

CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Tuesday 11th November 2008

at 10.00 am

**in Committee Room D,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

Councillor Tumilty, Cabinet Member responsible for Culture, Leisure and Tourism will consider the following items.

1. KEY DECISIONS

No items

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 Access to Nature Stage 2 Application – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
- 2.2 National Free Swimming Initiative – Further Update – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
- 2.3 Purchase of Collection of Works by Frank Henry Mason – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
- 2.4 Purchase of Painting 'Beach Huts' by Margaret Green – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
- 2.5 Waverley Terrace Allotments – Proposal for further improvements – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2008/2009 – 2nd Quarter Monitoring Report – *Director of Adult and Community Services*

4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

No items

CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

Tuesday 11th November 2008



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: ACCESS TO NATURE STAGE 2 APPLICATION

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to proceed to Stage 2 application for the Access to Nature funding.

To seek approval to accept the grant if offered by Natural England.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Access to Nature is an open grants programme run by Natural England and supports projects that encourage more people to understand, appreciate and enjoy the outdoors. Parks and Countryside Section have successfully applied for Stage 1 application. **(See Appendix 1 for full details)**. It has recently been offered a position to proceed to apply to Stage 2.

Parks and Countryside's application is based on partnership working between the Countryside Warden Team, Teesmouth Field Centre and the Environment Agency. It aims to target schools and local communities, often in deprived areas, to access the Town's Local Nature Reserves and other green spaces. Two posts would be created to work with schools, volunteers and friends groups and to work to promote and build momentum of larger Greenspace projects at Burn Valley as well as with the Teesmouth National Nature Reserve.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Countryside Services are within the remit of the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key decision.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder report, 11th November 2008.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- That the Portfolio Holder gives approval to proceed to Stage 2 application for the Access to Nature funding.
- That the Portfolio Holder gives approval to accept the grant if offered by Natural England.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: ACCESS TO NATURE STAGE 2 APPLICATION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to proceed to Stage 2 application for the Access to Nature funding.
- 1.2 To seek approval for acceptance of the grant if offered by Natural England.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 On 25th June 2008 Parks and Countryside Section of Hartlepool Borough Council submitted a stage 1 application for the Access to Nature grants programme.
- 2.2 Access to Nature is a new grants programme run by Natural England on behalf of a consortium of major environmental organisations. It is funded by the Big Lottery Fund's Changing Spaces programme which was created to help communities enjoy and improve their local environments.
- 2.3 The stage 1 application was basically an expression of interest based on the project details as outlined in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.4 The grant programme supports projects that encourage more people to understand, appreciate and enjoy the outdoors.
- 2.5 Parks and Countryside's application is based on partnership working between the Countryside Warden Team, Teesmouth Field Centre and the Environment Agency.
- 2.6 It aims to target schools and local communities, often in deprived areas, to access the Town's Local Nature Reserves and other green spaces.
- 2.7 The application is built around a project that builds on existing partnerships with the Council's Countryside Warden Team, the Teesmouth Field Centre and the Environment Agency.
- 2.8 The Countryside Warden Team is responsible for the upkeep and promotion of six Local Nature Reserves (LNR's) spread geographically throughout the town. This project aims to target

schools and local communities, often in deprived areas, to access the LNR's and other green spaces through targeted work with schools based at the Field Centre or in the LNR itself. The intended outcomes include encouraging schools to visit the Field Centre and the green spaces as well as developing capacity among communities through volunteer programmes, junior warden schemes and local friends groups.

- 2.9 The funding will be spent on employing a dedicated officer to work with the schools, volunteers and friends groups to achieve the objectives of the programme as well as providing a bursary scheme, linked to objectives for those schools who wish to visit the Field Centre. New activities developed at the Field Centre will encourage school groups to record seasonal differences in the wildlife of the Teesmouth National Nature Reserve, using digital photography. Community groups will be offered a presentation/talk, Teesmouth Together - People and Wildlife, followed by the option of guided walks and workshops to promote interest in the Teesmouth NNR.
- 2.10 A second project officer will work specifically in the Burn Valley Area (which provides accessible green space close to the town centre and some of the town's more deprived areas) to link local schools and community with the wildlife enhancement programme associated with the wider River Corridor Enhancement Project.
- 2.11 This project, a partnership between the local authority and the Environment Agency aims to improve the biodiversity value of the Burn Valley Beck and produce natural areas such as wetlands in partnership with the community and schools. The project officer will build capacity and momentum on the wider project. Some enhancement works will be included in the project, providing the opportunity for community participation.
- 2.12 Natural England has sent a letter informing Parks and Countryside that its Stage 1 application has been assessed and passed, allowing it to proceed to Stage 2 application.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The proposal is to proceed to Stage 2 application taking into account the points raised in the letter from Natural England:
 - To more fully justify the requirement for the two separate staff posts, highlighting the need for these posts as well as their duties. It must also highlight the delivery of the project outcomes.
 - Submit supplementary evidence to support the research as given in the stage 1 application, addressing the views of the scheme's

beneficiaries as well as highlighting the needs for the planned proposals.

- As the project follows the principles of community outreach and engagement, Stage 2 application should look towards the use of local project committees made up from representatives of the community that the project targets.

4. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- 4.1 All match funding can be provided from either from current resources and/or in kind services.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- That the Portfolio Holder gives approval to proceed to Stage 2 application for the Access to Nature funding.
- That the Portfolio Holder gives approval to accept the grant if offered by Natural England.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- a) Changing Spaces; Access to Nature, General Guidance Notes (Natural England)
- b) Access to Nature; Regional Targeting plan – North East Natural England)
- c) Access to Nature; Stage two Guidance notes (Natural England)

7. CONTACT OFFICER

Chris Scaife, Countryside Access Officer

Stage 1 Application Form

1. WHO ARE YOU AND HOW DO WE CONTACT YOU?

1.1 CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR ORGANISATION

Please give the name of your organisation as it appears on your governing document (constitution or set of rules):

Hartlepool Borough Council

Registered address for your organisation, including postcode:

Address line 1: Hartlepool Borough Council

Address line 2: Civic Centre

Address line 3:

Town: Hartlepool

County: Cleveland

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1): TS24 Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA): 8AY

Website Address: www.hartlepool.gov.uk

Phone area code: 01429

Telephone number: 266522

Facsimile number:

Email Address: andrew.pearson@hartlepool.gov.uk

If you are a branch of a larger organisation, please tell us which one as they may have some legal responsibility if we award you a grant:

Hartlepool Borough Council

Have you received the consent of the above organisation to apply for this funding?



