

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO

DECISION SCHEDULE



Thursday 18th December 2008

at 9.00 am

in Committee Room A,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Councillor Jackson, Cabinet Member responsible for Neighbourhoods and Communities will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**

No items

2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 2.1 The Removal, Storage and Disposal of Abandoned and Nuisance Vehicles – *Head of Neighbourhood Management*
- 2.2 Resident's Only Parking Controls – Sandringham Road – *Head of Technical Services*
- 2.3 The Dog Kennelling Service – *Head of Neighbourhood Management*
- 2.4 Resident's Parking Consultation – St David's Walk / Throston Grange Lane – *Head of Technical Services*

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 – Quarter 2 Monitoring Report – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

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

- 4.1 Final Report – Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral – *Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee*
- 4.2 Final Report - Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral – Action Plan – *Director of Neighbourhood Services*

**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 December 2008



Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: THE REMOVAL, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL OF
ABANDONED AND NUISANCE VEHICLES

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to invite tenders for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

An explanation of the current procedures for the removal of abandoned vehicles, together with a history of the legislation underpinning these procedures.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Neighbourhood and Communities Portfolio Holder is responsible for this function.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder's meeting on 18 December 2008.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder gives approval for the Council to invite tenders for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles.

Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: THE REMOVAL, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL
OF ABANDONED AND NUISANCE VEHICLES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to invite tenders for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Abandoned and nuisance vehicles have been a problem countrywide since the 1960's and the situation has become progressively worse as the number of cars on Britain's roads has increased - the figure is currently around 70 million.
- 2.2 Like many similar towns, Hartlepool has experienced the problems caused by abandoned and nuisance vehicles, many of which are used in crime and are the target of arsonists. Such anti-social behaviour contributes significantly towards the decline of the environment and social fabric of communities.
- 2.3 The Council's Neighbourhood Action Team engaged the problem some five years ago by removing abandoned vehicles under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978; however, it became apparent that this particular legislation was not effective in dealing with the issue, as statutory removal notices presented an opportunity for criminals to remove vehicles prior to them being impounded. Also, removal notices posted on windscreens often served as an invitation to arsonists.
- 2.4 Frequently, abandoned and nuisance vehicles are found to be untaxed and to achieve greater efficiency in removing them, the Neighbourhood Action Team obtained devolved powers from the DVLA (Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency). This facilitated their instant removal, and in many cases lead to their ultimate destruction.
- 2.5 Recent amendments to devolved powers from the DVLA enables the Neighbourhood Action Team to remove untaxed vehicles from any land as well as the highway, including private land, but not land associated with a dwelling.

- 2.6 Amendments to the abandoned and nuisance vehicle legislation were also made under the Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment Act 2005, which effectively removed the requirement for local authorities to serve notice on such vehicles. This amendment also enables the Council to remove abandoned and nuisance vehicles from all land open to the air or any land forming part of a highway.
- 2.7 To further strengthen the Council's efforts to rid the town of nuisance vehicles, a 'vehicle amnesty' scheme was launched to encourage the surrender of old cars, which may be rusting away in people's gardens and driveways. These vehicles quickly become eyesores and are sometimes the target of arsonists. Typical examples are broken down MOT failures that are beyond economical repair.
- 2.8 As an incentive for people to surrender these vehicles, the Council has offered this service free of charge.
- 2.9 To date, the removal of untaxed and nuisance vehicles has been an overwhelming success, resulting in a significant reduction in vehicle arson and vehicle related crime. Indeed, the Fire Brigade has reported the reduction in vehicle arson over the last five years as 'unprecedented'.
- 2.10 The benefits to the local environment are evident, and the initiative is considered fundamental to many corporate objectives and community theme aims; it is therefore essential for the Council to remain focussed on dealing with the very serious issue of abandoned and nuisance vehicles, and to continue in its quest to provide a safer and cleaner town in which people can work and live.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Tenders will be invited for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles in Hartlepool in accordance with the Council's procurement policy.
- 3.2 The contract specification will meet the Council's requirements to remove, store and safely dispose of abandoned and nuisance vehicles in Hartlepool.
- 3.3 Suspected abandoned and nuisance vehicles will be identified in a number of ways including the following:
- a) reports from members of the public, businesses, organisations and associations via Hartlepool Connect;
 - b) reports from the Police or Fire Brigade;
 - c) the Council's mobile ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) vehicle;

- d) the static ANPR readers located throughout the town;
 - e) Council officials on patrol.
- 3.4 Reports of abandoned and nuisance vehicles will be investigated by officers from the Neighbourhood Action Team within 24 hours. In carrying out their investigations, officers will determine the vehicles status i.e. abandoned, untaxed or otherwise. A determination will be carried out using appropriate legislative guidelines and/or the DVLA's web-enabled enquiry system.
- 3.5 Vehicles identified as being abandoned or untaxed will be removed to a secure compound by the Council's contractor. The vehicles will remain at the compound for a period determined by their valuation or until such time that all appropriate release fees have been paid by the owner or registered keeper.
- 3.6 Failure by the owner or registered keeper to pay the appropriate release fees within a given time period will result in the vehicle being destroyed.
- 3.7 The 'vehicle amnesty' scheme, aimed at encouraging members of the public to surrender old cars that are rusting in gardens and driveways etc, will continue to be provided free of charge.
- 3.8 The destruction of any vehicles will be carried out at an authorised treatment facility, in accordance with the European End of Life Vehicle Directive.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Although removing untaxed vehicles under devolved powers from the DVLA is optional, not providing a means of dealing with abandoned vehicles will be a failure by Hartlepool Borough Council to meet its statutory duties, leaving the Council open to criticism and intervention by DEFRA.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Over the past five years, the direct costs of removing abandoned and nuisance vehicles has been paid for through LPSA grant monies; however, this funding source will come to an end in March 2010. Consequently, it will be necessary for the Council to secure alternative funding sources in order to fulfil its statutory duties and continue with this extremely important service.

6. SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998

- 6.1 Abandoned and nuisance vehicles create the perception of crime and disorder; many are actually used in crime and are often the target of arsonists. The combined effect contributes significantly towards the decline of the environment and social fabric of communities and it is therefore essential for the Council to have an effective means of dealing with this very serious issue.

7. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles by an external service provider will not adversely impact upon or threaten the position of any existing Hartlepool Borough Council employee.

8. ASSET MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The cost of providing and maintaining equipment used in removing abandoned and nuisance vehicles from any land in Hartlepool will be borne entirely by the contractor.
- 8.2 The provision, maintenance and running costs of providing a secure vehicle holding compound will be borne entirely by the contractor.
- 8.3 The cost of safely disposing of abandoned and nuisance vehicles in accordance with the European End of Life Vehicle Directive shall be borne entirely by the contractor.
- 8.4 Effectively, the Council will not be providing vehicles, equipment, land or buildings for the purpose of carrying out this service.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Portfolio Holder gives approval to invite tenders for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned and nuisance vehicles.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The diverse and specialist nature of this service would make it impractical and expensive for the Council to provide in-house.
- 10.2 The Council has a duty to remove abandoned vehicles from any land open to the air or any land forming part of a highway. The contract is therefore fundamental to the Council's ability to carry out this duty.

11. CONTACT OFFICER

11.1 Further information can be obtained from:

Craig Thelwell
Neighbourhood Action Manager
Neighbourhood Service Department
1 Church Street
Hartlepool
TS25 7DS

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E mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 December 2008



Report of: Head of Technical Services

Subject: RESIDENT'S ONLY PARKING CONTROLS –
SANDRINGHAM ROAD

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider a petition received from residents of Sandringham Road seeking the removal of the residents permit parking controlled scheme at this location.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report outlines the background and considers the implications of the request.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Traffic and Transportation issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

This is an executive decision by The Portfolio Holder

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That a full consultation be carried out with residents in advance of any approval to remove Sandringham Road from the resident's only parking controlled zone.

