

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Tuesday 24th November 2009

at 9.00 am

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

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

1. KEY DECISIONS

No items

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 20mph Speed Limits – Trial Sites – *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)*
- 2.2 Proposed Toucan Crossing – Catcote Road - *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)*
- 2.3 Greatham Local Safety Scheme - *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)*
- 2.4 Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 –Quarter 2 Monitoring Report – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 2.5 Ward Jackson Primary School Safety Scheme - *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)*
- 2.6 Dog Control Orders – North Sands, Hartlepool – *Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)*
- 2.7 Pride in Hartlepool Proposals – *Assistant Director (Procurement and Asset Management)*
- 2.8 Integrated Transport Joint Tender (Ref 431) – *Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering)*

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

No items

TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24 November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS – TRIAL SITES

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to introduce 20 mph speed limits on Davison Drive, The Front, Seaton Carew and the streets bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report details the background to the scheme and the consultation undertaken.

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

The Portfolio holder approves the implementation of the schemes outlined in section 3 of the report.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS – TRIAL SITES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to introduce 20 mph speed limits on Davison Drive, The Front, Seaton Carew and the streets bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Numerous complaints regarding speeding and requests for traffic calming are received each year. These requests are investigated to check the validity of the complaint by undertaking a speed survey and checking the injury accident record. These statistics are used to prioritise the sites for Local Safety Scheme (LSS) funding.
- 2.2 On residential streets average traffic speed rarely exceeds the 30mph speed limit and accident levels are generally low. It is therefore unlikely that residential streets would qualify for LSS funding. In order to address these areas, the Traffic team have been investigating the use of 20mph speed limits using speed limit signing alone.
- 2.3 Government policy encourages local authorities to use the powers they possess to implement 20 mph zones and speed limits in residential areas in order to contribute to a reduction in road casualties. It is normal convention to implement 20 mph speed limits in conjunction with traffic calming to make the limit 'self enforcing' these schemes are called zones. Several 20 mph zones have already been implemented in Hartlepool, including Clavering Road, King Oswy Drive and Masfield Road. A number of towns and cities have started to implement area wide 20mph speed limits using speed limit signing alone.
- 2.4 Portsmouth City Council was the first local authority in England to implement an extensive area wide 20 mph speed limit scheme, using speed limit signing alone. An interim evaluation of the scheme has been carried out by the Department for Transport and the results show an average reduction of 0.9mph on roads with an average speed of 24mph or less and at sites where the average 'before' speed was greater than 24mph the average speed was reduced by 7mph. Accident analysis of the streets involved showed a 13 percent reduction.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 It is proposed to introduce a 20 mph speed limit in 3 distinct areas of the town using speed limit signing alone. The areas identified are:-

- **Davison Drive (between Warren Road and Carrick Street)**
(see **Appendix 1**)

The access to West View School is located on this stretch of road and a school crossing patrol operates in the vicinity. It is proposed to erect electronic speed signs to help reduce vehicle speeds. School parking restrictions are also proposed as part of this scheme.

- **The Front Seaton Carew** (see **Appendix 2**)

This section of carriageway is located within the busy seafront area. It is also proposed to include Crawford Street which has existing conventional traffic calming in place.

- **The area bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road**
(see **Appendix 3**)

This area is largely residential, numerous complaints have been received regarding speeding, although speed surveys don't show an excessive speed problem.

3.2 Speed surveys and accident data has been collated for these sites. 'After' surveys will be carried out in approximately one year's time to determine the affect these schemes have had. It is proposed to report the results to a future Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio.

3.3 Table 1.1 Speed Survey Data

Site	Average Speed (mph)	85 percentile Speed (mph)
Davison Drive	26	29
The Front, Seaton Carew	31	37
Arncliffe Gardens	28	33
Eamont Gardens	20	25
Claremont Drive	25	29
Newlands Avenue	23	27
Eldon Grove	28	33
Belmont Gardens	22	28
Waldon Street	21	25
Osborne Road	21	24

NB Not all streets have been surveyed for the area bounded by Elwick Road, York Road and Park Road

3.4 **Table 1.2 Accident Data**

Site	Accidents (last 5 years)			Annual accident rate
	Slight	Serious	Fatal	
Davison Drive	1	0	0	0.2
The Front, Seaton Carew	3	0	0	0.6
Area bounded by Elwick Road, York Rd, Park Rd	3	0	0	0.6

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The schemes will be funded through the local Transport Plan.

Davison Drive :- £5,000

The Front, Seaton Carew :- £3,000

Area bounded by Elwick Rd, York Rd and Park Rd :- £10,000

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 A traffic regulation order will be required to legally reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph. Any objections to the order will need to be considered at a future Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio meeting.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Letters explaining the proposals have been sent to Ward Councillors, residents and businesses affected by the proposals. Several responses have been received the majority are in favour of the proposals, however some residents have voiced concerns that signing only will have very little affect. One resident was concerned that the only reason for the proposed speed limit changes was to generate extra income through speeding fines.
- 6.2 Feedback from consultation with the Police will be available for the meeting.

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 That the proposal outlined in section 3 of the report is approved.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To improve road safety in the areas outlined in section 3 by reducing vehicular speeds.

