

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AGENDA



Friday 11th December 2009

at 1.00pm

**in the Council Chamber,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.**

MEMBERS: SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Councillors C. Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Barker, Brash, James, London, A Marshall, J. Marshall, McKenna, Preece, Richardson, Rogan, Shaw, Simmons, Wright and Young

Resident Representatives:

Evelyn Leck, Iris Ryder and Linda Shields

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2009 (*to follow*)

4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO REPORTS OF THE SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

No items.

5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS FROM COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND NON EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

No items.

6. FORWARD PLAN

No items.

7. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

No items

8. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL MONITORING/CORPORATE REPORTS

No items

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

9.1 Final Report – The Hartlepool Transport Interchange – *Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum*

9.2 Final Report - Dust Deposits on the Headland – *Health Scrutiny Forum*

9.3 Scrutiny Forums – Progress Reports:-

- (a) Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum – *Chair of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum;*
- (b) Children's Services Scrutiny Forum – *Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum;*
- (c) Health Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum;*
- (d) Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum – *Chair of Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum;*
- (e) Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum – *Chair of Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum;* and
- (f) Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee – *Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.*

9.4 Service Planning Update for 2010/11: Proposed Outcomes – *Assistant Chief Executive*

10. CALL-IN REQUESTS

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting: Friday 15th January 2010 commencing at 2.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

27 November 2009

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Marjorie James (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Stephen Akers-Belcher, Caroline Barker, Ann Marshall, Jane Shaw, Chris Simmons and Edna Wright.

Resident Representatives:

Evelyn Leck, Iris Ryder and Linda Shields.

Officers:

Mike Ward, Chief Financial Officer
Peter Turner, Principal Strategy Development Officer
Joan Wilkins, Scrutiny Manager
Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond

105. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jonathan Brash, Frances London, Christopher McKenna, Carl Richardson and David Young.

106. Declarations of interest by Members

Councillor Marjorie James declared a personal interest in minute 111.

107. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Reports of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

None.

108. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews from Council, Executive Members and Non Executive Members

None.

109. Forward Plan

None.

110. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents – Chief Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Initial Consultation Proposals 2010/11 (*Scrutiny Manager*)

Whilst the budget consultation process implemented in recent years has been successful in ensuring Scrutiny involvement in the development of the Council's overall budget. It was suggested that as part of next year's budget consultation processes, each scrutiny forum receive from the relevant Portfolio Holder in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officer and Director a list of bullet points highlighting particular issues of concern to encourage more detailed dialogue during the consultation process. It was hoped that this would be a much more supportive process and would encourage discussion between Scrutiny, the Portfolio Holders and the Director to ensure clear thought patterns throughout the budget process.

Whilst acknowledging that this was the third year in a three year settlement, the Mayor was more than happy to change the process for future years as they were likely to be some difficult decisions to be made in the future in relation to the Council's budget.

The Scrutiny Manager reported that at a meeting of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee held on 16 October 2009, consideration was given to the Executive's Initial Budget and Policy Framework consultation proposals for 2010/11 to 2012/13. It was agreed that the initial consultation proposals would be considered on a departmental basis by the appropriate Scrutiny Forum with comments / observations being fed back to this meeting to enable a formal response to be presented to the Cabinet on 14 December 2009. Details of feedback from each of the individual Forums were outlined in minute 112.

Submitted as Appendices A to C of the report were the Chief Executive's departmental pressures, priorities and proposed corporate efficiencies as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/11. In considering the budgetary information, the Committee noted and supported the Chief Executive's departmental pressures and priorities and corporate efficiencies for 2010/11. The Committee was looking forward to participating in the next round of this year's budget consultation process at which time further details will be available following confirmation of the impact of the Government's financial settlement and any possible 'knock on' budgetary implications for the Chief Executive's Department.

Members were assured by the Mayor that the process was adequately robust enough to deal with the controversial times ahead. The Mayor highlighted that the business transformation process would enable large savings to be realised.

Recommendation

- (i) The pressures, priorities and corporate efficiencies relating to the Chief Executive's Department be noted and supported as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/11.
- (ii) That the Committee looked forward to participating in the next stage of the budget consultation process.
- (iii) That the budget consultation process be developed further in future years to enable Portfolio Holders in conjunction with the Chief Financial Officer and relevant Director to provide a list of particular issues to be considered by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Forum as part of the consultation process and ensure an active two-way dialogue takes place.