Yes



No

1.2 MAIN CONTACT DETAILS

Title and full name of the main contact in your organisation for this project: (this should be the name of someone who is able to talk in detail about the proposed project and who we are able to contact to discuss it)

Title: Mr First name: Andrew Last name: Pearson

Position held in your organisation: Parks and Countryside Manager

Address for correspondence, if different from the registered organisation address:

Address line 1: Parks and Countryside Section

Address line 2: Municipal Buildings

Address line 3: Suite 8

Town: Church Square

County: Hartlepool

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1): TS24 Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA): 7EQ

Website Address: www.hartlepool.gov.uk

Phone area code: 01429 Telephone number: 523538

Mobile number (if you have one): n/a

Email Address: andrew.pearson@hartlepool.gov.uk

If your registered organisation address is different to your correspondence address, please tell us why: Parks and Countryside is a department of Hartlepool Borough Council

Do you have any particular communication needs?: ☐ Textphone ☐ Sign Language ☐ Large Print ☐ Audiotape ☐ Braille

1.3 ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION

What type of organisation are you?

Public-sector - Local government

Briefly explain the main purposes of your organisation, the activities and services that you provide and the geographical area(s) that you operate in (maximum 2000 characters):

Hartlepool is on the north east coast of England, at the northern end of the Teesside conurbation. It is a coastal town with a rural belt to the west. The population of 90,000 people includes a slightly higher proportion of both children and older people than the national averages. 1.2 per cent of the population are from black and ethnic minority communities; altogether 2 per cent of the total population are of groups other than white British. The borough is the 14th most deprived of the 354 English boroughs and over half of Hartlepool's residents live in areas which are among the 10 per cent most disadvantaged in the country. More people in Hartlepool suffer poor health than the average for England. A quarter of the population have limiting long term illnesses, life expectancy for both men and women is lower than national averages and deaths from heart disease and cancer are significantly higher than average. There are health inequalities within Hartlepool, with a difference of 13 years in average life expectancy between the best and worst wards. Both the prevalence of smoking (34 per cent, rising to 44 per cent in the most deprived wards) and the incidence of teenage pregnancies are high.

Hartlepool is the second smallest unitary council in England.

The Council has approximately 4,600 staff in five departments: Regeneration and Planning, Neighbourhood Services, Adult and Community Services, Children's Services and Chief Executive's.

The Parks and Countryside Section are part of the Adult and Community Services department. The section manages formal parks, local nature reserves, rights of way, beach safety, recreation grounds, bowling greens, allotments, country parks and play areas. The department has close working links with Sport and Recreation and Adult Social Care.

When did your organisation start? Month: April Year: 1996

Does your organisation have a charity, company or other reference or registration number? If so, please provide the number and date of registration:

Charity number: n/a Date of registration:

Company number: n/a Date of registration:

Other Type: n/a Other Number:

Other Date of registration:

YOUR ORGANISATION'S ACCOUNTS:

If you are not a Statutory Body, you will need to provide a copy of your accounts with your completed stage two application form. The accounts you send us should not be more than 12 months old. However, we realise that this can be difficult if your organisation's financial year-end coincides with the period in which you are sending us your application. If this is the case you will need to send us your previous accounts and a copy of your most recent management accounts.

Will you be able to meet this requirement? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

2. ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

2.1 TITLE OF YOUR PROJECT (maximum 80 characters):

Natural Hartlepool -Creating Access to the Natural Environment of our Town

2.2 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PROJECT

Please give a brief description of the aims and outcomes of your project and what you plan to spend the grant on (maximum 2000 characters)

This project builds on existing partnerships with Hartlepool Borough Council Countryside Warden Team, the Teesmouth Field Centre and the Environment Agency. The Countryside Warden Team is responsible for the upkeep and promotion of six local nature reserves (LNR's) spread geographically throughout the town. This project aims to target schools and local communities, often in deprived areas, to access the LNR's and other green spaces through targeted work with schools based at the Field Centre or in the LNR itself. The intended outcomes include encouraging schools to visit the Field Centre and the green spaces as well as developing capacity among communities through volunteer programmes, junior warden schemes and local friends groups. The funding will be spent on employing a dedicated officer to work with the schools, volunteers and friends groups to achieve the objectives of the programme as well as providing a bursary scheme, linked to objectives for those schools who wish to visit the Field Centre. New activities developed at the Field Centre will encourage school groups to record seasonal differences in the wildlife of the Teesmouth National Nature Reserve, using digital photography. Community groups will be offered a presentation/talk, Teesmouth Together - People and Wildlife, followed by the option of guided walks and workshops to promote interest in the Teesmouth NNR. A second project officer will work specifically in the Burn Valley Area (which provides accessible green space close to the town centre and some of the town's more deprived areas) to link local schools and community with the wildlife enhancement programme associated with the wider River Corridor Enhancement Project. This project, a partnership between the local authority and the Environment Agency aims to improve the biodiversity value of the Burn Valley Beck and produce natural areas such as wetlands in partnership with the community and schools. The project officer will build capacity and momentum for the wider project. Some enhancement works will be included in the project, providing the opportunity for community participation.

2.3 KEY PROJECT DATES

Proposed project start date: 01-01-2009 Proposed project finish date: 31-12-2011

Is the project start date fixed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Please note that we cannot fund projects that have already started and all projects must be completed by the end of September 2013.

2.4 ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

From the list below, please highlight which Access to Nature targets your project will contribute to by clicking on the relevant target. Your project must help address target 5a, along with at least one other target.

Please note if you wish to select more than one target from any section hold down the 'Control' key on your keyboard

1. A greater diversity and number of people having improved opportunities to experience the natural environment.

☒ Target 1a At least 1 million people to have improved opportunities to actively experience and enjoy the natural environment.

2. More people having opportunities for learning about the natural environment and gaining new skills.

☒ Target 2a 75,000 people will have a new learning opportunity related to the natural environment by 2014.