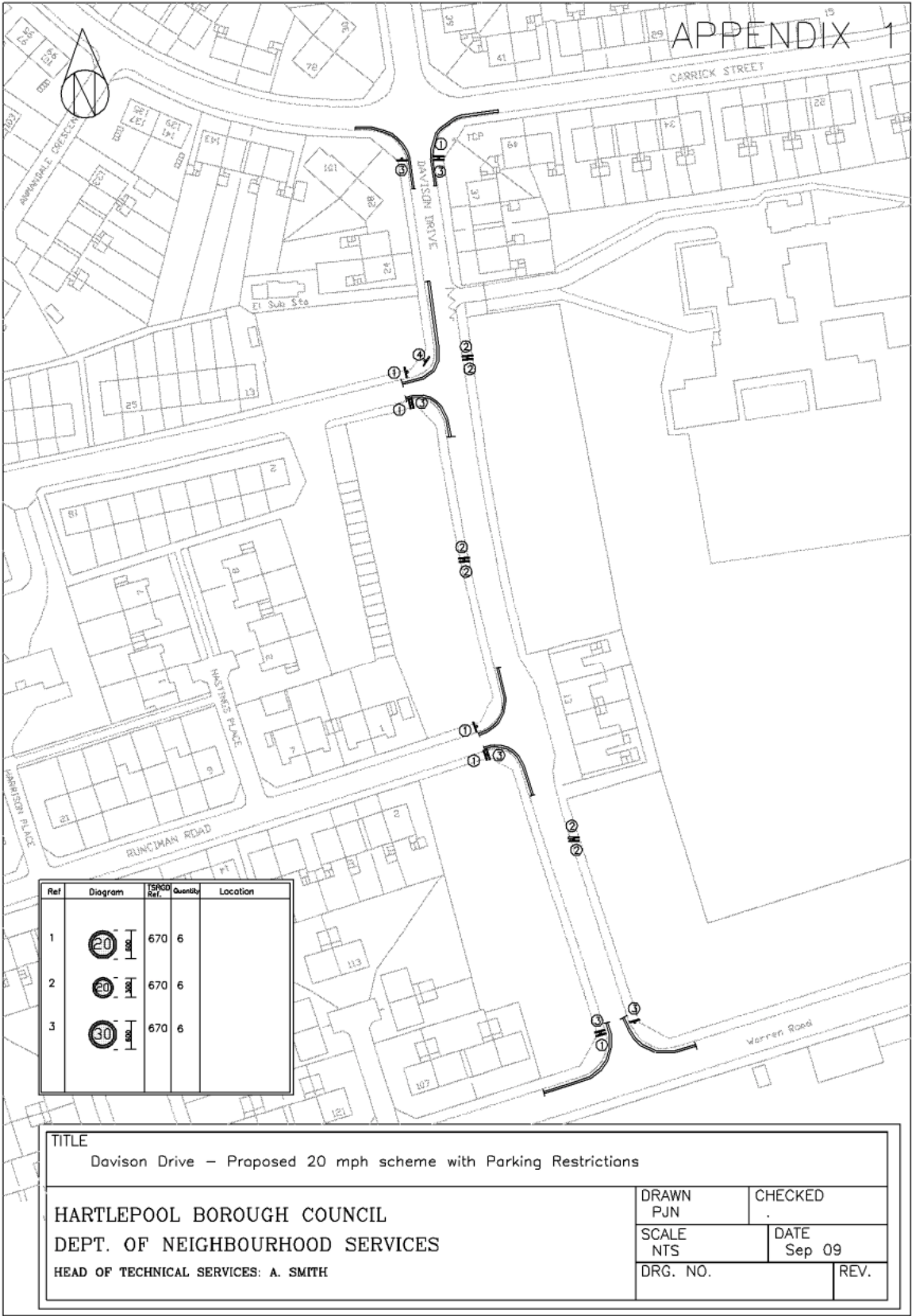
9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

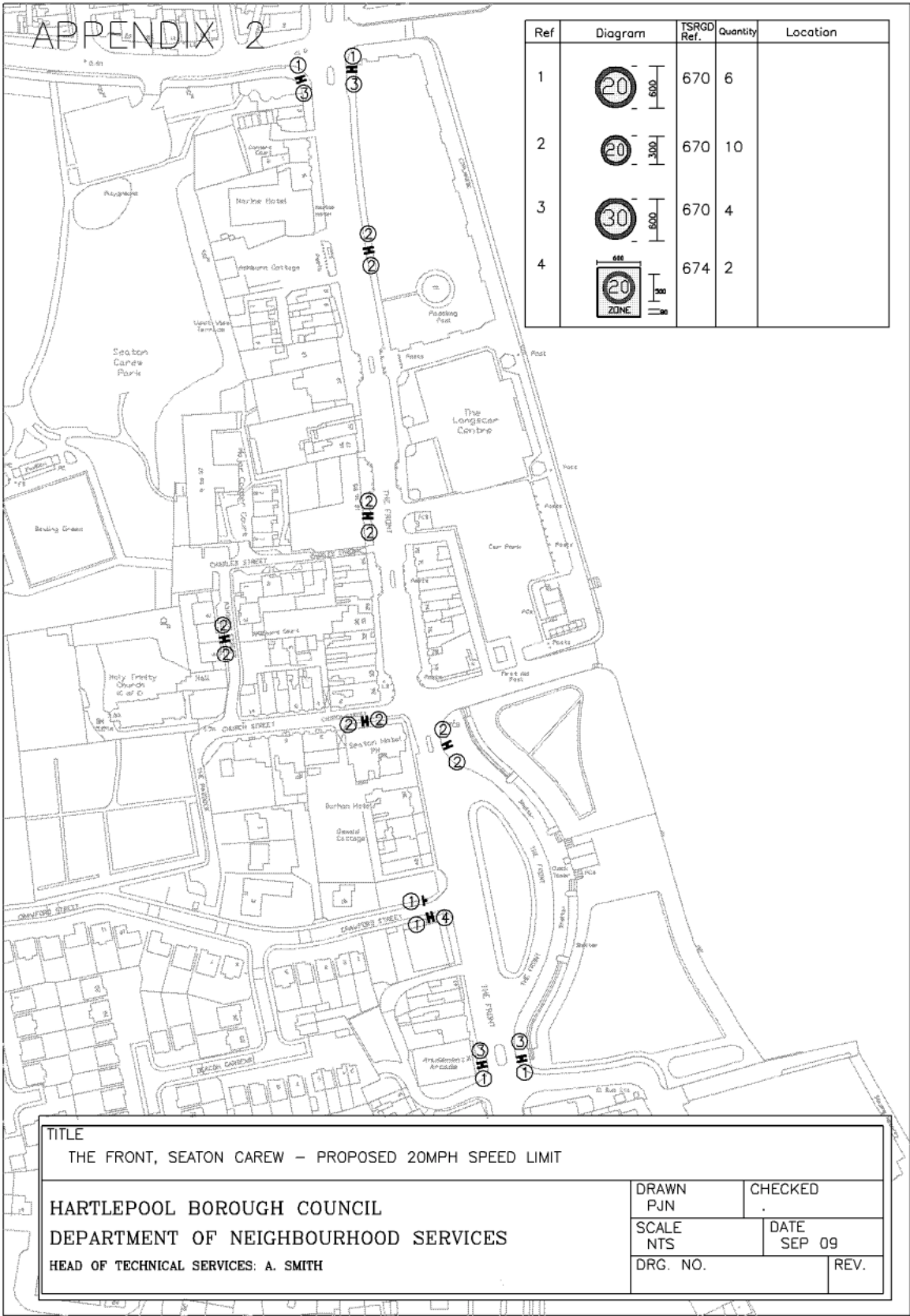
- 9.1 Interim Evaluation of the implementation of 20 mph speed limits in Portsmouth