Report of: Head of Technical Services

Subject: RESIDENT'S ONLY PARKING CONTROLS –
SANDRINGHAM ROAD

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider a petition received from residents of Sandringham Road seeking the removal of the resident permit parking controlled scheme at this location.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Sandringham Road is located to the north of the town centre. Properties situated at the eastern end of Sandringham Road have long been established as part of the central residential permit only parking zone. The remainder of Sandringham Road was included within the zone some seven years ago at the request of residents.
- 2.2 Sandringham Road is on the fringe of the current permit controlled zone and all streets to its southern boundary operate permit only parking. Several locations to the North of the Sandringham Road (Collingwood Road and Brook Street) which do not currently operate controlled parking zones will see permit parking introduced in the near future.
- 2.3 Along with all residents living in a controlled permit parking zone, Sandringham Road residents would be subject to an increased permit charge when the annual permits expire on 31 January 2009. The charge will increase from £1 per permit to £5 as per the decision made by Cabinet. Sandringham Road is however within the approved “discounted central area” and the cost of the permits is not therefore subject to any further phased charge increase.
- 2.4 The Head of Technical Services received a signed petition from 74 residents of Sandringham Road requesting the removal of the scheme, as residents considered there was no longer a requirement for the parking controls. Appendix A shows a breakdown of the number of the resident responses.
- 2.5 Recent visual surveys have indicated that parking spaces are available during the hours of enforcement which could concur with residents views that the controls are not now required, but could equally demonstrate that the scheme is working successfully in preventing the intrusion of vehicles into the controlled zone. The

request from residents living in Collingwood Road would suggest that there may still be a need for parking controls particularly to deal with excess vehicular demand from visitors attending football matches at the nearby Victoria Park.

- 2.6 The removal of Sandringham Road from any parking controls would leave the street isolated with the majority of surrounding streets still covered by parking restrictions, however residents have indicated within the signed petition, by a large majority, that they are aware that by opting out of the controlled parking scheme, there would be little or no parking enforcement action the Council could take particularly in relation to match day parking.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The removal of the controlled parking restrictions would remove the need for residents to display a permit. The scheme would however be unrestricted and the Council would be limited in terms of what enforcement action, if any, it could take against vehicles that parked within the street.
- 3.2 The opt out from the scheme would require any signage and carriageway markings to be removed in Sandringham Road. The signs will however be reused within other controlled parking zones.
- 3.3 The permits for residents of Sandringham Road were renewed in **January 2008** for a 12 month period. As the £1 payment covered residents for a full year it would be a difficult and costly administrative exercise to refund part payments. For this reason it is proposed that any approval to remove the scheme from permit controls should be applicable as and when the current permits expire. It is therefore proposed that the controls would be withdrawn as of **1 February 2009**.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The cost of advertising the amendments to the legal orders would be minimal and would be met from the parking services operational budget.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The removal of Sandringham Road from the residents parking scheme would require the revocation of the Order controlling parking at this location. The Order would be required to be advertised as part of the formal legal process.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That a full consultation be carried out with residents in advance of any approval to remove the area from the controlled parking zone and that the results be reported to the next available meeting.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 To ensure residents are fully aware of the consequences of removing Sandringham Road from the controlled parking zone and that any properties who have not signed the petition are given further opportunity to respond and express their views via the consultation.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

Philip Hepburn, Parking Services Manager
Neighbourhood Services (Technical Services)
Hartlepool Borough Council

Telephone Number: 01429 523258
Email: Philip.hepbum@hartlepool.gov.uk

2.2 APPENDIX A

Sandringham Road Petition Responses

Number of properties in Sandringham Road	Number of properties expressing desire to opt out of scheme	% in favour of opting out	% wishing to remain	% not responded / empty properties
104	71	68	3	26

**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 December 2008



Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: The Dog Kennelling Service

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to invite tenders for the provision of the Council's Dog Kennelling Service.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

A history of the current provision and legal requirement to provide this service.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Neighbourhood and Communities Portfolio Holder is responsible for this function.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder's meeting on 18 December 2008.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder gives approval for the Council to invite tenders for the provision of the Dog Warden Service.

Report of: Head of Neighbourhood Management

Subject: The Dog Kennelling Service

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to invite tenders for the provision of the Council's Dog Kennelling Service.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the Council has a statutory duty to provide a dog warden service for the purpose of discharging the functions imposed or conferred for dealing with stray dogs found within the borough of Hartlepool.

- 2.2 Where the dog warden has seized or taken control of a stray dog, it must then be detained at a suitable kennelling facility provided by the Council. Once detained at the kennelling facility, it must remain there for a statutory seven clear days unless re-united with its owner before the end of this period.

- 2.3 A dog detained at the kennelling facility cannot be returned to its owner until all expenses incurred by the Council have been paid in full.

- 2.4 The fees currently payable to the Council by owners claiming their dogs back are £34.56 plus £5.67 per day.

- 2.5 Where a dog detained for seven clear days has not been claimed, or if the fees described in 2.4 above have not been paid in full, the Council may dispose of the dog in one of the following ways:

- a) selling it or giving it to a person who will, in the opinion of the Council, properly care for the dog
- b) selling it or giving it to an establishment for the reception of stray dogs; or
- c) destroying it in a manner to cause as little pain as possible

- 2.6 No dog seized by the Council is ever sold or given for the purposes of vivisection.

- 2.7 Notwithstanding anything in 2.5 above, the Council may destroy a dog seized by the dog warden before the end of the statutory seven day period where in its opinion this should be done to avoid suffering.

- 2.8 Over the past five years, the Council has worked in partnership with the Dogs Trust to provide a free dog micro-chipping service for the people of Hartlepool, and this has proved extremely popular. Free micro-chipping has been extended to include dogs detained at the Council's dog pound. This ensures that strays are micro-chipped before being returned to their owners and it also provides an added incentive for people wishing to re-home a dog.
- 2.9 To compliment the provision of free micro-chipping, the Council has also worked closely with the Dogs Trust to provide free spaying and neutering for dogs that are re-homed. Again, this provides an added incentive for people to re-home dogs and also prevents unwanted litters and potential future strays.
- 2.10 The Council's kennelling service is very popular with members of the public and many people donate blankets and food for the pound to help maintain the animals until they are re-united with their owners or found new homes. The Hartlepool Mail also carries a regular feature on the kennelling service, which shows photographs of dogs requiring new homes.
- 2.11 For the benefit of people who have lost their dogs, the Neighbourhood Action Team has developed a website which features stray dogs detained at the Council's dog pound; it also shows animals that require new homes. Again, this website has proved very popular with members of the public.
- 2.12 At present, the Council seizes around 400 stray dogs each year. However, the dog pound works closely with numerous rescue centres and the vast majority of these animals are re-homed. These proactive measures, along with the various initiatives described above, have kept to a minimum the necessity to destroy dogs.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 Tenders will be invited for the provision of the Kennelling Services in accordance with the Council's procurement policy.
- 3.2 The duration of the contract will be three years, with an option to extend for two years by mutual agreement.
- 3.3 The contract specification will satisfy the Council's duty to detain stray dogs for the required statutory period of time and will meet all legal requirements relating to the temporary holding of stray dogs.
- 3.4 All stray dogs detained at the kennelling facility will feature on the Council's website and an advertisement showing a contact telephone number for stray dogs will be placed in the Hartlepool Mail on a regular

basis. Furthermore, the Neighbourhood Action Team will continue to work with the Hartlepool Mail to feature stories and pictures of dogs requiring new homes.

- 3.5 The kennelling facility will be required to work closely at all times with other canine organisations and rescue centres to actively seek new homes for dogs that remain unclaimed after the statutory seven day period. It will assist the Council in working towards a policy of ‘not destroying a healthy dog’.
- 3.6 The Kennelling facility will continue to provide a free micro-chipping service for dogs being re-homed or returned to their owners in Hartlepool. Free spaying and neutering is considerably more expensive and has always been heavily subsidised by the Dogs Trust. Unfortunately, due to financial constraints, the Dogs Trust is unable to continue supporting this initiative and accordingly it is unlikely to be available in the future.
- 3.7 Fees payable by owners claiming their dogs back will remain as in 2.4 above until kennelling fees are reviewed in the new financial year. Upon payment of the appropriate fees, members of the public will be expected to collect their dogs from the kennelling facility – a delivery service will not be provided.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Not providing a facility to keep stray dogs for a maximum period of seven days will be a failure by Hartlepool Borough Council to meet its statutory duties, leaving the Council open to criticism and intervention by DEFRA.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to seize and detain a stray dog. Whilst it actively encourages responsible dog ownership in Hartlepool, it has little or no control over the actions of those who choose to behave in an irresponsible manner by allowing their dogs to roam. Effectively, the Council has little control over costs associated with detaining stray dogs.
- 5.2 Of the stray dogs seized in Hartlepool, the majority remain unclaimed by the end of the statutory seven day detention period. On learning of the fees associated with getting their dog back, some owners refuse to come forward and reclaim the animal. As a result, the Council is often burdened with the full cost of detaining dogs for the statutory seven day period, and occasionally the cost of euthanasia when they cannot be re-homed.