☐ Target 2b 50,000 volunteers will have a new opportunity to actively participate in training and development programmes, gaining new skills by 2014.

3. More people able to enjoy the natural environment through investment in access to natural places and networks between sites.

☒ Target 3a Investment in access links and associated networks to 130 natural places by 2014.

☒ Target 3b 325,000 people experiencing better links with the natural environment by 2014.

4. Richer, more sustainably managed, natural places meeting the needs of communities.

☒ Target 4a Investment in the quality of 100 natural places to better meet the needs of local people and wildlife.

☒ Target 4b 250,000 people benefiting from physical improvements to their local natural environment.

☒ Target 4c 5,000 people regularly participating in the care of these natural places over the lifetime of the programme.

5. An increase in communities' sense of ownership of local natural places, by establishing strong partnerships between communities, voluntary organisations, local authorities and others

☒ Target 5a 100% of projects actively and positively engaging with local communities

2.5 SMART PROJECT OUTCOMES

Please describe what difference your project will make to the targets you have selected by listing up to five SMART project outcomes (maximum 1000 characters for each outcome)

Develop a junior warden programme in all of the six local nature reserves targeting local schools and youth groups. The project officer will work towards establishing a Volunteer group consisting of young people on each local nature reserve, this will be achieved by targeted work with local schools, playschemes and after school clubs.

360 young people to be engaged in volunteer groups during the course of the programme.

Target schools who have not visited the Teesmouth Field Centre and surrounding nature reserves with a travel bursary linked to the ECO schools programme. This project would cover travel to the Field Centre plus a day's environmental awareness programme. The bursary would be a part of a package of support including assistance in setting up an after school club linked to a nature reserve or open space as well as a follow up visit by the Project Officer to develop further links with the school. The schools from the most deprived areas would be targeted first with other schools joining the programme at a later stage. Target a minimum of 7 schools per annum.

To develop a holiday club at the Teesmouth Field Centre providing opportunities for young people to increase their knowledge of the nature of Hartlepool, provide the opportunity to make a difference in the local area through practical site based tasks at one of the green spaces. This would be for a minimum of four weeks throughout the school holidays. To ensure sustainability play leaders would be taught environmental education sessions.

20 play leaders to be trained.

Establish Friends Groups for five green spaces ensuring representation from junior warden schemes and relevant organisations in the local areas. A Friends group is already established at one of the local nature reserves and this has proved beneficial in the management, development and use of the site. The Countryside Wardens and the Project Officer would work closely to build capacity within the Friends groups to ensure sustainability beyond the funding period.

Target to establish five friends groups during the course of the programme.

To undertake environmental improvement works on Burn Valley Beck involving 20 volunteers to create 1300 metres of enhanced river habitat by 2011. An opportunities scoping study already undertaken has identified a number of ways the environmental value of Burn Valley Beck can be greatly improved

as it passes through Burn Valley Gardens, The beck currently runs in an entirely artificial concrete/stone channel with very little ecological value. Some of the opportunities could be implemented through this project and involving volunteers where appropriate. Enhancing the river habitat will increase the biodiversity of an important green space close to the town centre and deprived communities, providing new nature interests within the park, involving volunteers in the work will help to increase awareness and local ownership.

2.6 PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Explain here who your partners in both development and delivery of your project will be. Explain what their roles will be, for example, funding partner or a partner delivering a particular aspect of your project. You should refer to community groups, individuals and organisations as appropriate (maximum 3000 characters).

Hartlepool Borough Council, the Teesmouth Field Centre and the Environment Agency are the main applicants to the Access to Nature Fund.

The Hartlepool Borough Council Countryside Wardens have responsibility for the management and upkeep of the six local nature reserves in and around Hartlepool. The existing staffing provides opportunities for approximately 750 volunteer days per annum. This is primarily available during the working week. The Project Officer would work with the wardens to extend this current level of activity to include weekend and evening opportunities targeting vulnerable groups and young people. The Countryside Warden would line manage the Project Officer ensuring that the aims and objectives set out at the outset of the programme are adhered to and that the project engages with all of the necessary delivery partners.

The already established links with the Teesmouth Field Centre would be further strengthened through joint provision initiative such as the Junior Warden Schemes, Holiday Clubs and joint programmes of activity around the engagement of schools. Three Field Centre volunteers will be involved in the project in addition to the Warden and Assistant Warden.

Friends of Spion Kop was established during the Wildspace project and has proved a major success. The Countryside Warden sits on the steering group but the local community are the key drivers for change on this site. They suggest improvements and find funding for appropriate improvements.

Hartlepool Borough Council operate an established Countryside Volunteer group, attracting helpers from across the borough to take part in green exercise activities such as site maintenance, rights of way monitoring and site surveying.

Both the Teesmouth Field Centre and Hartlepool Borough Council are involved in a long standing 'Partnership for Nature' with Natural England, Teesmouth Field Centre and British Energy. The aim of the partnership is to promote nature conservation and countryside management, and encourage people to use, appreciate and learn about the countryside sites across Hartlepool. Other partnerships Hartlepool Borough Council are involved with are the Durham Heritage Coast and the Natural Environment sub group of the Local Community strategy in Hartlepool, this includes

representation from Tees Valley Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency and Friends of the Earth.

Teesmouth Field Centre has a long association with Teesmouth Bird Club, and Hartlepool Natural

History Society built up by individuals who will help to deliver the project.

The Burn Valley

River Corridor Enhancement Programme is a partnership between The Environment Agency and Hartlepool

Borough Council. It aims to improve the biodiversity value of the Upper Burn Valley Gardens

providing an important link between the formal lower gardens and the countryside. The Environment

Agency have provided funding for the wider study and this project will aim to improve the

biodiversity of the Upper Burn Valley through partnership working with schools and community

groups. The Friends of Burn Valley Gardens Community group have been involved in this initiative

and are supportive of the emerging ideas for environmental improvements.