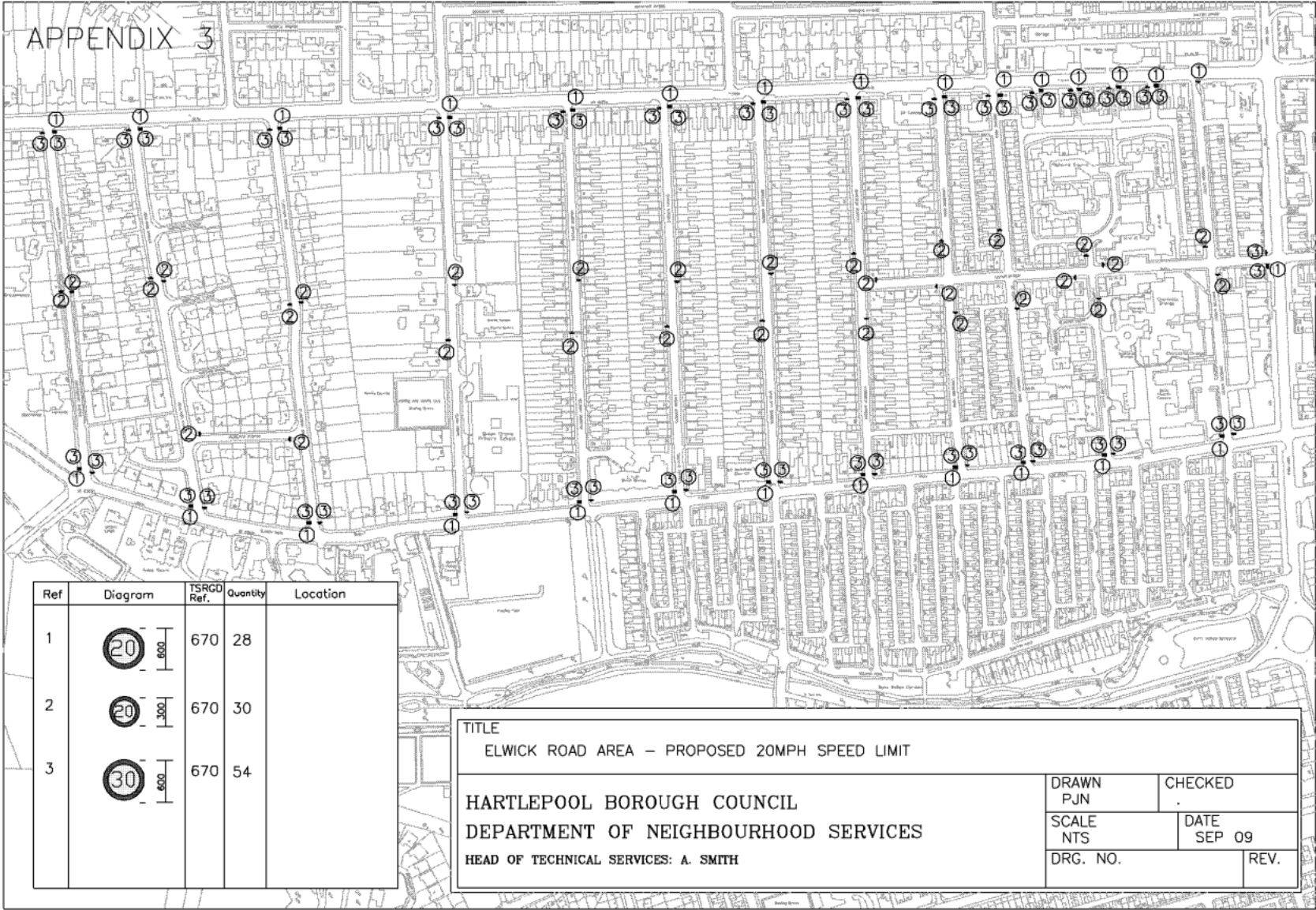
10. CONTACT OFFICER

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TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24 November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: PROPOSED TOUCAN CROSSING - CATCOTE ROAD

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the installation of a new Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report will provide details on why the new facility is to be installed and funding.

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 installation of a Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane be approved.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: PROPOSED TOUCAN CROSSING - CATCOTE ROAD

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the installation of a new Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The existing cycle network in the town provides very good east/west routes though Burn Valley Park to Catcote Road and onto Summerhill and the off road cycling facilities that exist there. These are often utilised by school children travelling to and from English Martyrs School and Catcote School.
- 2.2 There are currently no controlled crossing facilities in this area which means that people using this route have to cross Catcote Road at either the central island, located near to Summerhill Lane, or travel a considerable distance to the south to cross at the Pelican crossing near to Browning Avenue.
- 2.3 A recent funding opportunity to improve cycling facilities to schools arose through Sustrans in the form of their "Links to Schools Funding" bid.
- 2.4 This scheme provides up to 50% of the costs of projects to provide new or enhance existing cycling facilities to schools.
- 2.5 Both schools were consulted and strongly supported the proposal.
- 2.6 A subsequent application for funding towards the installation of a Toucan crossing on Catcote Road at the entrance to Summerhill Lane has been successful.
- 2.7 The location of the crossing corresponds with the intersection of three Wards, namely Rift House, Park and Burn Valley. All Councillors were contacted and advised of the proposals.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The existing cycle route network in the area is currently bisected by Catcote Road, as indicated in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 In order to provide a safe crossing facility that can be utilised by children from both English Martyrs and Catcote Schools it is intended to install a Toucan crossing at the location indicated in Appendix 1, providing a continuous link from the Burn Valley Gardens through the Family Wood and onto both schools and Summerhill.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the proposals. If for any reason the match funding from Sustrans was withdrawn the scheme would either not proceed or be fully funded through the Local Transport Plan.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of installing a Toucan crossing is estimated at £50,000. The Local Transport Plan will provide 50% and Sustrans the other 50% of the costs.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal issues associated with the proposals.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The facilities will be constructed to the required standards to accommodate all potential users.

8. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The toucan crossing will be added to the Council's highway assets and maintained through existing revenue budgets.

9. RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 That the installation of a Toucan crossing on Catcote Road adjacent to Summerhill Lane be approved.