- 5.3 At present, there is no effective way of bringing to justice these irresponsible dog owners who clearly have no regard for the animal or the environment.

6. SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998

- 6.1 Stray dogs running loose in the community give the perception of crime and disorder. They also present a potential danger for members of the public and in particular young children who are more susceptible to diseases caused by dog foul; road traffic accidents are also caused by straying dogs.
- 6.2 In view of the above, it is essential for the Council to have an effective means of removing stray dogs from within the community and to actively seek 'more-responsible' owners for those requiring new homes.

7. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The provision of the Kennelling Service by an external service provider does not adversely impact upon or threaten the position of any existing Hartlepool Borough Council employee.

8. ASSET MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The provision, maintenance and running costs of the kennelling facility will be borne entirely by the contractor.
- 8.2 Effectively, the Council will not be providing land, buildings, plant or equipment for the purpose of delivering the Kennelling Service.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Portfolio Holder gives approval for the Council to invite tenders for the provision of the Dog Warden Service.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The diverse and specialist nature of this service would make it impractical and expensive for the Council to provide in-house.
- 10.2 The Council has a statutory duty to provide a facility to hold stray dogs for a period of up to seven days.

11. CONTACT OFFICER

11.1 Further information can be obtained from:

Craig Thelwell
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Hartlepool
TS25 7DS

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E mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

**NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 December 2008



Report of: Head of Technical Services

Subject: RESIDENTS PARKING CONSULTATION –
ST DAVID'S WALK/THROSTON GRANGE
LANE

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider results of a consultation with residents as to a proposed residents only permit parking scheme

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report outlines the findings of a consultation carried out with residents in the area as to the creation of a residents only permit controlled parking area.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Traffic and Transportation issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

This is an executive decision by the Portfolio Holder.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder approves the creation of a resident's only parking zone for residents of St David's Walk Throston.

Report of: Head of Technical Services

Subject: RESIDENTS PARKING CONSULTATION –
ST DAVID'S WALK/THROSTON GRANGE
LANE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider the results of a consultation for a proposed resident only permit parking scheme which was carried out with residents of St David's Walk/Throston Grange Lane.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 St David's Walk is located off Throston Grange Lane directly opposite the dentist surgery.

2.2 Several new highway improvements were carried out at this location as part of the Tesco Development on Wiltshire Way at which time it was agreed to monitor the detrimental impact any increased parking may have on residents in the area.

2.3 Residents of St David's Walk/Throston Grange Lane tend to park in a small area of unregulated parking bays as shown in the site plan (**Appendix 1** of this report). However the convenience of this location for visitor parking to the nearby facilities has led to additional demand for parking spaces and resulted in residents finding it increasingly difficult to park close to their own properties.

2.4 Residents most directly affected by the parking issues were consulted on a proposed residential permit parking scheme. The results of which are shown as **Appendix 2** of this report.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 A resident's only permit parking scheme is being proposed which would operate Monday – Saturday between the hours 8:00am – 6:00pm. This would replicate the resident parking schemes currently operating throughout other areas of Hartlepool. A controlled permit parking zone would be created and signed, restricting the long term stay of vehicles to residents and their approved visitors only.

3.2 Residents were advised as part of the consultation of the ongoing phased charge increase which were introduced to the permit parking scheme from April 2008 and were therefore aware that the cost of a permit would rise to £20 per permit at this location by 2010/2011.

3.2 Full details of other operational issues relating to the proposed scheme were also sent to residents as part of the consultation process.

3.3 The scheme would be enforced by Hartlepool Borough Council's Civil Enforcement Officers (Parking) who would issue Penalty Charge Notices under the Traffic Management Act 2004 to any vehicle in contravention of the Parking Order.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The cost of advertising the legal orders, erecting signage and creating advisory road carriage way markings would be minimal for a scheme of this size and would be met from the parking services operational budget.

4.2 The administration costs of the scheme would be met from the annual permit charge paid by residents.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The residents parking scheme would require the creation of Parking Order controlling parking at this location. The Orders would be required to be advertised as part of the formal legal process.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 That the Portfolio Holder approve the proposed residents only parking scheme at St David's Walk/Throston Grange Lane.

7. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

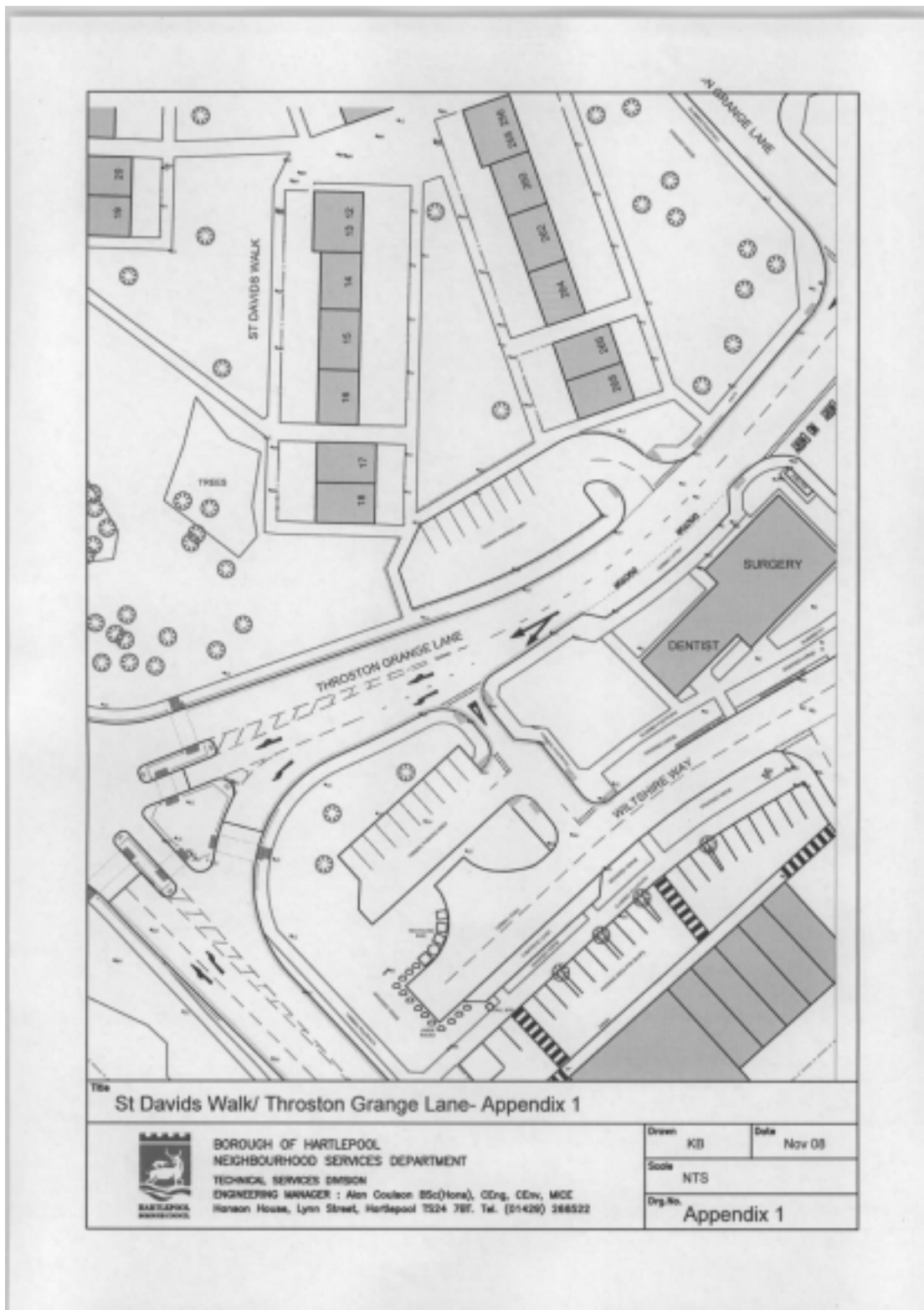
7.1 The clear majority of residents who completed and returned the consultation forms were in favour of introducing a residents only permit parking scheme who felt that such parking controls would benefit them.