2.7 LOCATION OF THE PROJECT

Please select the region(s) that your project will cover. To select more than one region, hold down the 'Control' key on your keyboard

Region:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> South East England | <input type="checkbox"/> South West England | <input type="checkbox"/> London |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East Midlands England | <input type="checkbox"/> West Midlands England | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern England | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> North East England |
| <input type="checkbox"/> North West England | <input type="checkbox"/> Yorkshire and the Humber | | |

Please select the county that your project will cover. To select more than one county, hold down the 'Control' key on your keyboard

Counties:

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avon | <input type="checkbox"/> Bedfordshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Berkshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Buckinghamshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Cambridgeshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheshire | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cleveland | <input type="checkbox"/> Cornwall | <input type="checkbox"/> Cumbria | <input type="checkbox"/> Derbyshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Devon | <input type="checkbox"/> Dorset | <input type="checkbox"/> Durham | <input type="checkbox"/> East Sussex | <input type="checkbox"/> Essex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloucestershire | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater Manchester | <input type="checkbox"/> Hampshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Herefordshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Hertfordshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Humberside | <input type="checkbox"/> Isle of Wight | <input type="checkbox"/> Kent | <input type="checkbox"/> Lancashire | <input type="checkbox"/> Leicestershire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lincolnshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Merseyside | <input type="checkbox"/> Norfolk | <input type="checkbox"/> North Yorkshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Northamptonshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northumberland | <input type="checkbox"/> Nottinghamshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Oxfordshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Rutland | <input type="checkbox"/> Shropshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somerset | <input type="checkbox"/> South Yorkshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffordshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Suffolk | <input type="checkbox"/> Surrey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tyne and Wear | <input type="checkbox"/> Warwickshire | <input type="checkbox"/> West Midlands | <input type="checkbox"/> West Sussex | <input type="checkbox"/> West Yorkshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wiltshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Worcestershire | | | |

2.8 Please tell us where your project will be delivered (that is, where the project activities will take place) and the postcode(s) and grid reference(s). In order for us to see the balance of work, please estimate the percentage of work which will take place at each location. Please note that you must click on the 'Add' button to enter each location.

Note: If the project is only going to be delivered in one place enter 100 in % per Location

Location* Burn Valley Gardens

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 5QW

Grid Ref. NZ505317

% per Location* 25

Location* Seaton Common and Dunes

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 1BU

Grid Ref. NZ528287

% per Location* 25

Location* Summerhill

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 4JS

Grid Ref. NZ488315

% per Location* 10

Location* Spion Kop

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 0NA

Grid Ref. NZ510350

% per Location* 10

Location* Rossmere Park

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 5EF

Grid Ref. NZ502299

% per Location* 10

Location* Hart to Haswell

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 9RH

Grid Ref. NZ484363

% per Location* 10

Location* Greatham Beck

Postcode - In* (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out* (e.g. 1UA) 2LA

Grid Ref. NZ489284

% per Location* 10

2.9 Please describe how your project will address the priorities listed in the relevant Access to Nature Regional Targeting Statement(s) for your project area. (maximum 3000 characters)

Hartlepool features heavily in the Primary Index of Multiple Deprivation (13 SOA's in the Primary index), much of the remaining borough being in the secondary index (12 SOA's in the secondary index).

The bursary will target the schools in these areas to encourage them to visit and appreciate their local green spaces, the project officer will then arrange a visit to the Teesmouth Field centre and organise a series of workshops within the school- leading to an out of school eco clubs being established. There are 15 primary and 4 secondary schools in the SOA's of Hartlepool.

Local clubs in the SOA's such as scouts, guides, local youth groups/centres, Duke of Edinburgh schemes, play schemes and church/religious groups will also be encouraged to take part in the project via organised events and workshops.

Sheltered housing/care homes will be encouraged to take the residents into the local green spaces, and for the audience who cannot access these areas illustrated talks can inform them about their local environment. Teesmouth Field Centre has facilities for the disabled, and the Hide overlooking Seal Sands has disabled access.

The environmental enhancements on Burn Valley Beck will take place in the green space that is closest to areas of deprivation near the centre of the town. This enhancement will help to contribute to creating a richer environment with more interest that is readily accessible to people living nearby. Recruitment of volunteers to participate in the work will be targeted at the nearby community.

2.10 LOCATION OF YOUR TARGET BENEFICIARIES AND HOW THEY ARE INVOLVED IN YOUR PROJECT

Please tell us where the people who will benefit from your project (your target beneficiaries) live and the area postcode(s). Please note that you must click on the 'Add' button to enter each location.

Location Owton Manor Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 4BT

Location Rossmere Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 3JL

Location Eldon Grove Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS26

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 9LY

Location West View Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 9BP

Location St Begas Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 0DX

Location St Helens Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 0HG

Location St Hilds Secondary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 9PB

Location Barnard Grove Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 9SD

Location Clavering Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS27

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 3PN

Location Jesmond Road Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) Ts26

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 0HR

Location Lynn Street Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS26

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 8RL

Location St John Vianney

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 9PA

Location Brierton School/ Community College

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 4BY

Location Dyke House secondary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 8NQ

Location Grange Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 3PU

Location Sacred Heart school

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS26

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 8NL

Location English Martyrs Secondary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 4HA

Location Golden Flatts

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 1HN

Location Kingsley School

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 5JR

Location Fens Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 2LY

Location Ward Jackson primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS24

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 7LE

Location St Aidens Primary

Postcode - In (e.g. PE1) TS25

Postcode - Out (e.g. 1UA) 5BA

2.11 Please give details of how you have involved your target beneficiaries, what part they have played in decisions about the project so far and how they will be involved in the future (maximum 3000 characters)

As part of the Boroughs Green Infrastructure strategy (Planning Policy Guidance 17) a comprehensive consultation was undertaken by Capita Symonds. One of the key concerns was there was a perception that there was not enough access to green areas.

Another key finding was Hartlepool has a fairly favourable area of greenspace per 1000 people but uptake of usage is somewhat patchy. This was in part attributed to the lack of information and signage for these areas.

When questioned 52 per cent of site users had travelled to the site on foot, which shows an encouraging number of local people do use the green spaces around them, as well as, showing the low percentage of car ownership in the area.

Forty per cent of natural green spaces scored highly for both quality and value in the PPG17 assessment and so this shows Hartlepool has the green areas but they require more positive marketing to the local population.

In 2007 Hartlepool Borough Council developed a Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan which involved extensive consultation. As part of the consultation process the 1000 randomly selected representatives of Hartlepool residents were questioned on public access through View Point 2004.

Again among the main perceived barriers to accessing the countryside were the lack of knowledge and information about Rights of Way. Both Leaflets and interpretation boards were suggested by the public to increase awareness.