10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

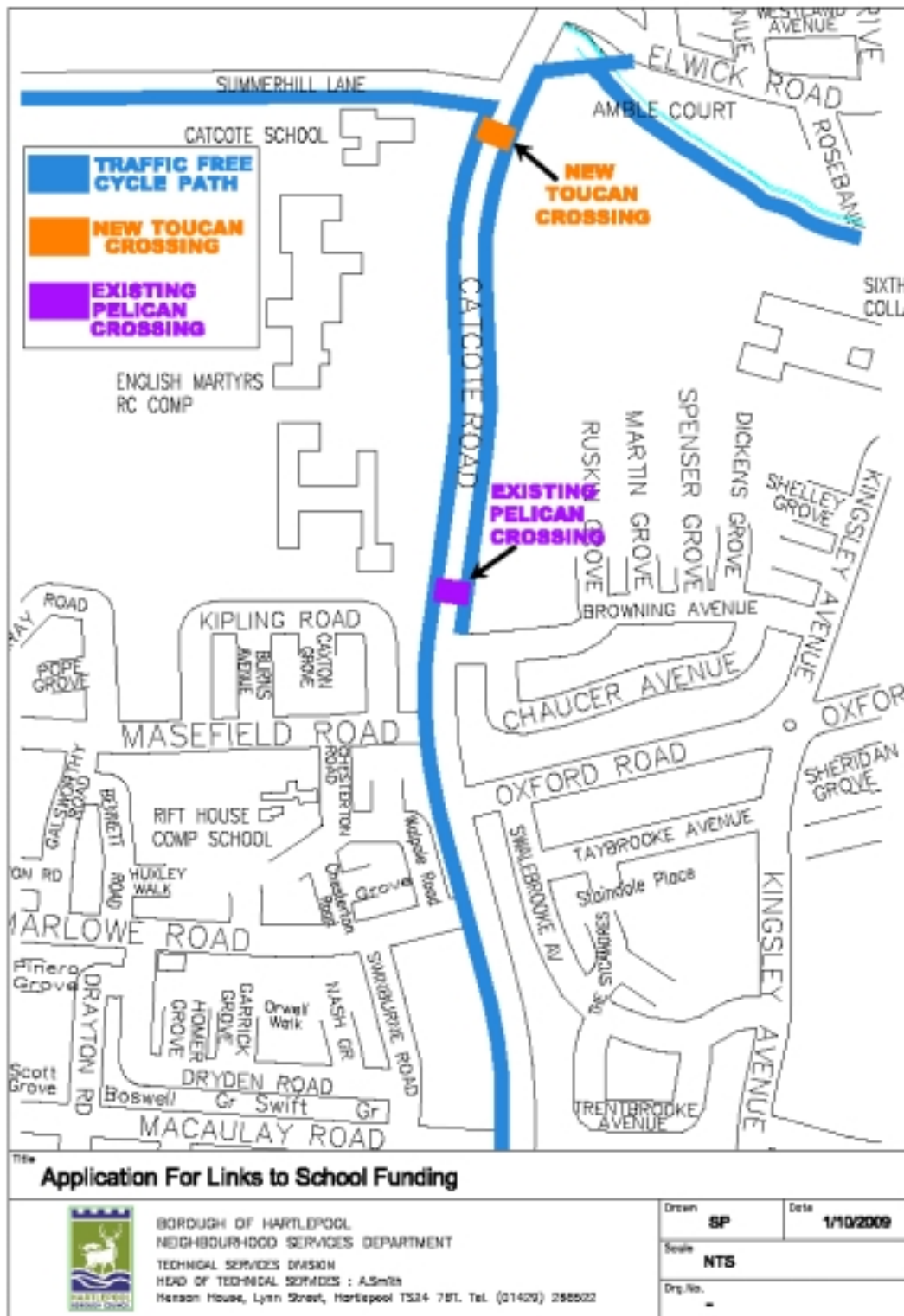
- 10.1 To provide a safe crossing facility on Catcote Road for children travelling to English Martyrs and Catcote Schools on cycles, or on foot, by linking existing cycleway/footway facilities on either side of the road.

11 CONTACT OFFICER

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APPENDIX 1



TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24 November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: GREATHAM LOCAL SAFETY SCHEME

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to implement vehicle activated signs and a road narrowing in Greatham Village.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 2.1 The report details the background to the scheme, the consultation undertaken and the proposals put forward.

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

The Portfolio holder approves the implementation of the scheme outlined in section 3 of the report.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: GREATHAM LOCAL SAFETY SCHEME

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to implement vehicle activated signs and a road narrowing in Greatham Village.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Ward Councillors and residents have complained about traffic speeds through the village. A speed survey has been undertaken and an average speed of 30.2mph was recorded. Since 2005, 4 injury accidents have been recorded (3 slight, 1 serious).

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 It is proposed to implement a 20mph Zone on Front Street, Woodbine Terrace, Egerton Terrace and Station Road (see **Appendix 1**). The 20 mph zone was to be 'self enforced' by the introduction of 'pinch points', a road narrowing at the High Street / Front Street junction and a vehicle activated bend warning sign at Woodbine Crescent. Further measures were proposed on the High Street which included a pinch point and a vehicle activated speed sign.
- 3.2 Due to a negative response during consultation (detailed in section 5 of the report) it is proposed to implement the scheme in 2 phases. The first phase to be implemented this financial year will include the introduction of the vehicle activated signs and the road narrowing.
- 3.3 The second phase to be implemented 2010/11 will include the implementation of the 20mph Zone. pinch points will no longer be considered due to the negative consultation therefore the type of traffic calming proposed to ensure the zone is 'self enforcing' will require further consideration and consultation.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 It is estimated that the first phase will cost £15,000 and will be funded through a combination of the South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and the Council's Local Transport Plan.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Residents, businesses, Ward Councillors and Greatham Primary School have been consulted via letter containing a plan outlining the above proposals. The plan showed proposals to implement a 20 mph speed limit, vehicle activated speed and bend warning signs pinch points and a road narrowing at the Front Street/High Street junction.
- 5.2 149 responses were received of which 72 were in favour of the proposals the remainder objected to the proposals or supported only some of the proposals. The most significant opposition was for the introduction of pinch points in locations 1 and 2 as shown in appendix 1. The objectors considered that the introduction of pinch points in these locations would detract from the village's aesthetic appeal, lead to the loss of parking and cause potential congestion within the village.
- 5.2 The Police and Emergency Services have been consulted with regards to these proposals and have no objections

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 The Portfolio Holder approves the implementation of the scheme as detailed in section 3 of the report.

7. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 To improve road safety in Greatham by reducing vehicular speeds.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

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APPENDIX 1



TRANSPORT & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder

24 November 2009



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2009/10 – QUARTER
2 MONITORING REPORT

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 to the end of the second quarter of the year.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The progress against the actions and key performance indicators contained in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Member has responsibility for Transport and Neighbourhoods issues.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder meeting 24 November 2009.

6. DECISION REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder is requested to:

- Note the progress and achievements of key actions and indicators.
- Approve the change to the due date of one action.

Report of: Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2009/10 – 2ND
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 to the end of the second quarter of the year.





2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Transport & Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder agreed the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan in June 2009.
- 2.2 The Portfolio Holder for Transport & Neighbourhoods has responsibility for the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan.
- 2.3 The Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10 sets out the Department's priorities along with an action plan to show how the Department will achieve these over the coming year. It provides a framework for managing the competing priorities, communicating the purpose and challenges facing the department and monitoring progress against overall Council aims.
- 2.4 A number of performance indicators are also included within this plan showing how the Department is performing in relation to both national and local performance indicators.
- 2.5 Each division within the Department produces a Service Plan, detailing the key tasks and issues facing them in the coming year. Each plan contains actions, detailing how each individual section contributes to the key tasks and priorities contained within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental plan and ultimately those of the Corporate plan.

3. SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE





- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how the Neighbourhood Services Department has performed in relation to the key actions that were included in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10.

