

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

26 May 2009

The meeting commenced at 9.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillors Peter Jackson (Neighbourhood and Communities Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Jeff Mason, Head of Support Services
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

70. Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2009/10 – 2011/12 – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

Type of Decision

Non key

Purpose of Report

To agree the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan for 2009/10 to 2011/12.

Issues for Consideration

The Portfolio Holder was advised that the Departmental Plan outlined the main activities the department would undertake during 2009/10 – 2011/12 and included a detailed action plan for 2009/10.

The report indicated that the structure of the Departmental Plan was based on a corporate template and designed to be consistent with other plans across the council. It had clear links to the strategic aims and objectives contained in the Council's overall Corporate Plan and also formed the basis for more detailed service planning for each division of the department.

To improve governance arrangements a full review of the risk register had taken place as part of the service planning process. Details of all associated risks that might prevent the department achieving its objectives were shown along with the management controls in place to mitigate said risks.

Six separate Diversity Impact Needs Requirement Assessments had been carried out as part of the service planning process to ensure the department would be taking the necessary steps to meet their equality and diversity obligations. The Planning INRA had also been subjected to an external stakeholder challenge progress. An action plan resulting from the findings of these assessments was included. As organisational structures were expected to change within the department during 2009/10 as a result of Business Transformation this action plan was compiled on a thematic basis rather than being shown by departmental division.

The departmental actions and performance indicators were to be regularly monitored by senior managers throughout the year. In addition, a quarterly report would be submitted to the Portfolio Holder to provide an update on progress and to highlight any key areas of achievement or concern.

Decision

That the contents of the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan document for 2009/10 – 2011/12 be approved.

71. Exemplar Status – Head of Neighbourhood Management

Type of Decision

Non key

Purpose of Report

To advise the Portfolio Holder that the Council had been awarded 'Exemplar' status, recognising the good work undertaken to integrate Neighbourhood Policing and Neighbourhood Management specifically the co-location of the Community Safety Premises at 173 York Road.

Issues for Consideration

The 2008 Flanagan Review on Policing had identified the need for neighbourhood policing to be more closely integrated with neighbourhood management. In order to progress this integration the National Policing Improvement Agency and the Improvement and Development Agency identified 12 'exemplar' sites covering a wide cross-section of the neighbourhood experience of England and Wales. These sites would be promoted as areas of good practice and act as a learning hub and mentor to other partnerships attempting a similar integration.

Selection for exemplar status involved a three part process including self-assessment, short listing and site visit. The chosen sites were

selected on the basis of being reflective of a range of different neighbourhoods in England and Wales and being most likely to reflect the experience of other areas.

The Portfolio Holder expressed his gratitude to the staff who had worked hard to achieve this status for which Hartlepool should be extremely proud. He asked that a letter be sent to all relevant staff on his behalf thanking them for their efforts and that a contributory article be placed in Hartbeat magazine.

Decision

- I. That the achievements of the Neighbourhood Management Division and Neighbourhood Policing be noted.
- II. That a letter be sent to all relevant members of staff on behalf of the Portfolio Holder thanking staff for their efforts.

72. Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 – Quarter 4 Monitoring Report – *Director of Neighbourhood Services*

Type of Decision

Non key

Purpose of Report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 to the end of the fourth quarter of the year.

Issues for Consideration

A detailed report was provided on the progress against the actions contained in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2008/09 and the fourth quarter outturns of key performance indicators. Of a total of 58 actions for which the Portfolio Holder was responsible 7 were not expected to reach their target. The reasons for the anticipated failure to achieve these targets were outlined within the report, it was noted that none of the failed targets would in any way impact on the provision of Council services to the general public. Information was also given of key areas of progress made across the Neighbourhood Services Department in 2008/09.

The Portfolio Holder indicated that he was extremely pleased with the work carried out by the staff and looked forward to this carrying on into the forthcoming municipal year.

Decision

That the progress and achievement of key actions be noted

The meeting concluded at 9:10am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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