The public also said they would be more likely to use the countryside if more wildlife or places of interest were highlighted. This could also be achieved via leaflets and information boards.

With regard to Burn Valley, when the opportunities study was being undertaken, early discussion with the Friends Group indicated their keen interest to see improvements made. The group have been involved throughout the process and are in favour of the proposals, Wider consultation has been taking place and reactions continue to be positive. A project steering group has been established in Burn

2.12 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY FUNDING**

Is the grant funding that you are requesting additional to, and does not substitute that which would normally be provided by a statutory authority?

☒ Yes ☐ No

3. PROJECT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

3.1 In the table below, please enter the total project cost, the spilt between capital and revenue costs, the amount of cash match funding and in-kind contributions that have or will be secured and the amount of grant you want from us. If there is no value, please enter a zero.

| | Capital | Revenue | Land Purchase Cost | Total | % total project cost |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------|--------|----------------------|
| A Total Project Costs | 0 | 217372 | 0 | 217372 | 100 |
| B Total cash match funding | 0 | 35000 | 0 | 35000 | 16.1 |
| C Total in kind match funding | 0 | 12000 | 0 | 12000 | 5.5 |
| D Amount you want from us = A-(B+C) | 0 | 170372 | 0 | 170372 | 78.4 |
| E Total income (B+C+D) | 0 | 217372 | 0 | 217372 | 100 |

N.B The amounts in A and E must be the same

All costs should include VAT where this cannot be reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs. Please check that the totals are correct and that the percentage of match funding is correct for the size of grant you are requesting (by referring to the general guidance notes).

CULTURE, LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

11th November, 2008



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: NATIONAL FREE SWIMMING INITIATIVE -
FURTHER UPDATE

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

Further to the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio report of 19th August, 2008 concerning the Government's launch of the national free swimming initiative, this report seeks to update the Portfolio Holder on further details now that these have been made available to the Council.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The Portfolio report:-

- (a) confirms the acceptance of the offer of £26,848 per annum from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) for the period 2009-2011 to provide free swimming for Over 60's;
- (b) confirms the acceptance of the revenue funding offer of £48,170 per annum from DCMS for the period 2009-2011 to provide free swimming for Under 16's.

Whilst the revenue funding for the Under 16's provision will create a budget shortfall of approximately £15,420 and £17,962 for the two years respectively, officers concluded that there was significant value in making free swimming available owing to:-

- (i) the obvious health benefits linked to sport and physical activity participation;
- (ii) the provision of diversionary activity for young people;

- (iii) providing the Council the opportunity to secure £20,738 in capital funding from DCMS associated with pool improvement works for the 2008-2009 period;
- (iv) providing the opportunity to apply for further capital funding from DCMS for pool improvement/modernisation works.

Very tight timescales have been put in place by DCMS and as such, a Stage One capital submission to improve the poolside changing rooms at Mill House Leisure Centre has already been made.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Sport and Recreation is part of the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key decision.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio meeting, 11th November, 2008.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:-

1. Note the further details available in relation to the Government's Free Swimming Scheme.
2. Note the participation in the Under 16's free swimming initiative for the period 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 and acceptance of the funding offer of £48,170 from DCMS as detailed in paragraph 3.2.3 and therefore the budgetary pressure this may bring.
3. Following a full assessment regarding linking the participation initiative to the Active Card scheme, to approve delegated power to Officers to amend the scheme should any alterations be required.
4. Note the availability of £20,738 capital funding from DCMS to be utilised during 2008-2009.
5. Note the Stage 1 capital application to DCMS that has also been made to improve the changing room facilities at Mill House Leisure Centre.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: NATIONAL FREE SWIMMING INITIATIVE -
FURTHER UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Further to the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio report of 19th August, 2008 concerning the Government's launch of the national free swimming initiative, this report seeks to update the Portfolio Holder on further details now that these have been made available to the Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder will be aware that the Council has been invited to take part in the Government's national free swimming initiative. This involves providing free swimming for Over 60 year olds and Under 16's, as well as the opportunity to apply for capital funding to improve pool facilities, given that Hartlepool intended to take part in both of the participation initiatives.
- 2.2 More information has now been received from the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) as set out in the report below.

3. FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE FREE SWIMMING SCHEME

3.1 Pot 1 : Free Swimming for the Over 60's

- 3.1.1 At the time of the Portfolio meeting in August, details of the Over 60's revenue funding offer was available and the Portfolio Holder approved the acceptance of the Government's offer of £26,848 to cover the period 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. It was, however, unclear whether this amount was available to cover the two year period or not, but has subsequently been confirmed to be the amount available for each year.

3.2 Pot 2 : Free Swimming for the Under 16's

- 3.2.1 At the same time of accepting the funding for the Over 60's swimming, Officers also expressed an interest in participating in the Under 16's free swimming scheme to run during the same two year period.

- 3.2.2 As the Portfolio report from August detailed, Local Authorities would only be made aware of the available funding after registration and there was a concern that the amount made available would not cover the anticipated loss of income nor the increased water and chemical consumption costs.
- 3.2.3 Officers have now been advised recently by DCMS that the funding being made available to support this initiative will be £48,170 per annum for the period 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. However, income targets for this area of activity would normally have been set at £58,710 and £60,471 for each of the two years respectively.
- 3.2.4 It was obvious that the funding offered would not cover loss of income. Officers also, however, identified that with increased throughput, there would be additional chemical and water costs incurred. An overall assessment has been made therefore and the budgetary shortfall is estimated to be approximately £15,420 for 2009-2010 and £17,962 for 2010-2011 as a consequence of taking part in this initiative.
- 3.2.5 Take-up of this offer had to be confirmed to the DCMS by 24th October, 2008.

3.3 Pot 3 : Modernising Pool Provision - Capital Reward Fund

- 3.3.1 As the Portfolio Holder is aware, one-off capital funding is being made available to those Local Authorities participating in Pot 1 and Pot 2 on a pro-rata population basis to go towards the improvement of modernising pool provision during the current financial year.
- 3.3.2 DCMS has now confirmed that the amount available to Hartlepool will be £20,738 and will be released as soon as possible after 24th October, 2008 given that we have accepted the Under 16 revenue offer.