- 3.2 On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are requested, to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the performance plans.
- 3.4 Officers are asked to provide a short commentary explaining progress made to date, and asked to traffic light each action based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the plans. The traffic light system is: -

-  Completed
-  On track
-  Progress acceptable
-  Intervention required

- 3.5 Within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan there are a total of 66 Actions for which the Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder has responsibility. Table 1, below, summarises the progress made, to the 30 September 2009, towards achieving these actions.

Table1 – Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan progress summary

	Departmental Plan	
	Actions	PIs
	6	-
	51	9
	3	3
	6	-
Annual	-	33
Total	66	45

- 3.6 It can be seen from the above table, 5 (9%) of the actions have been completed within timescales and that 51 (77%) of the actions for with the Portfolio Holder has responsibility are progressing as planned, with a further 3 (5%) actions progressing within acceptable limits.
- 3.7 A further six actions have been identified within the plan as 'Not expected to achieve target'. Work will continue on the completion of these actions and the Portfolio Holder is requested to approve, a revision to the Due Date, as detailed in the table below:

Action Code	Action Title	Due Date	Reasons for Date Change	Proposed New Date
CORP CS01.5	Establish partnership contract with Housing Hartlepool for delivery of CCTV monitoring, out of hours and emergency	31 Jul 2009	Negotiations with Housing Hartlepool have been lengthy. Agreement in principle has been made and this needs to go to	31 Mar 2010

Action Code	Action Title	Due Date	Reasons for Date Change	Proposed New Date
	planning services		Cabinet and be formalised via contract documentation which is being produced.	
CORP CS06.5	Review consultation and feedback mechanisms in relation to Neighbourhood Policing and community safety liaison	31 Aug 2009	Review day arranged regarding integration of neighbourhood policing with neighbourhood management	31 Dec 2009
CORP EN09.1	Develop and implement a Corporate Carbon reduction strategy action plan	30 Sep 2009	Carbon Reduction Strategy needs to be developed through the LACPM which is due to be completed in March 2010	31 Mar 2010
CORP EN09.4	Develop Climate Change adaptation strategy and action plan	30 Nov 2009	Due to prioritisation of work on the local authority carbon management plan, it has not been possible to complete this within original timescales. This will be completed by year end.	01 Apr 2010
CORP EN09.5	Develop a sustainable construction strategy and action plan	31 Jul 2009	Following an initial consultation the draft sustainable construction strategy requires further consultation and development.	31 Mar 2010
CORP SC01.1	Develop and implement a Neighbourhood Management Strategy	30 Jun 2009	Internal consultation completed, amendments to strategy, is to be included prior to external consultation. Due to other work demands (business transformation) it has not been possible to complete this action, within original timescale.	31 Dec 2009

3.8 It can also be seen that 9 of the Performance Indicators have been highlighted as being 'on target' with three indicators highlighted as being within acceptable limits.

3.9 The remaining 33 performance indicators are reported on an annual basis and at this time it is not yet possible to give an indication of the expected performance.

3.10 Key areas of progress made in to date against the action identified within Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2009/10, include:

- The Strategic Hartlepool Partnership Reassurance agenda resource groups have been established with membership from the Police, fire, local authorities, Avanticom. Action plan is being implemented.
- Invitation to tender for BSF design and build contract has been issued
- Business Continuity Plan complete and regular updates being progressed. External audit have complimented plan and corporate testing of BCP being considered for early next year.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to:

- Note the progress and achievements of key actions and indicators.
- Approve the change to the due date of one action

5. CONTACT OFFICER

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TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24 November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: WARD JACKSON PRIMARY SCHOOL SAFETY SCHEME

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the proposals to implement traffic calming and a 20mph zone on Clark Street.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report details the background to the scheme, the consultation undertaken and the proposals put forward.

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

The Portfolio holder approves the implementation of the scheme outlined in section 3 of the report.

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: WARD JACKSON PRIMARY SCHOOL SAFETY SCHEME

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the proposals to implement traffic calming and a 20mph zone on Clark Street.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Ward Jackson School raised concerns with regards to a proposed Supermarket to be sited on the Clark Street / Burbank Street junction. The developer agreed to provide part funding for safety measures to be introduced on Clark Street to address these concerns.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 It is proposed to implement a 20mph Zone on Clark Street (See **Appendix 1**) in the vicinity of Ward Jackson School. To ensure that the speed limit is 'self enforcing' it is proposed to introduce traffic calming.
- 3.2 The traffic calming proposed will consist of a pinch point at the Hucklehoven Way end of Clark Street. A pinch point is the narrowing of the carriageway to one lane, the narrowing is formed by the construction of an island, in order to negotiate the pinch point vehicles in a specified direction are directed to give way to oncoming vehicles. The pinch point will also benefit pedestrians by providing a reduced width crossing. A flat topped hump will be sited at the Burbank Street end this will also assist pedestrians wishing to cross Clark Street by providing a raised platform across the carriageway.
- 3.3 It is also proposed to introduce parking restrictions around the Clark Street/Burbank Street junction and extend the existing school zig zags to provide improved visibility when exiting the school access. Limited parking bays are to be provided outside the Post Office to regulate parking, this is required due to the indiscriminate parking experienced in this location due to the closure of the Post Office car park for customers.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 The scheme will be part funded through Local Transport Plan Contributions £15,000 and developer contribution £10,000.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Traffic Regulation Orders will be required to legally introduce a 20mph Speed limit, parking restrictions and a road hump. Any objections to these Legal Orders will need to be considered at a future Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Meeting.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Business's, Ward Councillors and Ward Jackson School have been notified by outlining the above proposals and no objections have been received.
- 6.2 The Police and Emergency Services have been consulted with regards to these proposals and have no objections

7. RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Portfolio holder approves the implementation of the scheme as detailed in section 3 of the report.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