8. CONTACT OFFICER


Philip Hepburn
Parking Services Manager
Neighbourhood Services (Technical Services)
Hartlepool Borough Council

Telephone Number: 01429 523258
Email: Philip.hepbum@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1



Site
St Davids Walk/ Throston Grange Lane- Appendix 1

 <p>BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION ENGINEERING MANAGER : Alan Coulson BSc(Hons), CEng, CEnv, MICE Hanson House, Lynn Street, Hartlepool TS24 7BT. Tel. (01429) 288522</p>	Drawn	KB	Date	Nov 08
	Scale	NTS		
	Org. No.	Appendix 1		

APPENDIX 2

St David's Walk - Proposed residents permit parking scheme

Number of consultations sent	Number of consultation received	% in favour	% against	% undecided
13	8	76	12	12

Comments included :

- A bigger area should be included to prevent displacement
- Any concessions for the disabled?--
- Scheme needs to regularly enforced to succeed.-

**NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES
PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder
18 December 2008



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2008/09 – QUARTER 2
MONITORING REPORT

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Portfolio Holder of the progress made against Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 in the second quarter of the year.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report describes the progress against actions contained in the Departmental Plan and the second quarter outturn of key performance indicators.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

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

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder.

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

Progress against actions and indicators is noted.

Report of: Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2008/09 – QUARTER 2
MONITORING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the key actions identified in the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2008/09 and the progress of relevant performance indicators for the period up to 30 September 2008.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities has responsibility for Housing Services within the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan.
- 2.2 The Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2008/09 sets out the key tasks and issues along with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department in the coming year.
- 2.3 The Council's Covalent performance management database is used for collecting and analysing performance in relation to both the Corporate Plan and the five Departmental Plans.
- 2.4 Where appropriate more detailed service plans are also produced detailing how each individual section contributes to the key tasks and priorities contained within the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan and ultimately those of the Corporate Plan. These plans are managed within the department.

3. SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how Regeneration and Planning Services has performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included within the Departmental Plan for 2008/09.
- 3.2 On a quarterly basis, officers from across the department are asked, via the Covalent Performance Management database, to provide an

update on progress against every action contained in the performance plan and where appropriate, every performance indicator.

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

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

- 3.4 Within the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan, there are a total of 18 actions and 14 performance indicators assigned to this portfolio.
- 3.5 Table 1 below summarises the progress made as at 30 September 2008 towards achieving these actions and performance indicators:-

Table 1 – Regeneration and Planning progress summary

	Departmental Plan	
	Actions	PIs
Green	1 (5.6%)	0 (0.0%)
Amber	17 (94.4%)	9 (64.3%)
Red	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Annual	0 (0.0%)	5 (35.7%)
Total	18	14

- 3.6 A total of 17 actions are rated as 'Amber' and are therefore expected to be completed by the milestone date. A further analysis of progress on these actions is set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Progress on 'Amber' rated actions

Action less than 40% complete	2
Action 40-60% complete	10
Action more than 60% complete	5
Total	17

It can be seen that the progress on the majority of actions is broadly in line or greater than what would be expected at the half year. Table 3 below gives further details of the two actions which are currently less than 40% complete, however these too are expected to be achieved by the end of 2008/9.

Table 3 – Progress on ‘Amber’ rated actions less than 40% complete

Action	Progress at half year
HSG A04-2 Improve the percentage of vulnerable households living in private housing meeting the decent homes standard	This action is approximately 35% complete. Increased activity in the second half year including renewal assistance and enforcement is expected to ensure this action fully complete by March 09.
HSG A06-1 Work with Supporting People and providers to develop a five year plan to reduce the number of bedsits in sheltered housing	It is estimated that this action is 30% complete. Further work will take place to plan the reduction of bedsit accommodation between now and year end. Successful Housing Hartlepool resource bids in relation to Orwell Walk and Albany Court will contribute towards achieving a reduction in the numbers of bedsits.

3.7 Of the nine performance indicators described as ‘Amber’ in Table 1 only the PI relating to the number of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) completed is significantly below the profiled half year target. With increased activity anticipated during the second half of the year it is felt that an ‘on target’ performance is still the most likely outcome at year end. There is however some risk that the number completed will be slightly less than the original target set.

3.8 The service can also report the following good progress for information.

- Work continues at a sub regional level to refresh the housing needs study. This is currently at final draft stage but is still subject to comments from partners.
- A first draft of a sub regional Empty Homes Strategy has been produced
- During the first half year, advice on 245 cases was provided by the tenancy relation service. This casework is contributing to our overall homeless prevention activity.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 That the progress against key actions and indicators in the second quarter of the year is noted.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO

18 December 2008



Report of: Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Subject: FINAL REPORT – KERBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEME
REFERRAL

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's findings following completion of its investigation into the current operation of the Council's kerbside recycling scheme.

2. SETTING THE SCENE

2.1 The Authority's Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder, at his meeting on the 30 June 2008, considered Elected Members concerns regarding the performance of the kerbside recycling contractor. In recognition of these concerns, the Portfolio Holder agreed to refer the current operation of the Council's Kerbside Recycling scheme to the Overview and Scrutiny Function for further examination. The prescribed timescale for completion of the referral being December 2008.

2.2 In considering the referral's route through Overview and Scrutiny, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee agreed at its meeting on 4 July 2008 to undertake the referral itself, due to the congested work programme of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum. It was, however, agreed that all Members of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum would be invited to participate in the Committee's consideration of the referral.

3. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY REFERRAL

3.1 To gain an understanding of the current operation of the Council's Kerbside Recycling Scheme and other recycling service provision, and to make suggestions for improvement where possible.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY REFERRAL

4.1 The Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny Referral were agreed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 26 September 2008, as outlined below:-

- (a) To gain an understanding of the current operation of the Council's Kerbside Recycling Scheme with reference to the current internal / external provision and containers used for kerbside collections;
- (b) To explore the Council's approach to on-street recycling such as litter and the provision of bring centres located throughout the town following the introduction of town wide kerbside recycling together with the recycling of waste from council buildings;
- (c) To explore the options available to the Council to work with the voluntary sector to improve the reuse of items collected from the bulky household waste collection service and the household waste recycling centre; and
- (d) To identify possible improvements to the current operation of the Council's Kerbside Recycling Scheme, in particular for those residents living in sheltered accommodation, bed sits and flats.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

5.1 The membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee was as detailed below:-

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Atkinson, Brash, R W Cook, S Cook, James, Kaiser, London, A Marshall, McKenna, Preece, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Wright and Young

Resident Representatives: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Iris Ryder and Linda Shields

5.2 The membership of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum was as detailed below, all of which were invited to participate in consideration of the referral:-

Councillors Akers-Belcher, Barker, R W Cook, Coward, Cranney, Fleming, McKenna, Worthy and Wright

Resident Representatives: John Cambridge, Mary Green and Brenda Loynes

6. METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

6.1 Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, and representatives from the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, met formally on 26 September 2008 and 7 November 2008 to discuss and receive evidence relating to the

investigation. A detailed report of the issues raised during these meetings is available from the Council's Democratic Services.

6.2 A brief summary of the methods of investigation are outlined below:-

- (a) Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities;
- (b) Director of Neighbourhood Services / Head of Neighbourhood Management;
- (c) Ward Councillors;
- (d) Residents of Hartlepool; and
- (e) Resident Representatives.

FINDINGS

7. KEY DRIVERS, STRATEGIES AND TARGETS INFLUENCING THE PROVISION OF WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES

7.1 As a starting point for the investigation, Members found it useful to gain an understanding of the key drivers, strategies and targets influencing the provision of waste disposal and recycling services nationally, regionally and locally. The Committee discovered that in addition to drivers around climate change, sustainability and public demand, others also related to the Waste Hierarchy and requirements of the Landfill Directive, National Waste Strategy and Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy (2008 – 2020). Looking in more detail at specific drivers, Members supported the priorities contained within the Waste Hierarchy, particularly the need to reduce waste at source, and the aims of the Tees Valley Joint Waste Management Strategy (i.e. zero landfill, minimised impact on climate change and the provision of an accountable / deliverable structure). Members also commended officers on the continued reduction of landfill waste levels in Hartlepool and, as part of the Landfill Directive, the subsequent surplus of landfill allowance certificates which were made available for sale to other local authorities at a maximum of £150 per ton.

7.2 With an understanding of the key waste disposal drivers, the Committee welcomed indications that Hartlepool was performing well against the targets contained within the National Waste Strategy, with 39.29% of waste recycled and composted in 2008/9 (April to July) against the target for 2010 of 40%. Whilst Members were encouraged that this figure was one of the highest across the country it was noted that targets for 2010 and 2015 were already very challenging and it was anticipated that they would be further reviewed by government in light of progress in 2010. The implications of this could be even more challenging targets, requiring the local authority to continue its development / improvement of waste disposal and recycling services.