3.4 Pot 4 : Modernising Pool Provision - Capital Challenge Fund

- 3.4.1 As the Portfolio Holder is aware, further capital is available via a competitive bid process for either 2009-2010 or 2010-2011 to modernise pool provision and particularly in support of the free swimming initiative. £25 million per annum is being made available nationally but the funding is only available to those Local Authorities signing up to the Over 60's and Under 16's participation scheme.
- 3.4.2 The objectives which the capital investment programme is seeking to achieve are:-
- To incentivise Local Authorities to provide free swimming for Over 60's and Under 16's.
 - To upgrade local swimming facilities to incentivise people to go swimming and to deal with the increase in participation anticipated.

- To open up access to swimming pools and to improve the quality of experience and customer satisfaction for pool users.
 - To make a reality of proposals for 21st Century schools as set out in the Children's Plan (as the funding can also be used for pools on school sites).
- 3.4.3 The capital is specifically for the development of capital infrastructure which can be taken to contribute towards the costs of new build, modernisation and enhancement of buildings as well as the provision of major fixed equipment. There is however an expectation on Local Authorities to provide partnership funding with any application and under the terms of any grant awarded, that the facility remains open and in use during the period of any modernisation or alteration works.
- 3.4.4 The deadline for Stage 1 applications for the 2009-2010 allocation was 24th October, 2008 and Officers have worked up a scheme to improve the poolside changing room facilities at Mill House Leisure Centre. The Portfolio Holder will be acutely aware of the need to improve and sustain these facilities until a replacement facility can be provided for and the proposed improvement works would significantly improve upon the changing room environment, enhancing the customer experience as well as improving satisfaction levels.
- 3.4.5 Should the Stage 1 application be successful, we will be invited to submit a more detailed Stage 2 bid at the beginning of November 2008. The deadline for this submission will be 31st January, 2009, with the final decision being made known by 31st March, 2009.
- 3.4.6 Officers are also making application to the Corporate Capital Asset Management Programme for matched funding for the scheme.
- 3.4.7 It should be noted that any works associated with this capital funding will have to be completed by the end of March 2010.

4. ACTIVE CARD SCHEME

- 4.1 Owing to the performance and monitoring data that the DCMS have now confirmed will have to be collated and returned, we intend to link this participation initiative to the Active Card, the use of which is monitored by the Leisure Centre till and booking system. This therefore means that participants will have to have an Active Card in order to be able to swim free of charge.
- 4.2 Currently officers are assessing the implications of linking the initiative to the Active Card scheme and whether any amendments may have to be made to it as a consequence. Once a full assessment has been made, should any alterations be required, it is intended to update the Portfolio Holder by means of a further report at a later date.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 At the Portfolio meeting on 19th August, 2008, the Portfolio Holder approved the acceptance of the Over 60's free swimming funding offer given that there were not any budgetary implications for the Authority. Officers were able to confirm this to be the case and subsequently accepted the offer from the DCMS.
- 5.2 The Portfolio Holder also approved participation in other elements of the scheme should Officers conclude that it be appropriate and of benefit to Hartlepool to do so.
- 5.3 Officers have therefore now assessed the financial position concerning participation in the Under 16 initiative now that the full details have been made available by DCMS as given at paragraph 3.2.3 and as detailed, there is a financial shortfall estimated at approximately £15,420 for 2009-2010 and £17,962 for 2010-2011.
- 5.4 However, Officers were in a position where the DCMS had to be advised of the acceptance of this funding offer by 24th October, 2008 and if we did not take up this offer, Hartlepool would then be unable to access the capital funding being offered for this financial year of £20,783 nor would be able to apply for any further capital via a bid process also being made available through this initiative.
- 5.5 As the possible benefits of being able to access capital funding streams to improve our public swimming facility, Mill House Leisure Centre, far outweigh the revenue pressure, Officers have therefore advised DCMS of our intention to participate in the Under 16's scheme. The revenue shortfall will be flagged as a budgetary pressure within the contingencies category although other partnership funding will be sought to make up the financial shortfall.
- 5.6 A Stage 1 capital bid has therefore also been submitted to DCMS for improvement works to the poolside changing facilities at Mill House Leisure Centre.
- 5.7 Once the Capital Reward Grant of £20,738 as detailed in paragraph 3.3.2 is received, this will be utilised on project developments associated with the larger capital bid. It is also intended to utilise this for other improvement works that may be able to be achieved during the remainder of 2008-2009.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:-

- 1. Note the further details available in relation to the Governments Free Swimming Scheme.

2. Note the participation in the Under 16's free swimming initiative for the period 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 and acceptance of the funding offer of £48,170 from DCMS as detailed in paragraph 3.2.3 and therefore the budgetary pressure this may bring.
3. Following a full assessment regarding linking the participation initiative to the Active Card scheme, to approve delegated power to Officers to amend the scheme should any alterations be required.
4. Note the availability of £20,738 capital funding from DCMS to be utilised during 2008-2009.
5. Note the Stage 1 capital application to DCMS that has also been made to improve the changing room facilities at Mill House Leisure Centre.

CONTACT OFFICER: Pat Usher, Sport and Recreation Manager

Background Papers

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Report 19th August, 2008 – Government Announcement on Free Swimming Scheme.

CULTURE LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

11 November 2008



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: PURCHASE OF COLLECTION OF WORKS BY
FRANK HENRY MASON

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the purchase of a collection of works – 41 sketchbooks, 245 loose pencil sketches, 3 coloured crayon sketches, and 1 watercolour painting – by the artist Frank Henry Mason, using the museums purchase fund. An application will also be made to the Victoria and Albert Purchase Fund.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report focuses on the possible purchase of a collection of works by Frank Henry Mason, an artist born in Seaton Carew in 1876 and whose increased representation would significantly strengthen the town's fine art collections.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio holder has responsibility for Museum issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio 11 November 2008

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the request to pursue purchase be approved