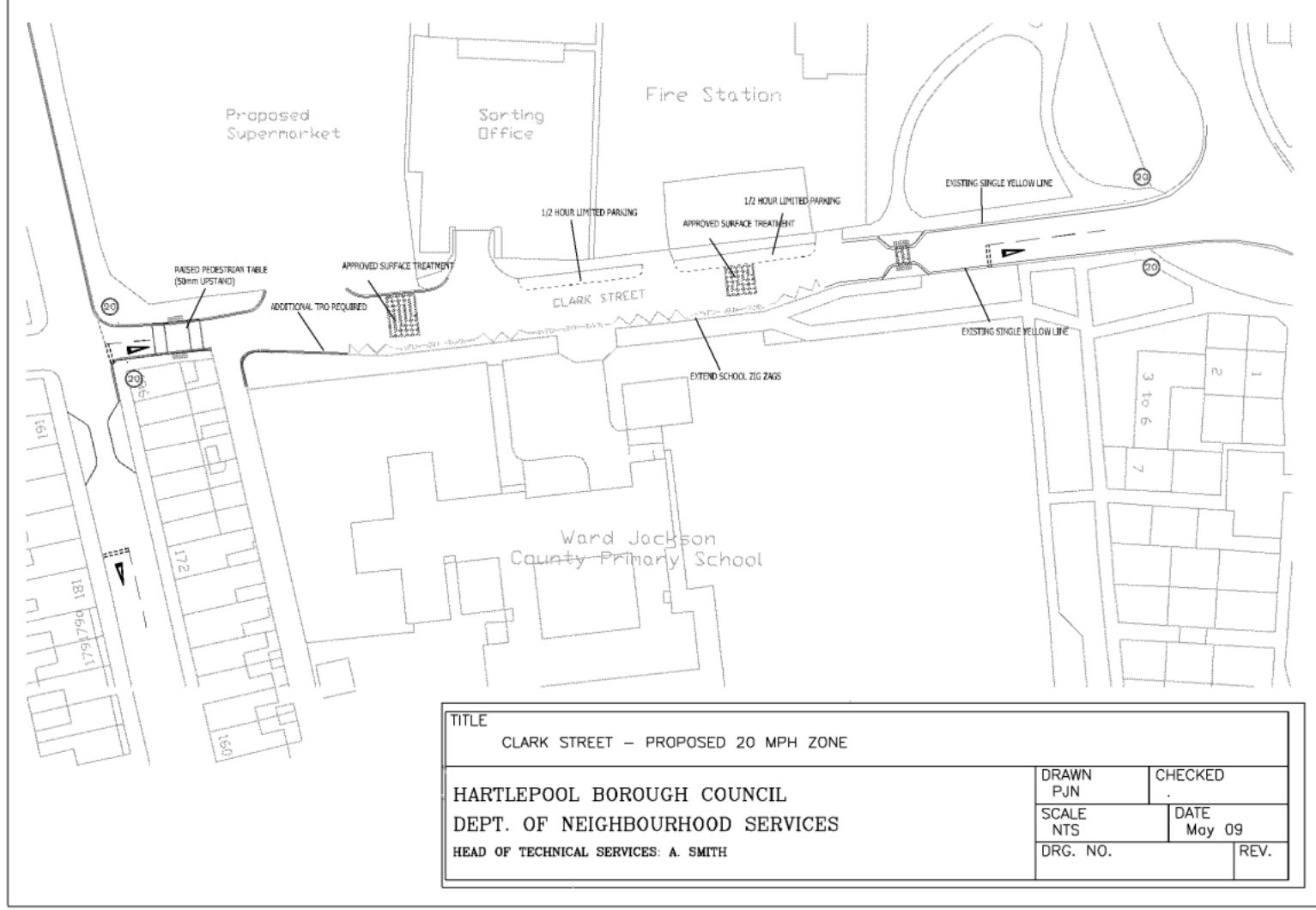
- 8.1 To improve road safety on Clark Street by reducing vehicular speeds.

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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APPENDIX 1



TRANSPORT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24 November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: DOG CONTROL ORDERS – NORTH SANDS,
HARTLEPOOL

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval to commence the process of introducing a Dog Control Order at North Sands, Hartlepool.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report provides details of an issue relating to the application to develop the former Steetley site on the Headland. Natural England has objected to the application because of concerns over the potential increase in disturbance to water birds on the adjacent North Sands.

The report details the salient points of concern raised by Natural England and the mitigation proposed by Hartlepool Borough Council.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Member has responsibility for Environmental Enforcement, including Dog Control Orders.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non Key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder meeting on 24 November 2009.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder gives approval for the necessary steps to be taken to introduce a Dog Control Order, and specifically an 'on leads'

order, on the North Sands area of Hartlepool, as indicated on the location map at **Appendix A**.

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: DOG CONTROL ORDERS – NORTH SANDS,
HARTLEPOOL

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval to commence the process of introducing a Dog Control Order at North Sands, Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The inter-tidal area at North Sands is a component of the Tees and Hartlepool Foreshore and Wetlands Site of Specific Scientific Interest (hereafter referred to as the SSSI). It is one of a number of areas that form part of the internationally protected Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area and Ramsar site.
- 2.2 The SSSI citation notes concentrations of sanderling, knot, purple sandpiper and turnstone along the north Hartlepool shore as being one of the interest features of the SSSI. These birds are present during the winter months and during the migration period in spring and autumn. Currently the North Sands component of the SSSI is assessed as being in unfavourable, declining condition due to diminishing numbers of the bird species for which it was designated.
- 2.3 A winter bird disturbance study was undertaken to assess the potential for a proposed housing development on the former Steetley site to affect the birds which form the interest feature of the SSSI. It found that a number of activities caused some disturbance to birds; however, the most common activity causing disturbance was the walking of dogs along North Sands. The ecological report that resulted from the bird disturbance study pointed out that it was specifically dogs 'off leads' that were the problem. The level of disturbance was relatively low, being extrapolated to involve around two disturbance events per day where birds left the area altogether with larger numbers of less serious disturbance events where birds flew away but returned to the area. However in the context of the SSSI already being in unfavourable condition, this level of disturbance could be significant.
- 2.4 In a letter dated 29 September 2009, Natural England advised Hartlepool Borough Council of its duty, under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as incorporated by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of its functions, to further the conservation and

enhancement of the SSSI. In particular, Natural England advised that a Dog Control Order should be implemented on North Sands.