8. HOW WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN HARTLEPOOL

8.1 In order to enable the Committee to make an informed decision later in the process, regarding possible improvements to the provision of Kerbside Recycling Scheme and other recycling services, it was important for Members to be familiar with how waste disposal services are currently provided in Hartlepool. Evidence provided by the Director of Neighbourhood Services illustrated to the Committee that there were a variety of waste disposal services / schemes available in Hartlepool as summarised below:-

- (a) The Waste Disposal Contract (1996 – 2020). External contract with SITA UK producing energy from waste and landfill;
- (b) Household Waste Collections;
 - (i) Kerbside recycling - Blue Bag / Box. External contract via Wards (2007 – 2009); and
 - (ii) Brown bin / green bin and poly bag. In house service.
- (c) Household Waste Recycling Centre. Local contractor (salvage contract 2004 – 2008 with Foreman Recycling);
- (d) 26 Recycling Bring Centres (to be put out to tender in the Tees Valley - 2009);
- (e) Free Bulky Household Waste Removal (In house service);
- (f) Commercial Waste Collections (In house service);
- (g) On street Recycling (Navigation Point and Marina litter bins – Council funded) (In-House Services);
- (h) Council Administrative Buildings (paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and cans). External contract; and
- (i) Voluntary Sector Arrangements – Recycling of mattresses and abandoned vehicles. Local contractor (OFCA).

8.2 Taking into consideration the information provided, Members expressed satisfaction with the level and type of waste disposal services available and used the information provided to identification of possible improvements to waste disposal service later in the report.

9. KERBSIDE AND ON-STREET RECYCLING SCHEMES IN HARTLEPOOL

9.1 Focusing its investigation on the agreed terms of reference, the Committee received evidence on the various forms of recycling services provided in

Hartlepool (as outlined in Section 8.1 above) Members also gained an understanding of how they are provided, whether that be in-house, through external contractors or the voluntary sector. In addition to this information, and in accordance with the terms of reference for the investigation, the Committee also took a closer look at the operation of the kerbside and on-street recycling service.

The Kerbside Recycling Scheme

- 9.2 Members were reminded that alternate weekly collections commenced in July 2005 and in formulating a view on the success of the scheme the Committee noted with interest the results of a participation survey carried out in May 2008. In providing a baseline to determine where resources should be targeted to encourage residents to recycle their waste, the Committee was pleased to find that the vast majority of Hartlepool residents have embraced and continue to support the change to waste collections. It was, however, recognised that there was a need to encourage those who at first sight appeared not to be participating in full and the Committee supported the suggestions for the introduction of the following:-
- (a) The introduction of an overarching campaign thanking residents of Hartlepool who are recycling, whilst encouraging those who are participating in recycling some materials but not all, to do a little bit more;
 - (b) Conduct a targeted communications campaign targeting areas with participation rates lower than 80% for dry recyclables or 60% for green waste; and
 - (c) Where encouragement and education fails to improve participation use enforcement action were applicable.
- 9.3 Members were pleased to find that the financial implications of the above actions had already been identified in the 2008/09/10 revenue budgets. The Committee also acknowledged the value of the participation count survey itself, in the future development of the recycling service, and supported the completion of a repeat survey every two years.
- 9.4 The Committee recognised that the kerbside recycling scheme was one of those delivered by an external contractor, with a third party disposal agreement. Throughout the investigation it was very clear that the Committee supported the service in Hartlepool, however, Members were made aware of issues raised by residents in relation to the conduct of contractor's staff and suitability of some of the receptacles used.
- 9.5 The Committee welcomed indications from the Director of Neighbourhood Services whilst there had in the past been some problems / issues with the contractor and the conduct of their staff, these had been resolved. In relation to issues around the appropriateness of receptacles, the Committee went on to discuss the matter further later in the report.

On-Street Recycling Services

- 9.6 The Committee, during the course of its investigation, queried the impact on Bring Centres of the town wide introduction of kerbside recycling. Members learned that there were currently 26 Bring Centres across Hartlepool, and received confirmation that the introduction of alternate weekly collections, and the ability for residents to recycle seven types of materials from their homes, had resulted in a significant reduction in their use and numbers. Despite this reduction in numbers, from 35 to 26, Members were surprised that Bring Centres in Hartlepool still numbered as many as in all the other Tees Valley authorities put together.
- 9.7 In addition to the drop in usage, concern was expressed by the Committee regarding the problems associated with the location of these centres and resident complaints about anti-social behaviour, untidiness and the servicing frequency of sites (i.e. emptying of glass and can containers). It was noted that these concerns had been brought to the fore most recently through the Neighbourhood Consultative Committee's, leading to a request for the removal of smaller centres, leaving only those that service all materials. This issue was discussed in detail by the Committee, as detailed later in the report.

10. SITE VISIT TO THE SITA UK EDUCATION CENTRE

- 10.1 Considering, in more detail, the split of services provided 'in house' and by external contractors, Members were particularly interested in the operation of the Waste Disposal Contract with SITA. In order to gain a fuller understanding of the services provided, a site visit was undertaken to the SITA educational centre. During the course of the visit, Members were encouraged to find that site recycled 70% of waste from its Household Recycling Centre, generated 20 mega watts of electricity per hour (sufficient to power a town the size of Hartlepool) and put only 4% of its total intake into landfill.
- 10.2 Members were also pleased to learn of plans for the further development of the site, including the new North East Energy Recovery Centre and the provision of a waste transfer station (allowing the bailing and storage of waste), which would enable the site to run at full capacity. Members welcomed the knock on implications of this in enabling Hartlepool Borough Council to achieve zero landfill and the subsequent positive impact this would have on Hartlepool's performance figures.
- 10.2 The Committee was impressed to discover that the contract between Hartlepool and SITA is in fact one of the best in the country, with a very competitive price achieved by SITA for the sale of the electricity generated from the waste. Members were pleased to learn that the competitive price obtained for this electricity was passed back through the contract and, as part of negotiations now ongoing for the possible renewal of the contract in 2020, suggested that possible ways of retaining the electricity generated in the Tees

Valley should be explored. A possible course of action being a 'purchase power agreement' to power the Tees Valley.

11. CUSTOMER SATISFACTION LEVELS AND PERFORMANCE COMPARISONS

- 11.1 With the level of services provided in Hartlepool comparing favourably with those in other local authorities, Members directed their attention to the issue of customer satisfaction. Comparing levels across the Tees Valley, Members discovered from the most recent full statistical analysis, undertaken in 2006, that 89% of Hartlepool residents were satisfied with the civic amenity sites provided, the highest percentage across the Tees Valley. A further 73% of residents were satisfied with recycling services and 82% satisfied with the overall waste collection service.
- 11.2 In looking for more recent evidence of customer views, a Viewpoint survey in 2007 had shown that customer satisfaction regarding waste collection and recycling services in Hartlepool had increased since 2006 (from 72% to 82% and 73% to 75% respectively). Similar results were, however, not available for the other Tees Valley authorities and, in order to gain a more up to date comparison of views on the effectiveness of recycling services, the Committee circulated 450 copies of a short questionnaire to a variety of groups across the Tees Valley (and Darlington).
- 11.3 Whilst the Committee accepted that caution needed to be exercised given the small sample size, and level of response to the questionnaire (16), it was encouraged to see that the importance of recycling continued to be recognised across all areas. It was also shown that in Hartlepool, the majority of residents felt that the kerbside recycling collection was good, with residents from other areas suggesting that their services could be improved to look more like those in Hartlepool, specifically in terms of the types of recycling waste collected.
- 11.4 The Committee welcomed information provided and in terms of best practice noted that Hartlepool itself was referred to as an example of this by other local authorities. Members congratulated officers on Hartlepool being placed in the top six of 350 local authorities as a best practice authority by APSE in the recent award. A view was, however, expressed that the authority was not doing enough 'trumpet blowing' by communicating with the public the great strides that had been made in terms of recycling in the town and the services provided. The Committee felt that this should be addressed.