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: PURCHASE OF COLLECTION OF WORKS BY
FRANK HENRY MASON

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the purchase of a collection of works - 41 sketchbooks, 245 loose pencil sketches, 3 coloured crayon sketches, and 1 watercolour painting – by the artist Frank Henry Mason, using the museums purchase fund. An application will also be made to the Victorian and Albert Purchase Fund.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Hartlepool Museums and Heritage Service wishes to purchase a collection of sketchbooks, sketches and a single painting by Frank Henry Mason.
- 2.2 Frank Henry Mason was born in Seaton Carew in 1876 and died in 1965. He is one of the most significant artists represented in Hartlepool's fine art collection. There are currently 17 pieces of works by Mason in the collection, including oil and watercolour paintings and print work. These include examples of his work on railway posters for which he is best known.
- 2.3 The collection fits with the acquisitions policy as Mason is a local artist of national significance, already represented in the collections: "Section 4.2.1 of Acquisitions Policy, Oil Painting. It will be policy to strengthen the existing collection with an emphasis on topographical works relating to the Hartlepool area and works relating to Hartlepool artists in particular e.g. Frederick Shields, James Clark, Frank Mason and Maurice Cockrill".
- 2.4 The collection was bought at auction by Hilary Gerrish who is now offering it for sale at a cost of £2,800, through Edward Yardley, to Hartlepool Museums Service. Mr Yardley has previously (in 1996) written a book on Frank Henry Mason for Hartlepool Museums Service.
- 2.5 The collection is in fair to good condition, presenting no hazards.
- 2.6 The collection would require some work in terms of cataloguing in order to correctly establish the numbers and types of items, as well as an independent valuation prior to purchase.

- 2.7 The collection would be a significant and valuable addition to the fine art collections. It relates to and provides important background and supporting information on items already in the collection.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 As this is such a significant acquisition, although 50% of the cost will be sought from the V&A purchase fund, it is suggested that success in this should not be a prerequisite of the purchase. Consequently, the entire purchase cost could be required from the museums purchase fund. There are adequate funds in this Acquisition fund budget reserve.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the request to pursue purchase be approved.

CONTACT OFFICER: David Worthington, Museums and Heritage Manager

CULTURE LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

11 November 2008



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: PURCHASE OF PAINTING 'BEACH HUTS' BY
MARGARET GREEN

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the purchase of the painting 'Beach Huts' by Margaret Green using the museums purchase fund supported by application to the Victorian and Albert Purchase Fund.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report focuses on the possible purchase of the painting 'Beach Huts' by Margaret Green an artist born in Hartlepool in 1925 and one we seek to have greater representation of within the town's art collection.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio holder has responsibility for museum issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio 11 November 2008

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To approve the request to seek match funding for the purchase of the painting and pursue purchase accordingly.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: PURCHASE OF PAINTING 'BEACH HUTS' BY
MARGARET GREEN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval to the purchase of the painting 'Beach Huts' by Margaret Green using the museums purchase fund supported by application to the Victorian and Albert Purchase Fund.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Hartlepool Museums and Heritage Service wishes to purchase the painting 'Beach Huts' by Margaret Green, on the condition that partial funding can be secured. The V&A Purchase Fund have been approached with an outline of the application and are happy for us to pursue an application for 50% funding from themselves at this time.
- 2.2 Margaret Green was born in Hartlepool in 1925 and died in 2003. We have one painting by her in the collection already: 'Seaton Carew Beach'.
- 2.3 The painting fits with the acquisitions policy as she is a locally born artist and the painting is of a view of local scene: "Section 4.2.1 of Acquisitions Policy, Oil Painting. It will be policy to strengthen the existing collection with an emphasis on topographical works relating to the Hartlepool area and works relating to Hartlepool artists in particular e.g. Frederick Shields, James Clark, Frank Mason and Maurice Cockrill".
- 2.4 The painting is offered for sale by Margaret Green's agents who are dealing with her estate for a negotiated discounted price of £6,500.00.
- 2.5 The painting is acrylic on board and is in excellent condition.
- 2.6 The painting would be a valuable addition to the collection both as a piece of fine art and a social history object. It relates to displays, interpretation and research about Hartlepool as a seaside town and tourist destination. It is a similar view as the painting 'Seaton Carew Beach' by Margaret Green which is in the collection already. Similar beach huts can be seen in both pictures, however the tone and the colours in the pictures are quite different. The new addition with 'Seaton Carew Beach' would make an excellent offer.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 50% match funding would be required from the Museums Purchase. There are adequate funds in this Acquisition fund budget reserve.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the request to seek match funding and pursue purchase is approved.

CONTACT OFFICER: David Worthington, Museums and Heritage Manager

**CULTURE LEISURE AND TOURISM PORTFOLIO
REPORT TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER
11 November 2008**



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: WAVERLEY TERRACE ALLOTMENTS –
PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for Rift House East Residents Association to pursue the development of a community allotment at Waverley Terrace allotment site. The initiative by Rift House East Residents Association will improve both the appearance and security of this land within the Rift House Ward and assist in bringing the spare allotment land back into use as allotments for the wider community.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

This report provides the background to this application by the Residents Association. The application is endorsed and supported by 'Pride in Hartlepool'.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio holder has responsibility for allotments.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio 11 November 2008

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- i) For the Portfolio Holder to approve the principle of reinstatement of the Waverley Terrace allotments and the development of a community allotment led by the Rift House East Residents.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: WAVERLEY TERRACE ALLOTMENTS –
PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for Rift House East Residents Association to pursue the development of a community allotment at Waverley Terrace allotment site. The initiative by Rift House East Residents Association will improve both the appearance and security of this land within the Rift House Ward and assist in bringing the spare allotment land back into use as allotments for the wider community.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Rift House ward benefits from a very passionate and proactive residents association namely Rift House East Residents. Through consultation with residents, two areas of land within their remit were identified as being in a poor state and in need of improvements. The first area identified has subsequently been included in Housing Hartlepool's regeneration programme i.e. site for new bungalows Tristram Avenue. The second area is the allotment site adjacent to Waverley Terrace.
- 2.2 New allotments have been created and allocated on the west-end site adjacent to Waverley Terrace. The remaining allotment land is vacant and requires re-establishment at considerable cost to bring back into allotment use. This initiative could be the catalyst which assists this objective and the Residents Association has offered to help establish and administer a Waverley Terrace Allotments Association. If this were to develop into a devolved management then this could be of great benefit to the allotment estate in helping to deliver a priority objective.