- 2.5 In addition to advising the Council of its Duty under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, Natural England also advised that a Dog Control Order on North Sands would be necessary before it could withdraw its objection to the application for development on the former Steetley site. Natural England considers that a housing development on the site would have the potential to increase recreational disturbance at the SSSI. The specific conditions that Natural England require are stated in its response to the Council's Appropriate Assessment of the Steetley application.
- 2.6 Although Natural England has stated it would prefer a total ban on dogs on the foreshore, there is currently no evidence that dogs on leads are a problem and both the ecological report for the Steetley application and casual observation of bird behaviour would support this.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 As mitigation to the objection raised by Natural England, it is proposed that Hartlepool Borough Council introduces a Dog Control Order at North Sands, Hartlepool. This will be an 'on leads' order and will cover the period September to March inclusive. The order will specify that dogs should be kept on leads at all times in the specified area during the relevant months.
- 3.2 In spatial terms, the order will apply to the whole of the foreshore from the Headland to the northern end of the former Steetley site, but not the development site itself or the coastal footpath.
- 3.3 A map showing the area covered by the order is attached at **Appendix A**.
- 3.4 The penalty for committing an offence under the proposed order is a maximum fine of level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000). Alternatively, the opportunity to pay a fixed penalty of £80 may be offered in place of prosecution.
- 3.5 The order will be policed by enforcement officers from the Council's Neighbourhood Action Team who are authorised to issue fixed penalty notices and/or invoke legal proceedings in a court of law for any breach.
- 3.6 Signs summarising the order will be placed at strategic points on land to which the order applies.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Dog Control Orders Regulations 2006 require that, before it can make a Dog Control Order, the Council must consult any other primary or secondary authority, or access authority, within the area in which a Dog Control Order is being made.
- 4.2 The Council must also publish a notice describing the proposed order in a local newspaper circulating in the same area as the land to which the order would apply and invite representations on the proposal.
- 4.3 The notice must:
 - (a) identify the land to which the order will apply (and if it is access land, state that this is the case);
 - (b) summarise the order;
 - (c) if the order will refer to a map, say where the map can be inspected.
 - (d) give the address to which, and by which, representations must be sent to the Authority. The final date for representation must be at least 28 days after the publication of the notice.
- 4.4 At the end of the consultation period the Council must consider any representations that have been made. If it then decides to proceed with the order, it must decide when the order will come into force. This must be at least 14 days from which the order was made.
- 4.5 Once an order has been made the Council must, at least 7 days before it comes into force, publish a notice in a local newspaper circulating in the same area as the land to which the order applies stating:
 - (a) that the order has been made; and
 - (b) where the order may be inspected and copies of it obtained.
- 4.6 Where the order affects access land, the Council should send a copy of the notice to the access Authority.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Natural England has objected to the proposed development of the former Steetley site because of the threat of disturbance to water birds by people walking dogs along North Sands and has advised that a Dog Control Order would be necessary before it could withdraw its objection. It considers the housing development will have the potential to increase recreational usage of the beach.
- 5.2 The former Steetley site is blight on the landscape and the subject of considerable vandalism and anti-social behaviour, which has a significant negative impact on the local community. Without mitigation for the objection raised by Natural England, it is likely the future development of this site may be jeopardised.

- 5.3 Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as incorporated by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to take reasonable steps, consistent with the proper exercise of our functions, to further the conservation of the SSSI.
- 5.4 Not taking reasonable steps to further the conservation of the SSSI will be a failure by Hartlepool Borough Council to meet its statutory duties, leaving it open to judicial review.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Natural England and the RSPB consider the introduction of a Dog Control Order to be essential to the mitigation of disturbance to ecological features along this coastline and accordingly its effectiveness will be closely monitored. A suitable policing regime will therefore be fundamental to the effectiveness of any Dog Control Order and it is envisaged this would place an additional burden on existing Council resources.
- 6.2 Notwithstanding the Council's duty under section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, there is potential for additional disturbance of water birds that would be solely attributable to the development of the former Steetley site. The cost of any additional policing of the Dog Control Order arising on account of the development will therefore be borne entirely by the developer.

7. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 With the exception of maintaining suitable signage on land to which the Dog Control Order applies, there are no asset management considerations directly associated with its implementation. As a condition of any planning permissions, the developer will be required to pay the initial installation costs of appropriate signage.

8. SECTION 17 CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 As previously mentioned in 5.2 above, the former Steetley site is the subject of considerable vandalism and anti-social behaviour. This not only has a significant negative impact on the local community, it is also a continuing burden for Council services involved in dealing with the consequences of these activities.
- 8.2 Although Hartlepool Borough Council cannot assume responsible for any issues on the former Steetley site itself, as a consequence of its current degraded state, anti-social activities such as vandalism, fly tipping and the abandonment of vehicles are prevalent on neighbouring Council-

owned land. All require intervention by various Council departments, and the Police and Fire Brigade are also frequently called to attend incidents in the area.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Portfolio Holder gives approval for the necessary steps to be taken to introduce a Dog Control Order, and specifically an 'on leads' order, on the North Sands area of Hartlepool, as indicated on the location map at **Appendix A**.

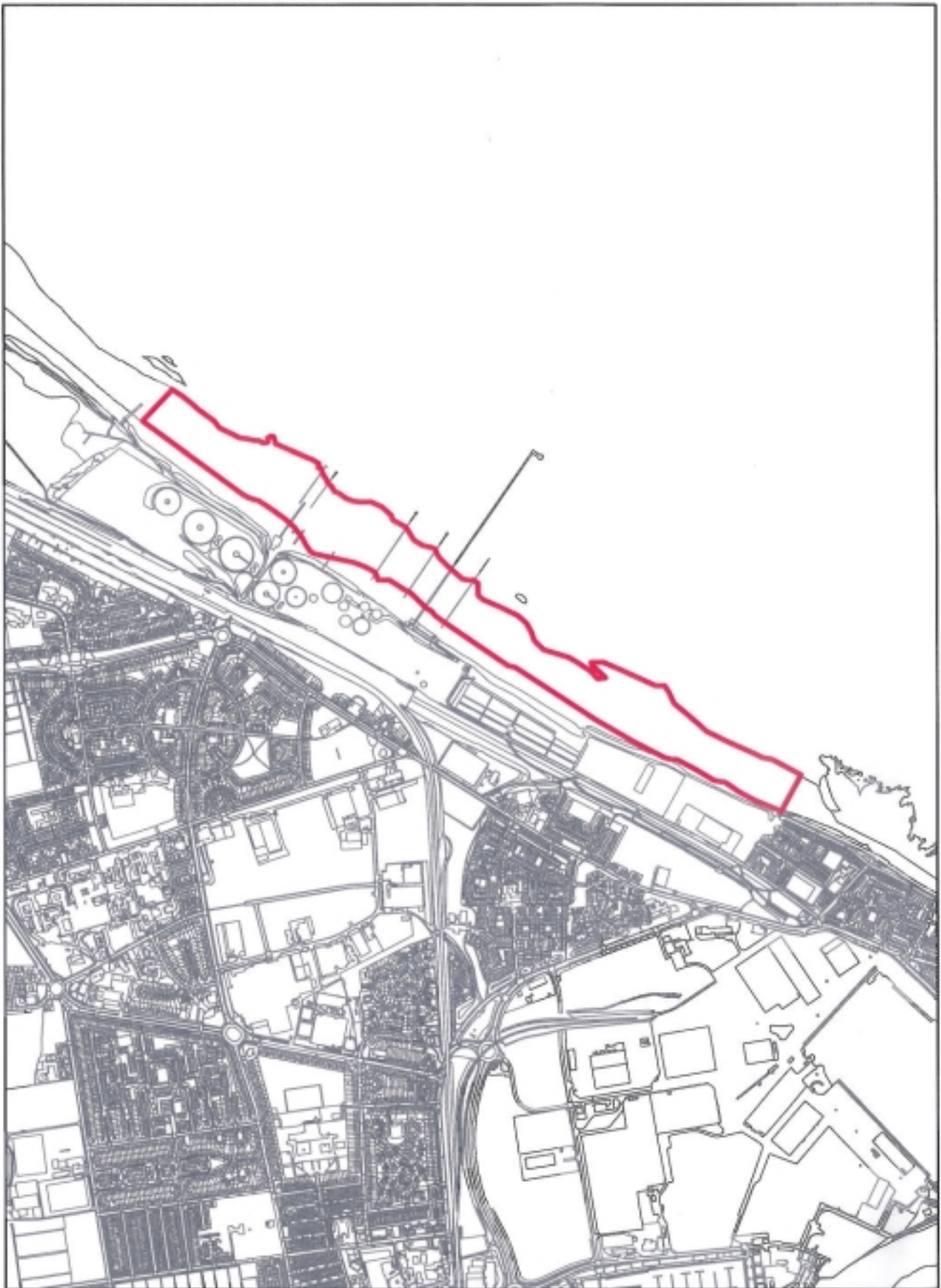
10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The introduction of a Dog Control Order is considered important to the mitigation of disturbance to ecological features along the coastline at North Sands, and Natural England and the RSPB will not remove their objection to the proposed development of the site until an order is in place.
- 10.2 It is in the Council's interest to seek a suitable resolve to the continuing problems of anti-social behaviour at this location, and to improve the visual amenity of the area. Failure by the Council to provide mitigation to the objection raised by Natural England may result in the development not being granted planning permission and the furtherance of issues contributing to the social decline of the area.