111. **Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents – 2010/11 Budget and Policy Framework Initial Proposals: Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees** *(Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees)*

The report set out the feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Forums to the Executive's initial budget and policy framework proposals for 2010/11. Members of the four standing Scrutiny Forums considered in detail the budgetary pressures, grant terminations and priorities as part of the Executive's Budget and Policy Framework initial proposals for 2010/11. The individual responses of the four standing scrutiny forums were detailed in the report.

It was highlighted that there had been a significant overspend identified on the Space to Learn project of £200k and Members were informed that this overspend would be funded through an underspend elsewhere within the Children's Services Departmental budget. Members were concerned that a department could have such a significant amount of underspend at this time of the year to enable this shortfall to be funded. Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum were requested to pay particular attention to this and ascertain whether the detailed budgets within Children's Services Department (as contained within the overall Child and Adult Services Departmental budget) were sufficient for purpose or surplus to purpose.

Recommendation

- (i) That the comments submitted by the four Standing Scrutiny Forums, and those made by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee be noted and forwarded to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 14 December 2009.
- (ii) That the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum pay particular attention to the detailed budgets within the Children's Services Department (as contained within the overall Child and Adult Services Departmental budget) and identify any areas that may be surplus to purpose.

112. Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports – Quarter 2 – Capital and Accountable Body Programme Monitoring Report 2009/10 *(Chief Financial Officer)*

The Chief Financial Officer reported on the progress against the Council's overall Capital budget for 2009/10 and the spending programmes where the Council acted as the Accountable Body for the period to 30 September 2009. The expenditure was detailed by Portfolio Holder and was summarised at Appendix A. The actual expenditure to 30 September 2009 resulted in an overall favourable variance of £209,000. The Chief Financial Officer highlighted to Members that at 50% through the year, only 40% of the budget had been spent which was the best budget performance for a number of years.

In relation to the previous discussion about the funding of the Space to Learn project, it was noted that capital funding was a complex issue that could span a number of years depending on the life of the particular project the funding was allocated to. The Children's Services Department had identified a £62k residual commitment from one scheme and £151k which was no longer required for the purpose it was originally identified. It was usual practice for this would be highlighted in a report to Cabinet who would then make the decision on whether this funding could be reallocated to the scheme which had an overspend.

A discussion ensued which included the following issues.

- (i) Clarification was sought on what the PRU was that was referred to in the report. It was confirmed that this was the Pupil Referral Unit for children with behavioural issues or those excluded from mainstream schooling.
- (ii) A Member questioned whether any underspend was ring-fenced to enable this to be highlighted throughout the year. The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that this was done on an annual basis when reviewing commitments.
- (iii) Members were concerned at the amount of funding, £89k that was previously approved by Council but no longer required for the purpose approved. This surplus funding would then be reallocated within the department through discussions with the relevant Director and Portfolio Holder as opposed to being returned to the general fund to be reallocated by Council.
- (iv) In addition to this, Members were concerned at the level of budget being allocated by SCRAPT. The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that capital money was unable to be transferred into the general fund. The control process for SCRAPT funding was any new scheme was submitted to Cabinet for recommendation to Council. Members were reminded that Council had delegated the virement of budgets at various levels based on different amounts and a percentage of the overall scheme to the Portfolio Holders in conjunction with the relevant Director although this delegation did not apply to new schemes to be

- funded from the SCRAPT budget.
- (v) It was suggested that when announcements were to be made about any large underspend, that explanations behind that underspend were also given as it gave a distorted view of the way budgets were being managed which in turn led to misinterpretation and people being misinformed.
 - (vi) A Member sought clarification on the CPM unallocated funding and Civic Centre Enhancement works and what that budget included. The Chief Financial Officer indicated he was unsure of the detail and would provide a written response to Members.
 - (vii) A Member questioned whether there was a limit on funding that could be vired to SCRAPT to be reallocated? The Chief Financial Officer commented that the process was generally designed to deal with capital issues around buildings and the policy of how much could be allocated to these groups was included within the report. The Chief Financial Officer suggested that more detail on the capital expenditure be provided at the next round of budget consultation as a number of issues had been raised by Members. It was suggested that the total amount of budget that could be allocated to SCRAPT should be re-examined by Council to agree a capping limit on the reallocation of resources to that fund.
 - (viii) In addition, a Member questioned how decisions were taken on what was included within SCRAPT and was this an accumulative budget? The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that capital budgets were rolled across a number of years depending on the life of the particular project the funding was provided for. Departmental proposals were then forwarded to the relevant Portfolio holder to finalise any proposals to reallocate funding.
 - (ix) In response to a Member's question, the Chief Financial Officer confirmed that there was no elected Member representation on SCRAPT.
 - (x) A Member sought clarification on whether any money allocated to SCRAPT could be held within a capital reserve? The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that a lot of capital expenditure may be funded by borrowing and any capital reserve was kept solely as a cash, short term reserve.
 - (xi) It had been highlighted that there was a general mismatch between the knowledge that Members had of how the budget was prepared and managed and the real factual way the Council's budget was managed. This had resulted in an anxiety among Members and the need to move Council collectively forward to ensure a better knowledge was highlighted. The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that a need for greater Member awareness had already been highlighted by a Treasury Management select committee investigation and a training programme to rectify this issue was being developed.