12. EVIDENCE FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AS PART OF THE 11 MILLION TAKE OVER DAY

- 12.1 Throughout the investigation it was clear to the Committee that education was to be paramount in terms of achieving continued improvement in the provision of recycling services. Members were impressed to find that an education programme was already in place to encourage schools to invite the Waste Management Section to come along and provide information to children on

waste minimisation, as part of the national curriculum. Other activities included the Environmental Roundabout and Hartlepool Heroes.

- 12.2 To give Members a true flavour of the way in which education was approached, the opportunity was taken to take part in the 11 Million Takeover Day, which aimed to get children and young people involved in shaping local decisions. At the meeting on the 7 November 2008, Members were able to observe 20 year 6 pupils from across the town receiving a recycling 'session' and hear their views.



- 12.3 The Committee was also fascinated to learn from the children their views on just how important it was to collect recyclables from people's homes, and the need to encourage all people to increase the levels of recycling carried out. As part of this, the young people suggested that the range of plastics which can be recycled should be increased to include yogurt pots. Members supported this view and it was suggested that this should be looked into further as part of a wider service review.
- 12.4 The Committee took the opportunity to commend officers on the conduct of the 'session' and expressed their support for the continued development of educational services as a way of reaching the next generation and influencing parents. As a means of doing this, the Committee was of the view that in addition to creation of a Council Environmental Champion (as discussed in Section 13.2 of the report) the creation of environmental champions in schools, to promote awareness and environmental activities, should be explored. Members also suggested that the creation of an awards system for these champions could be beneficial along with the possibility that their activities could be tied into the curriculum with some benefit to them academically.

13. EVIDENCE FROM THE AUTHORITY'S PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES

- 13.1 The Committee welcomed the views of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities at its meeting on the 7 November 2008. During the course of discussions, the Portfolio Holder reinforced the view that positive work was being undertaken by the authority in the provision and development of recycling services. Concerns were also shared regarding the continued pressure being placed upon local authorities by the continual review of performance targets (as previously discussed in Section 7.3 of the report.
- 13.2 During the course of discussions with the Portfolio Holder, attention was drawn to the importance of recycling as part of his Portfolio's remit. The Committee was encouraged by the Portfolio Holder's obvious commitment to the continued development of recycling services and discussed in detail the value of the establishment of a champion for environmental issues, along the same lines as the Older People's Champion, and a number of others. The Committee suggested that the Portfolio Holder would be the most logical person to take up this position and welcomed indications that he would be willing to do so should such a position be created.
- 13.3 In light of the positive reaction received from the Portfolio Holder, the Committee suggested that the creation of an Environmental Champion should be explored further.

14. POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROVISION OF WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES IN HARTLEPOOL

- 14.1 During the course of the investigation, the Committee discussed in detail possible options for the improvement of waste disposal services in Hartlepool, with particular attention to the following areas:-
- (a) Household Waste Collections (including kerbside recycling);
 - (b) Use of External Contractors;
 - (c) Household Waste Recycling Centre;
 - (d) Bulky Household Waste Collection;
 - (e) Multi Occupancy Properties;
 - (f) Bring Centre's;
 - (g) Business Recycling;

(h) Customer Enquiries / Complaints; and

(i) Education and Enforcement.

Household Waste Collections (including kerbside recycling)

- 14.2 As indicated earlier in the report, Members discussed the way in which household waste is collected and noted that whilst some concerns were reiterated regarding the move to fortnightly collections the majority of Members felt that the Waste Management Team should be congratulated on the success of the two-weekly collection service and the improved recycling rates achieved across the town. This view was reinforced by confirmation that, the authority had this year been a finalist in the APSE recycling awards.
- 14.3 In exploring possible service improvements, Members considered a possible move to a four day collection week, reducing the need to have vehicles out of service for maintenance during collection days. Although the benefits of the proposal were recognised Members felt strongly that such a decision was operational and should be taken by the Director of Neighbourhood Services as part of a wider feasibility study regarding the reconfiguration of in-house services. The Committee supported the completion of such a feasibility study.

Kerbside and On-Street Recycling

- 14.4 Looking at kerbside and on-street recycling, Members were particularly interested in the possible benefits of either bringing services back in house or combining provision with a provider such as SITA. Members were advised that SITA do in other areas process and collect kerbside waste (Huddersfield – process only and Calderdale – collect and process). However, evidence provided during the course of the site visit (Section 10 of the report refers) had highlighted the risks associated with changing markets for the disposal of the differing types of kerbside waste. Although, Members noted with concern that this could make it difficult for the local authority, it was suggested that the collection of kerbside waste by in-house services could be worth looking into as a way forward.
- 14.5 Areas also identified for possible improvement were:-
- (a) The type of receptacles used for kerbside collections. During the course of the investigation Members expressed particular concern regarding the lack of a lid for the blue boxes and the inappropriateness of the blue bags. In recognition of Members concerns at the meeting on the 7 November a wide selection bins, boxes and bags was made available for Members to consider. Taking into consideration the options available, Members selected a Hessian bag as a more robust replacement, along with the provision the removable soft lids for the blue box; and
 - (b) The need to extend the range of recyclable plastics to include yogurt pots, etc, that can not currently not be recycled due to contamination of the plastic bottle recyclate. Members were keen that this be explored

and noted that the use of soft lids as mentioned above had been piloted in certain areas of the town and should be rolled out.

Use of External Contractors

- 14.6 In relation to the disposal of waste through external contracts, Members emphasised the importance of making sure that waste was not disposed of abroad by contractors and requested that the inclusion of an appropriate clause in contracts should be explored. Advice subsequently received, however, clarified that this would not be feasible although assurances were given that the Council strongly advocates the disposal of its waste in this country only.

Household Waste Recycling Centre

- 14.7 During the course of discussions, the Committee's attention was drawn to the effectiveness of the Household Waste Recycling Centre and the possibility that the facility could be improved to offer even more. Members were interested to find that options around the development of the site included the development of an environmental sustainability facility encompassing the provision of the sale of green items such as compost bins and electrical items. Also, the
- 14.8 The Committee recognised the further development of the site in the way outlined above as an integral part of improving waste disposal / recycling services for the residents of Hartlepool. As such, Members agreed that the development of an environmental sustainability facility at the Household Recycling Centre, encompassing the provision of the sale of green items such as compost bins and electrical items should be supported, along with the identification of the necessary resources to achieve it. (Perhaps through LAT's funding). It was suggested that this be looked into further as part of the overall feasibility study,

The Bulky Household Collection Service

- 14.9 Members supported strongly the Authority's free Bulky Household Waste Collection Service, for items that cannot be placed in the green residual waste bin. The Committee noted with interest that neighbouring Authorities charge for similar services and it was no surprise to find that usage of this service in Hartlepool is high.
- 14.10 Evidence provided showed that in support of the bulky waste collection service, OFCA had a partnership arrangement with the local authority to provide free assistance to the elderly and disabled to present the items on the kerbside for collection. The Committee welcomed this arrangement and with the assistance of evidence from the Director of Neighbourhood Services discussed possible options for the expansion of the arrangement.

- 14.11 Members discussed in detail the possible options available and went on to support the highlighted way forward and the need to prepare an outline business case examining service delivery options for the collection of the authority's Bulky Household Waste Collection Service, which would include the service being carried out by the voluntary sector. As part of this the creation of a reuse facility for the items collected by the Bulky Household Waste Collection Service and the Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Burn Road should be explored, with the full support of the Committee.

Multi Occupancy Properties

- 14.12 Members noted that the local authority works closely with registered social landlords and other housing organisations to assist in the implementation of the alternate weekly collection scheme in multiple occupancy residences. Housing Hartlepool, Guinness Trust, Anchor Housing and Endeavour Homes regularly contact the waste management section regarding the design of premises to accommodate the collection of household waste recycling.
- 14.13 The Committee noted that considerable effort had been made to ensure that services are accessible to all residents, with all multiple occupancy sites provided with communal facilities for glass and can recycling, with either communal or individual containers for the collection of plastic bottles / cardboard and paper. However, in exploring a way forward for the further development of this element of waste disposal service provision, the Committee acknowledged that residents who live in multiple occupancy residences, sheltered accommodation, and / or bedsits and flats have difficulty in recycling due to the high level of abuse the bin stores suffer or the physical constraints placed upon bin storage.
- 14.14 Member were of the view that the issues of waste storage and collection at multi-occupancy residences need to be reviewed and in light of this the Committee expressed its support for the following suggestions that:-
- (a) Welcome packs be created for residents outlining the provisions at each facility highlighting how and why the systems should be used;
 - (b) Work be undertaken with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team to identify the most appropriate method of collection for bedsits and ensure landlords are aware of their responsibilities with respect to providing containers for tenants; and
 - (c) Smaller containers be introduced for single occupancy bedsits / flats. This will have financial implications and whilst may address storage capacity within the premise, does not completely resolve the external collection storage issues.
- 14.15 In addition to these suggestions, the Committee also highlighted the need for recognition of recycling needs as part of planning applications.