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

Tel: 01429 523370
E mail: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk



North Sands Proposed Dog Control Area

TRANSPORT & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
Tuesday 24th November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Procurement and Asset Management)

Subject: PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL PROPOSALS

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of proposals for community projects.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

List of Pride in Hartlepool proposals and recommendations for funding of those proposals.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Portfolio Holder has responsibility for environmental initiatives.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Recommendation of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group to Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To agree the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of community environmental projects.

Report of: Assistant Director (Procurement and Asset Management)

Subject: PRIDE IN HARTLEPOOL PROPOSALS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the recommendations of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group in respect of proposals for community projects.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group met on the 4th November 2009 and recommended the following projects for approval:

3. PROJECT PROPOSALS

3.1 Owton Rossmere Resource Centre

The Owton Rossmere Centre are requesting £800 towards the cost of developing the front and rear gardens of the centre into a growing area for the young people that use the centre. The aim of the project is for the children to grow vegetables which they can take home to encourage a healthy diet. The gardens will also be planted with flowers for insects and butterflies to give the children the opportunity to interact with nature. This project works with hard to reach young people aged 10-14 years old in the Owton Rossmere area of Hartlepool and engages them in positive activities that enhance social and practical skills and benefit the wider community.

- 3.2 Members recommended that the £800 be approved in full.

3.3 Barnard Grove Primary School

Barnard Grove School are requesting £1,000 to construct an ecologically friendly gardening area at their school. The area will consist of a mixture of a wildlife area planted up with insect-attracting plants; a vegetable and herb garden to grow produce; and some fruit trees.

- 3.4 The total cost of the project is £1436.22 and the school are requesting £1,000. The remainder will be raised by the school. The project aims to involve parents in order to develop relationships with the community and forms part of a wider approach by the school to promote a sense of pride in their area. This approach also includes hosting a Big Tidy Up and a Clean Streets Assembly.

- 3.5 Members recommended that the £1,000 be approved in full.

3.6 Countryside Warden Team

Hartlepool Council's Countryside Warden Teams are requesting £880 for a bio-diversity project for school grounds. The project aims to work with a number of schools in the town to increase wildlife habitats on school grounds. In addition to benefitting local wildlife the project will also provide the participating schools with teaching resources and will assist the schools in their accreditation for Eco Schools status.

3.7 The funding requested is for materials to construct hedgehog, bird and bat boxes and a pair of fruit trees for each participating school. There will be 8 schools involved in the project and children from each of the schools will be involved in the construction of the habitats and the planting of the trees.

3.8 Although the Countryside Wardens are part of Hartlepool Borough Council, the Pride in Hartlepool criteria does not exclude internal applications as long as the project is something that could not happen without a grant award.

3.9 Members recommended that the £880 be approved in full.

4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The funding for the above projects is available within the Pride in Hartlepool budget.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 That the recommendation of the Pride in Hartlepool Steering Group be approved.

6. CONTACT OFFICER

Kate Ainger
Pride in Hartlepool Officer
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Hartlepool Borough Council
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TS24 7DS

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TRANSPORT & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
24TH November 2009



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation & Engineering)

Subject: INTEGRATED TRANSPORT JOINT TENDER
(REF 431)

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the procurement of transport provision for Tall Ships Park & Ride service, Dial a Ride Service and Officer Transportation.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

This report provides detail of the business case for the provision of transport for the Tall Ships Park and Ride, Dial a Ride Service and Officer Transportation.

The report also confirms that this tender will form part of a joint tender arrangement in relation to additional transport provision located within the Child & Adult Services Department who require transport provision for the Dyke House Decant during 2010 - 2012.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Transport 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 approval be given to this procurement process.

Report of: Assistant Director Transportation & Engineering

Subject: INTEGRATED TRANSPORT UNIT JOINT TENDER
(REF: 431)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Portfolio Holder approval for the procurement of transport provision for Tall Ships Park & Ride service, Dial a Ride Service and Officer Transportation.

2. BACKGROUND

The development of the Integrated Transport Service has allowed the opportunity to co-ordinate tender applications in order to ensure maximum benefits are achieved. The Integrated Transport Service has adopted a harmonised procurement arrangement in order to consider all groups of patronage. As part of this process the Service will progress a full review of current provision in order to achieve the best possible outcome for the Council and Community.

Following a review of current passenger transport, the Integrated Transport Unit has also identified a number of contracts that are required in order to progress initiatives relating to the development of the Dial a Ride Service, the provision of transport for Officers, and the Park and Ride Tall Ships Event. In addition it is anticipated that transport arrangements will be required for 800 additional scholars over a two year period commencing September 2010, which will transport Dyke House pupils attending the former Brierton School site. The responsibility for such provision is located within the Child and Adult Services Department.

It is therefore necessary to undergo a joint tender process in order to secure new contracts. Unless otherwise disclosed, tenders are invited for a 2 Year Period and all new contracts will be awarded no later than April 2010.

Note: The tender process will also take into consideration other initiatives such as Extended Services and the alteration to the use of Day Centre provision. Contracts will be awarded for a limited period to allow flexibility and to accommodate further change.

3. PROPOSAL

The opportunity to administer a joint tender arrangement will allow the Integrated Transport Unit to ensure the most efficient use of funding and maximise the greater utilisation of vehicles.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

The authority would be open to future challenge for failing to meet its statutory duty in providing transport to vulnerable people.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

A robust tender programme will support the Councils opportunity in achieving efficiencies.

In addition a joint tender will secure the transport requirements of two major departments, maximising the opportunities within the current market and encourage broader competition in relation to contract cost.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

The tendering exercise will be carried out in accordance with the Harmonised Corporate Procurement Framework

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Portfolio Holder approval be given to this joint procurement process.

8. CONTACT OFFICER

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