

**REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY
PORTFOLIO
DECISION RECORD
21st October 2005**

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond), Regeneration and Liveability Portfolio Holder

Officers: Geoff Thompson, Head of Regeneration
Chris Barlow, Principal Community Strategy Officer
Genevieve Parker, Principal Regeneration Officer
Sarah Scarr, Conservation Officer
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

**25. Tees Valley Living – Sub-Regional Housing Market
Renewal Strategy** (*Director of Regeneration and Planning
Services*)

Type of decision

Key decision, tests (i) and (ii) apply.

Purpose of report

To describe and seek endorsement of the draft Tees Valley Living Housing Market Renewal Strategy which was attached by way of an Appendix. Some textual amendments, which have been forwarded to Tees Valley Living for inclusion in the final version, were also attached, as Appendix 2.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the background to the Tees Valley Living Housing Market Renewal Strategy. At a recent meeting of the Tees Valley

Executive, it was agreed that each local authority would secure endorsement of the Strategy to ratify its status prior to submission to the Regional Housing Board (RHB) and Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) as part of the bid.

The financial and risk implications were detailed in the report and included a proposed split of resources as agreed by the Tees Valley Living Board.

The allocation for Hartlepool would support ongoing and potentially additional housing regeneration work currently underway in the north and west central parts of the town.

The Portfolio Holder referred to the reference that there may be some variance to final amounts of resources available due to other bids received by the RHB and sought reassurance that the final funding available would be split amongst the local authorities on the same proportionate basis. The Head of Regeneration confirmed that officers would endeavour to ensure that this would be the case.

Decision

The Tees Valley Living Housing Market Renewal was endorsed as the core document setting out the sub-regional approach for effectively addressing housing market renewal and supporting future bids for funding available for housing regeneration.

26. Rossmere Neighbourhood Action Plan (*Head of Regeneration*)

Type of decision

Key decision, test (ii) applies.

Purpose of report

To seek endorsement of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) for the Rossmere area.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report detailed the background to the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) which was attached by way of an Appendix. This was the fifth NAP to be developed in the town and had £40,000 of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding allocated as agreed by Hartlepool Partnership.

A wide range of consultation had been undertaken including residents,

school children, young people, community and voluntary groups, Councillors. All comments received had been very positive and constructive and had helped formulate an accurate action plan for the area. The finalised NAP had been presented to the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and the newly formed Rossmere Forum which had both resulted in positive feedback and the endorsement of the Plan.

The Council's Neighbourhood Services Department had adopted a neighbourhood management role to assist with the implementation of the plan. The financial implications and risk management considerations were detailed in the report and whilst there was no significant funding available specifically for NAPs, they should be influential in the future allocation of resources.

Decision

The Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) for the Rossmere area was endorsed.

27. Safer Stronger Communities Fund: The Neighbourhood Element (*Head of Community Strategy*)

Type of decision

Key Decision, Test (ii) applies.

Purpose of report

The report sought the agreement of the Portfolio Holder to the priority neighbourhoods and the broad principles for developing the new Neighbourhood Element funding programme for 2006/2010.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

In summer 2005, it was announced that Hartlepool was eligible for the new Neighbourhood Element of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) to improve the quality of life for people living in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Hartlepool would receive £1,599,600 over 4 years and deployment of this funding would be negotiated locally between the Local Authority and its partners through the Hartlepool Partnership within the Local Area Agreement.

The Neighbourhood Element had been allocated on a 4-year tapering basis and this was detailed in the report. The areas eligible for funding were within the 3% of the most deprived nationally. However, areas already included within New Deal for Communities (NDC) were ineligible for funding

in order to avoid double funding neighbourhood based work.

A table was included within the report that detailed the recommended individual neighbourhood allocations and this included the four NAP areas across the town. The guidance set out in the report detailed the steps needed to be undertaken to develop the priorities for the Neighbourhood Element funding.

Decision

- The priority areas were agreed as being the four eligible NAP neighbourhoods of North Hartlepool Partnership, Dyke House/Jackson, Burbank and Owton.
- The method of delivering on the Neighbourhood Element through the NAPs was agreed.

28. Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Programme 2005-2006 *(Head of Community Strategy)*

Type of decision

Key Decision, Test (ii) applies.

Purpose of report

This Portfolio Holder's agreement was sought to NRF funding for a range of Health, Jobs & Economy and Community Safety interventions in 2005/2006 as previously agreed by the Hartlepool Partnership.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

Within the Health theme allocation, the sum of £116,799 was identified as unallocated at the beginning of 2005/2006. The Health & Care Strategy Group agreed in their April meeting to use this unallocated funding to extend existing projects and a sub-group was established to examine the applications received.

At its meeting on 21st July, the Health & Care Strategy Group approved several projects to take up the unallocated funding, and they were detailed in the report.

Under the jobs and economy programme, there were doubts that the agreed match funding of £571,000 from the Single Programme would be forthcoming as this had yet to be approved by the Tees Valley Partnership due to Single Programme resource issues. Whilst the Economic Development Manager had sought a number of possible funding streams, it

was recommended that an additional £120,000 from the current year's programme be allocated to ensure the Brougham development in particular, proceeded at the earliest opportunity.

A number of Community Safety projects had been approved at the December Hartlepool Partnership meeting. However, information had been received that provided robust evidence for the continued need for the Headland Community Capacity Building Project. It was therefore recommended to allocate £15,000 from the NRF Community Safety Programme.

The financial and risk management considerations of these interventions were outlined in the report.

Decision

- The decision of the Hartlepool Partnership Board was endorsed.
- The interventions outlined in the report for 2005/2006 were agreed.

29. Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) Programme 2006-2008 *(Head of Community Strategy)*

Type of decision

Key Decision, test (ii) applies

Purpose of report

Agreement was sought to NRF funding priorities for 2006/2008 as previously agreed by the Hartlepool Partnership.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The report set out the recommended thematic funding split for the £9.2m NRF allocation for 2006-2008 as agreed by the Hartlepool Partnership at its meeting on 16th September. It also recommended funding be allocated towards continuing the Community Chest for community and voluntary sector and funding the Hartlepool Community Empowerment Network during 2007-2008.

An evaluation of the current NRF programme was underway and it was recommended that Best Practice Workshops be held for each of the NRF themes during October 2005. These were to be attended by respective Theme Partnership and Hartlepool Partnership Board Members.

The financial and risk management considerations indicated that the

Council and the Hartlepool Partnership would benefit from significant additional financial resources to 2008.

Decision

- The decision of the Hartlepool Partnership Board was endorsed.
- The thematic allocations for 2006-2008 as set out in the report were agreed.

30. Remit and Membership of Conservation Area Advisory Committee (*Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*)

Type of decision

Non-key.

Purpose of report

To provide information on a potential remit and membership of the Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC).

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The purpose of a CAAC was to support the development of conservation policies and practice by bringing a wider perspective of interest and informed opinion to bear upon the management of built heritage. The following strategic conservation issues could be examined by the CAAC:

- Policy
- Conservation Area Appraisals
- Development Briefs
- Leaflets on Conservation Issues
- Grant Schemes

The suggested membership of the Committee was detailed in the report with significant interest being shown from various individuals/groups. The Conservation Officer indicated that these groups would be approached with a view to putting nominations forward.

Decision

The report was noted and officers were advised to pursue the establishment of a CAAC with membership based on the acknowledgement of interest received outlined in para 4.1 of the report.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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