Bring Centres

- 14.16 Taking into consideration the issues raised in Sections 9.6 and 9.7 of the report, Members discussed in detail the following suggestions for the way forward in terms of Bring Centre provision:-
- (a) Retention of the existing number of sites (leading to additional costs); and
 - (b) Removal of low yield and problem sites (saving approximately £1,200 per year).
- 14.17 Members explored with particular interest the proposals for the retention of only 8 sites, the basis for their selection being that they offer 5 categories of waste collection. The sites in question being HBC Household Waste Recycling Centre - Burn Road, Asda - Marina Way, Tesco - Burn Road, Fens Shops, - Catcote Road, Gillen Arms Public House - Clavering Road, Seaton Park Car Park - Station Lane, Seaton Carew, Morrisons - Lancaster Road and King Oswy Drive Shops - King Oswy Drive.
- 14.18 Considering the information provided Members of the Committee were of the view that they are 'minded' to support the reduction in the overall number of bring centres. The proviso for this was, however, that the sites are multi use and strategically placed. It was suggested by the Committee that one such strategic site could be schools and the feasibility of this needed to be explored further. It was also suggested that some form of consultation be undertaken with residents in areas where bring centres were sited to ascertain the viability of the centres.

Business Recycling Services

- 14.19 Members identified the area of business recycling as a key issue and highlighted that with only 16% of waste currently coming from domestic sources, businesses needed to be encouraged to recycle more. Evidence provided supported this view, in that the National Waste Strategy recognised business recycling as an area for improvement, with a suggestion that local authorities should encourage businesses. However, members were surprised to learn that at the present time, whilst there was a statutory requirement for the local authority to provide a commercial waste collection service if requested, there was no obligation to provide a business recycling service.
- 14.20 In response to these comments officers highlighted that the disposal of commercial / industrial waste falls within the remit of the Environment Agency with current practice being to refer businesses interested in recycling directly to local recycling companies. The Committee found that there was little or no encouragement / support from Central Government for local authorities to actively promote business waste recycling. There were also no financial incentives for local authorities, and no effect on performance figures, to encourage the development of a service that would have financial implications for the authority in terms of vehicles and contractual arrangements with end

users which could impact in an income reduction in the authority's trade waste collection service.

Customer Enquiries / Complaints

14.21 During the course of the investigation, Members raised an issue in relation to the communication of problems to residents when street collections are missed for no apparent reason. It was brought to the Committee's attention that up until recently issues / complaints went directly to the relevant officer in the department, however, this was no longer the case with Contact Centre staff now being the first point of contact. Members identified from their own experiences, and those of their constituents, that communication with the public on these issues isn't as good as it was and steps were being taken to address this. Negotiations had been ongoing with the workforce to introduce ICT into vehicle cabs. Once this equipment was in place and all staff trained, it would be easier to report missed collections much more quickly. Two-way communication would also allow a swifter response to such issues on the day.

Enforcement

14.22 The Committee were pleased to learn that the implementation of enforcement action has been very successful over the last year, with the issue of Section 46 notices, advising residents of their responsibilities, and fixed penalty notices in cases where there was persistent abuse of side and bins left out permanently.

14.23 Members were left in no doubt that the utilisation of enforcement powers was an integral part of the overall package of measure to manage and raise awareness of recycling. With this in mind, Members expressed their support for the rolling out of enforcement activities and across the town.

15. CONCLUSIONS

15.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee concluded:-

- (a) That officers are congratulated on their work in helping the authority to achieve well against the targets contained within the National Waste Strategy;
- (b) That waste disposal and recycling services in Hartlepool perform favourably against their Tees Valley Neighbours, however, raising targets means that continued development of the service is essential;
- (c) That the effectiveness of waste disposal services in Hartlepool is reflected by the reducing levels of landfill waste and positive performance against targets contained within the National Waste Strategy;
- (d) That in recognition of the importance of the waste disposal and recycling issue work needs to be undertaken to raise the profile of the subject

through activities such as the appointment of Environmental Champions (in schools and the Council itself) and increased publicity in relation to Council achievements and activities;

- (e) That the success of waste disposal services in the future will be dependent upon the successful implementation of a wide variety of activities and the development of the existing service. This would include the development of services at the Household Waste Recycling Centre and the Bulky Household Waste Collection service and the expansion of relationships with voluntary sector partners;
- (f) The Committee supported the exploration of the activities outlined in paragraph in 16.1(b) as part of work to further improve waste disposal and recycling services in Hartlepool; and
- (g) That the Committee was minded to support the proposed reduction in the overall number of Bring Centres in Hartlepool, subject to the remaining sites being multi use and strategically located, with those chosen to remain selected following consultations with residents from areas where they are located, to ascertain the viability of the centres.

16. RECOMMENDATIONS

16.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has taken evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Committee's key recommendations to the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities are as outlined below:-

- (a) That as part of work to further improve waste disposal and recycling services in Hartlepool, the implementation of the following activities be explored:-

Bulky Household Waste

- (i) The creation of a reuse facility for the items collected by the Bulky Household Waste Collection Service and the Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Burn Road;
- (ii) The development of an environmental sustainability facility encompassing the provision of the sale of green items such as compost bins and electrical items be supported, along with the identification of the necessary resources to achieve it;
- (iii) Preparation of an outline business case examining service delivery options for the collection of the Authority's Bulky Household Waste Collection Services;
- (iv) Exploration of the possible ways to work with the voluntary and community sector for the disposal of bulky waste;

Multi Occupancy Properties

- (v) The creation of welcome packs for residents outlining the provisions at each facility highlighting how and why the systems should be used;
 - (vi) Close working with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team to identify the most appropriate method of collection for bedsits and ensure landlords are aware of their responsibilities with respect to providing containers for tenants;
 - (vii) The implementation of a pilot scheme to ascertain if the provision of smaller containers for single occupancy bedsits / flats is feasible; and
 - (viii) Offer the same facilities to all flats, complexes and apartments and keep the methods in place in respect of multiple occupancy buildings and sheltered accommodation.
- (b) That as part of the process for the reconfiguration of in-house services, a feasibility study be undertaken incorporating the following areas of provision:
- (i) The reconfiguration of contracts in line with the service standard;
 - (ii) Partnership – Household waste recycling centre and Bring Centre provision;
 - (iii) Voluntary sector – re use of bulky waste items;
 - (iv) Externalise services – Household waste recycling centre and bring centre servicing; and
 - (v) Cessation or reduction of Services – Bring Centre provision.
- (c) That the success of Hartlepool's Waste Management Provision, in particular recycling be more actively publicised;
- (d) That in response to the successful outcome of the Participation Survey undertaken earlier this year, that the exercise be repeated at two yearly intervals;
- (e) That appropriate methods of waste storage and collection at multi-occupancy residences be reviewed in consultation with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team; and
- (f) That ways of increasing the levels of recycling with small businesses across the town be explored further.

17. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

17.1 The Committee is grateful to all those who have presented evidence during the course of our investigation. We would like to place on record our appreciation, in particular of the willingness and co-operation we have received from the below named:-

Hartlepool Borough Council

Councillor Peter Jackson, Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities;

Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services;

Denise Ogden, Head of Neighbourhood Management;

Colin Ogden, Waste Management Manager;

Fiona Srogi, Recycling Officer; and

Helen Beaman, Environment Co-ordinator.

COUNCILLOR MARJORIE JAMES CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

November 2008

Contact Officer: Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel:- 01429 284142
Email:- joan.wilkins@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were consulted or referred to in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Scoping Report – Investigation into Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral (Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee – 26 September 2008).
- (ii) Presentation by the Director of Neighbourhood Services - Investigation into Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral (Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee – 26 September 2008).
- (iii) 11 Million Takeover Day - Young People's Involvement in Consideration of the Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral (Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee – 7 November 2008).

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO

18 December 2008



Report of: Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: FINAL REPORT - KERBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEME
REFERRAL – ACTION PLAN

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To agree an Action Plan in response to the findings and subsequent recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's referral into 'the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme.'

