

REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

22 May 2009

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond)

Officers: Peter Scott, Director of Regeneration and Planning Services
David Frame, Neighbourhood Manager (South)
Andrew Golightly, Senior Regeneration Officer
Jeff Mason, Head of Support Services
Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

42. Tees Valley Growth Point – Hartlepool Projects *(Head of Regeneration)*

Type of Decision

Key – tests i and ii apply

Purpose of Report

To provide an update regarding the progress made developing the details of the package of Growth Point projects for Hartlepool. Also to seek endorsement to utilise Growth Point funding to support the specific detailed project proposals regarding the Housing Market Renewal (HMR) element of the package, to allow officers to implement these particular schemes.

Issues for Consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report contained specific project details of some of the elements of the broad package of projects as previously endorsed by the Portfolio Holder on 24th April 2009. Hartlepool had been allocated £1.147million of Growth Point capital funding to implement growth proposals put forward in the Growth Point Programme of Development. As previously agreed the areas suggested for support were sites within the Central Hartlepool Housing Market Renewal Area, the East Central Area of the Town Centre and Golden Flatts, Seaton Lane, specifically:

- Belle Vue - £500,000 required for property acquisition and site assembly to help enable the comprehensive redevelopment of the area
- Easington Road - £125,000 required to demolish empty housing
- North Central Hartlepool - £250,000 contribution to offer a shared equity product to house buyers

Detailed information was provided relating to how Growth Point funding would be specifically used in these areas to encourage housing growth and further development. The report also outlined the rationale for supporting these particular schemes and the costs, benefits and outcomes related to the suggested expenditure.

The Portfolio Holder expressed his support for the proposals but queried why the number of areas which would benefit had decreased from the eight or nine originally under consideration. The Senior Regeneration Officer advised that the monies allocated would not cover all the areas originally identified so those areas where funding would have most effect had been selected.

Decision

That the specific measures detailed within the appendices to the report be agreed and officers authorised to use Growth Point Resources to implement these specific measures to support the Central Hartlepool HMR sites.

43. 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 Services 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 process. 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.

44. 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 indicated he was pleased at the achievement but expressed his reservations as to whether this would lead to an increase in work for the department. The Neighbourhood Manager acknowledged this concern, advising that the situation would be monitored.

Decision

That the achievements of the Neighbourhood Management Division and Neighbourhood Policing be noted.

The meeting concluded at 10:10am

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 29th May 2009