3 VISION FOR USE OF LAND

- 3.1 The residents association wish to create a community garden for use by all residents within the area and seek to create a garden themed on four groups within the community i.e. elderly, youth, children and disabled. The disabled area is to be themed on a sensory garden similar to those that have been created within other local authorities.

- 3.2 It is claimed that there is sufficient resource within the community to maintain the garden and this has been agreed within the Residents Association meetings. The Residents Association is fully committed to the success of this scheme and has already gained promise of £5000 funding from 'Pride in Hartlepool' towards the perimeter fence and design costs. Any perimeter fencing to be installed as part of the project would be similar in design and style to that already in place at the existing site.
- 3.3 Further funding bids are being prepared to submit to the lotteries 'open spaces' initiative.
- 3.4 Other aspects to be built into the project would be CCTV, lighting and use of recyclable materials for seating. Overall we feel that this will minimise the risk of vandalism but provide the community with a facility that will improve and enhance the community.
- 3.5 The allocation of a number of allotments to Rift House East Residents would not involve a change of land use and any subsequent use of the land must relate to cultivation allowing the land to be returned to traditional allotment use in the future. This would mean no hard landscaping to be done on the site or the installation of any fixed furniture such as play equipment or permanent seating. The Residents Association fully understand this.

4. ALLOTMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The provision of allotment land is a Statutory Duty of Local Authorities, Hartlepool in general is well served in this regard however the waiting list for allotments is beginning to grow due to a combination of interest in organic gardening, grow your own initiatives and the result of a worsening economic outlook for family income.
- 4.2 Therefore this initiative must fit within the requirements of statutory allotment provision for this area of land to be considered for this outlined purpose.
- 4.3 The reinstatement of the remaining allotment land at Waverley Terrace into new lettable allotments is a current objective. The cost of re-instatement to modern standards including security fencing; and water supply is considerable. Whilst the involvement and development opportunities that the Rift House Residents East can bring, this could actually result in the delivery of a scheme far sooner than would normally have been the case.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The estimated cost of restoration of the allotments for the area known as East Waverley Terrace is estimated to be in the region of £150,000.

- 5.2 The provision of allotments is capital intensive with little revenue income by comparison from the resulting tenancies therefore if by working together the allotments can be re-instated then we will be able to benefit the allotment estate, the desire of the Rift House East Residents and the waiting list of prospective tenants for this particular location.
- 5.3 The financial implications for the Council will relate to any capital contribution that is made towards this scheme. It is recognised that without a cocktail of funding the full extent of this ambition will not be advisable in the short term.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 By working together it is possible that the current unsatisfactory vacant allotment land can be completely redeveloped to a timescale which was beyond all recent expectations.
- 6.2 The Rift House East Residents must be mindful of the constraints which Hartlepool Borough Council must adhere to in respect of its statutory duties, however some REAL hope and positive progress can potentially be made here by all parties working in close co-operation.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 For the Portfolio Holder to approve the principle of reinstatement of the Waverley Terrace allotments and the development of a community allotment led by the Rift House East Residents.

CULTURE, LEISURE & TOURISM PORTFOLIO

Report To Portfolio Holder

11th November 2008



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2008/2009 – 2ND
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 in the first two quarters of the year.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The progress against the actions contained in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2008/09, and the second quarter outturns of key performance indicators.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Member has responsibility for performance management issues in relation to Culture, Leisure & Tourism.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder - 11th November 2008

6. DECISION REQUIRED

Achievement on actions and indicators be noted.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2008/09 – 2ND
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 Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 and the progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 30th September 2008.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Adult and Community Services Department includes Community Services, reporting to Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder, and Adult Services, Adult Education and Supporting People reporting to the Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder.
- 2.2 The Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 sets out the key tasks and issues with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department in the coming year. The plan also describes how the department contributes to the Organisational Development Improvement Priorities as laid out in the Corporate Plan. It provides a framework for managing the competing priorities, communicating the purpose and challenges facing the department, and monitoring progress against overall Council aims.
- 2.3 For 2008-09, the Council has introduced a new electronic Performance Management Database (Covalent) for collecting and analysing corporate performance. The database collects performance information detailed in the Corporate Plan and the five Departmental Plans. The aim is that the database will eventually collect performance information for all levels of the Council, including individual service/operational plans in each department.

3. QUARTER TWO PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how the Department has performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included in the Adult and Community Services Departmental Plan for this Portfolio.

- 3.2 On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are asked, via the Performance Management database (Covalent), to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the Departmental 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 action based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the Departmental Plan. The traffic light system is: -

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Red | - Action/PI not expected to achieve target |
| Amber | - Action/PI expected to achieve target |
| Green | - Action/PI target achieved |

- 3.4 Within the Adult Services there were a total of 132 actions and 106 Performance Indicators identified in the Departmental Plan. Table 1, below, summarises the progress made, to the 30th September 2008, towards achieving these actions and PIs.

Table1 – Adult & Community Services progress summary

| | Culture, Leisure & Transport | |
|---------------|---|------------|
| | Actions | PIs |
| Green | 1 | 1 |
| Amber | 22 | 12 |
| Red | 0 | 0 |
| Annual | - | 27 |
| Total | 23 | 40 |

- 3.5 A total of 1 action (4%) has been completed or achieved, and a further 22 (96%) are on target to be completed by the target date. There are no actions which are not expected to be achieved.
- 3.6 It can also be seen that 13 (33%) of the Performance Indicators have been highlighted as being achieved or expected to hit the target. There are no Performance Indicators that are not expected to hit the year-end target. There are 27 indicators that are only collected on an annual basis and therefore no updates are available for those indicators (this includes those completed as part of surveys, either annual or bi-annual).

Table2: Adults Services Actions not completed on target / not on target

| Ref | Action | Milestone | Comment |
|-----|--------|-----------|---------|
|-----|--------|-----------|---------|

NONE.

Table3: Adults Services PI's not on target

| Ref | PI | Milestone | Comment |
|-----|----|-----------|---------|
|-----|----|-----------|---------|

NONE.

3.7 Up to the end of the second quarter Community Services completed the following action:-

- To put in place a multi-agency approach through the development of a Community Sports Network, providing a strategic lead for the delivery of sport and physical activity.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- i) It is recommended that achievement of key actions and second quarter outturns of performance indicators are noted.

CONTACT OFFICER: Trevor Smith,
Principal Management Information Manager
(Support Services)