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 2.1 The report provides brief background information into the Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral and provides a proposed Action Plan (**Appendix A**) in response to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's recommendations.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

- 3.1 To assist the Portfolio Holder in the determination of either approving or rejecting the proposed recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, attached as **Appendix A** is the proposed Action Plan for the implementation of these recommendations.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

- 4.1 Non-Key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

- 5.1 The Action Plan and the progress of its implementation will be reported to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on either 23 January 2009 or 13 February 2009 (subject to availability of the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s)).

6. DECISION REQUIRED

- 6.1 That the Portfolio Holder considers and approves the Action Plan (**Appendix A refers**) if felt appropriate in response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme.

Report of: Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: FINAL REPORT - KERBSIDE RECYCLING SCHEME
REFERRAL – ACTION PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To agree an Action Plan in response to the findings and subsequent recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 To assist the Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder in his determination of either approving or rejecting the proposed recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme, attached as **Appendix A** is the proposed Action Plan for the implementation of these recommendations.
- 2.2 The overall aim of the referral was to gain an understanding of the current operation of the Council's Kerbside Recycling Scheme and other recycling service provision, and to make suggestions for improvement where possible.

3. ACTION PLAN

- 3.1 As a result of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme, the following recommendations have been made:-

- (a) That as part of work to further improve waste disposal and recycling services in Hartlepool, the implementation of the following activities be explored:-

Bulky Household Waste

- (i) The creation of a reuse facility for the items collected by the Bulky Household Waste Collection Service and the Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Burn Road;
- (ii) The development of an environmental sustainability facility encompassing the provision of the sale of green items such as compost bins and electrical items be supported, along with the identification of the necessary resources to achieve it;

- (iii) Preparation of an outline business case examining service delivery options for the collection of the Authority's Bulky Household Waste Collection Services;
- (iv) Exploration of the possible ways to work with the voluntary and community sector for the disposal of bulky waste;

Multi Occupancy Properties

- (v) The creation of welcome packs for residents outlining the provisions at each facility highlighting how and why the systems should be used;
 - (vi) Close working with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team to identify the most appropriate method of collection for bedsits and ensure landlords are aware of their responsibilities with respect to providing containers for tenants;
 - (vii) The implementation of a pilot scheme to ascertain if the provision of smaller containers for single occupancy bedsits / flats is feasible; and
 - (viii) Offer the same facilities to all flats, complexes and apartments and keep the methods in place in respect of multiple occupancy buildings and sheltered accommodation.
- (b) That as part of the process for the reconfiguration of in-house services, a feasibility study be undertaken incorporating the following areas of provision:
- (i) The reconfiguration of contracts in line with the service standard;
 - (ii) Partnership – Household waste recycling centre and Bring Centre provision;
 - (iii) Voluntary sector – re use of bulky waste items;
 - (iv) Externalise services – Household waste recycling centre and bring centre servicing; and
 - (v) Cessation or reduction of Services – Bring Centre provision.
- (c) That the success of Hartlepool's Waste Disposal Provision, in particular recycling be more actively publicised;
- (d) That in response to the successful outcome of the Participation Survey undertaken earlier this year, that the exercise be repeated at two yearly intervals;

- (e) That appropriate methods of waste storage and collection at multi-occupancy residences be reviewed in consultation with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team; and
- (f) That ways of increasing the levels of recycling with small businesses across the town be explored further.

3.2 An Action-Plan in response to these recommendations has now been produced in consultation with the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s) and is attached at **Appendix A** which is to be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on either 23 January 2009 or 13 February 2009 (subject to the availability of appropriate Portfolio Holder(s)).

4. **RECOMMENDATION**

4.1 The Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder is requested to approve the Action Plan attached as **Appendix A** in response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the Authority's Kerbside Recycling Scheme.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: December 2008

	RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(a)	<p>That as part of work to further improve waste disposal and recycling services in Hartlepool, the implementation of the following activities be explored:-</p> <p><u>Bulky Household Waste</u></p> <p>(i) The creation of a reuse facility for the items collected by the Bulky Household Waste Collection Service and the Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Bum Road;</p> <p>(ii) The development of an environmental sustainability facility encompassing the provision of the sale of green items such as compost bins and electrical items be supported, along with the identification of the necessary resources to achieve it;</p> <p>(iii) Preparation of an outline business case examining service delivery options for the collection of the Authority's Bulky Household</p>	<p>Designs are current being drafted and costed to expand the existing HWRC to incorporate a re-use facility. The final designs will be costed and tendered following council procurement guidelines</p> <p>Designs are current being drafted and costed to expand the existing HWRC to incorporate a 'green' shop for the sale of sustainable living items. The final designs will be costed and tendered following council procurement guidelines</p> <p>A business case will be prepared advising on possible options, linking into guidance coming out of the Business Transformation programme.</p>	<p>External grants and LATS income.</p> <p>External grants and LATS income.</p> <p>Existing revenue budget</p>	<p>D Ogden</p> <p>D Ogden</p> <p>D Ogden</p>	<p>Summer 2009</p> <p>Summer 2009</p> <p>Summer 2009</p>

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: December 2008

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE	
(a)	Waste Collection Services;				
	(vi) Exploration of the possible ways to work with the voluntary and community sector for the disposal of bulky waste;	Since delivery options will be explored using the framework to be determined from the Business Transformation programme.	Existing revenue budgets.	D Ogden.	Spring 2010.
	<u>Multi Occupancy Properties</u>				
	(v) The creation of welcome packs for residents outlining the provisions at each facility highlighting how and why the systems should be used;	Meeting to be arranged with Private Sector Housing to agree content of welcome pack.	Existing revenue budgets and Government grants.	C Ogden.	May 2009.
(vi) Close working with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team to identify the most appropriate method of collection for bedsits and ensure landlords are aware of their responsibilities with respect to providing containers for tenants;	Set of meetings to be scheduled exploring the most appropriate collection method to enable residents to recycle and participate in the Kerbside Collection Service. Information will be incorporated in the welcome packs.	Existing revenue budgets and Government grants.	C Ogden.	May 2009.	
(vii) The implementation of a pilot scheme to ascertain if the provision of smaller containers for single occupancy bedsits / flats is feasible; and	Agree a pilot area with the Private Sector Housing Team. Implement and monitor over minimum of six months.	Existing revenue budgets and Government grants.	C Ogden.	Start May 2009.	

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: December 2008

	RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
(a)	(viii) Offer the same facilities to all flats, complexes and apartments and keep the methods in place in respect of multiple occupancy buildings and sheltered accommodation.	Existing services will continue to be provided as they are. Any changes will be dependent upon the outcome of the pilot.	Existing revenue budgets.	D Ogden.	May 2009 and ongoing.
(b)	<p>That as part of the process for the reconfiguration of in-house services, a feasibility study be undertaken incorporating the following areas of provision:</p> <p>(i) The reconfiguration of contracts in line with the service standard;</p> <p>(ii) Partnership – Household waste recycling centre and Bring Centre provision;</p> <p>(iii) Voluntary sector – re use of bulky waste items;</p> <p>(vi) Externalise services – Household waste recycling centre and bring centre servicing; and</p>	Reconfiguration of current services will be carried out as detailed in the recommendation, taking account of business transformation frameworks which are currently being developed.	Existing revenue budgets.	D Ogden.	December 2009.

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN

NAME OF FORUM: Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY: Kerbside Recycling Scheme Referral

DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT: December 2008

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE	
	(v) Cessation or reduction of Services – Bring Centre provision.	Unknown at this stage.	D Ogden.	May 2009.	
(c)	That the success of Hartlepool's Waste Disposal Provision, in particular recycling be more actively publicised;	A Communication Strategy will be prepared including timescales of when and how we will communicate with the public.	Circa £15,000.	C Ogden.	April 2009.
(d)	That in response to the successful outcome of the Participation Survey undertaken earlier this year, that the exercise be repeated at two yearly intervals;	To be included within the departments service planning framework.	Existing revenue budgets.	C Ogden.	May 2010.
(e)	That appropriate methods of waste storage and collection at multi-occupancy residences be reviewed in consultation with the Authority's Private Sector Housing Team; and	Existing services will continue to be provided as they are. Any charges will be dependent upon the outcome of the pilot.	Existing revenue budgets.	C Ogden.	May 2009 and ongoing
(f)	That ways of increasing the levels of recycling with small businesses across the town be explored further.	Options to explore how best to increase business recycling without adding additional financial pressures to the waste revenue budgets.	Unknown at this stage.	C Ogden.	September 2009.