back to the Portfolio Holder at a later date.

## **38. Industrial/Commercial Property and Environmental Improvement Scheme – Management and Delivery Arrangements** *(Assistant Director – Planning and Economic Development)*

### **Type of Decision**

Non key.

### **Purpose of Report**

To outline the proposed management and delivery arrangements for the Industrial and Commercial Property and Environmental Improvement Scheme.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Industrial and Commercial Property and Environmental Improvement Scheme has £100,000 allocated for the 2008/09 financial year and £100,000 for 2009/10 from Hartlepool Borough Council capital funds.

In recent years grant and environmental projects had focused on the New Deal for Communities (NDC) area. After re-considering the target areas it

was still appropriate to continue support in that area and not expand the scheme to include other areas of the town as this currently encompassed some of the most deprived areas of the town with businesses facing a set of deep seated economic problems. The project would therefore continue the work of the NDC Commercial Areas and Longhill Improvement schemes using Hartlepool Borough Council funds. The NDC Commercial Areas and Longhill schemes included a mixture of grants to businesses and targeted environmental improvements. The existing NDC management arrangements would continue in order to capitalise on the successful Partnership working that had been established. The NDC Longhill and Commercial Areas management groups would determine grant rates, the prioritisation of grants, the strategic direction of the project and would monitor the performance of the project. The NDC Grant Panel which was made up of NDC residents, Police Crime Prevention Officer and a Business Link representative has responsibility for deciding whether to approve grants once financial checks have been made and the Council's Quantity Surveyor has assessed the grant applications in terms of value for money.

There are no financial implications linked to the report as the funding has been approved previously. The report outlines the management and delivery arrangements for these funds, which include a 10% management fee each year to cover staff costs for the Regeneration Team. In addition there is also £230,000 from the NDC Commercial Areas project to be allocated for grants and environmental projects in 2008/09.

### **Decision**

The Regeneration and Liveability Portfolio Holder noted the management and delivery arrangements for the Industrial/Commercial Property and Environmental Improvement Scheme and pointed out that future funding would need to be established as the NDC project was coming to an end.

## **39. PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL PROPOSALS** (*Head of Public Protection*)

### **Type of Decision**

Non key.

### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of proposals for community projects.

### **Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder**

The Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group had recommended that the following projects be considered for funding :-

- Chatham House Daycare 'Wildlife Garden'

- Lonsdale Nursery
- Artrium Studio
- Play in the Park
- Catcote School Garden

These projects totalled £4220, the funding for which was available within the Pride in Hartlepool budget.

### **Decision**

The Portfolio Holder agreed the recommendation of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of community environmental projects.

**J A BROWN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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