Recommendation

- (i) The report was noted.
- (ii) Concern was expressed by Scrutiny Members that any surplus resources identified should be used in the best interests of the Council.
- (iii) Members expressed the view that the Council should have a greater

- involvement in the allocation of any surplus resources.
- (iv) That a budgetary capping limit be implemented on the SCRAPT budget for unallocated resources to be recommended for reallocation and ultimately approved by Council to ensure the full management of all expenditure.
 - (v) That a process for the management and reallocation of any additional capital underspends not previously identified within the SCRAPT budget be explored.
 - (vi) That a programme of learning and instruction on the management of the Council's budgets be developed and implemented for Members before the end of March 2010.
 - (vii) That the Chief Financial Officer provide a detailed breakdown of the budgets for CPM unallocated funding and Civic Centre Enhancement works

113. Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports – Quarter 2 – Corporate Plan and Revenue Financial Management Report 2009/10 *(Corporate Management Team)*

The Chief Financial Officer reported on the progress made towards achieving the Corporate Plan outcomes through identified actions and of the progress against the Council's own 2009/10 Revenue Budget, for the period to 30 September 2009. At present it was anticipated that there would be an underspend against the Centralised Estimates budget.

A discussion ensued which included the following issues.

- (i) A resident representative sought clarification on the shopping centre income risk reserve. The Chief Financial Officer indicated that the Council currently receives 15% of the rental stream for the shopping centre and the risk reserve had been created from retailers leaving the shopping centre prior to the end of their lease and having to make up front payments to end their lease. It was expected that this reserve would be drawn down to ensure the future budget income level from the shopping centre rental income was protected.
- (ii) With reference to the ongoing child poverty and financial inclusion investigation, it was suggested that the possibility of the local authority generating revenue by providing various packages of furnishings for first time house renters through an additional rental charge chargeable on benefits be explored. This would be one way of the local authority exercising its powers to alleviate the debt problems faced by a high level of the rental community.

Recommendation

- (i) The report was noted.
- (ii) That the suggestion of the local authority providing various packages of furnishings for first time house renters and generating a rental income be explored further.

114. Minutes of the meetings held on 13 November 2009

Confirmed.

115. Request for Items for Discussion – Joint Cabinet/Scrutiny Event of 16 December 2010 *(Scrutiny Manager)*

The Scrutiny Manager presented a report which highlighted that the next Joint Cabinet/Scrutiny Event would be held on Wednesday 16 December 2009 commencing at 4.30pm until 5.30pm in Committee Room B of the Civic Centre. Members had made a number of suggestions at the previous Joint/Cabinet event and these were included at Appendix A. Members were asked for any additional suggestions to be included on the agenda.

The idea of the local authority purchasing furniture packages and renting them to families in rental accommodation and on benefit was suggested as a topic for discussion at the next Joint Cabinet/Scrutiny event.

Recommendation

That in addition to the items already identified, the idea of the local authority purchasing furniture packages and renting them to families in rental accommodation and in receipt of benefit be included in the list of topics to be discussed at the next Joint Cabinet/Scrutiny event to be held on 16 December 2009.

116. Call-In Requests

None.

The meeting concluded at 3.35pm.

CHAIR

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: FINAL REPORT – THE HARTLEPOOL TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the findings of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum following its investigation into 'The Hartlepool Transport Interchange'.

2. SETTING THE SCENE

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 17 July 2009, Members determined their work programme for the 2009/10 Municipal Year. The topic of 'The Hartlepool Transport Interchange' was selected as the first scrutiny topic for consideration during the current Municipal Year.
- 2.2 Responsibility for the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange lies with the Neighbourhood Services Department, although there are major regeneration benefits associated with the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange.
- 2.3 The Hartlepool Transport Interchange is part of the Council's programme to ensure that the Town has a high quality transport interchange facility, which will enhance the development of the Town's transport strategy. The interchange will also be important to the wider regeneration of the town, potentially providing linkages and important facilities. Full planning permission for the original application was granted by the Council's Planning Committee on 3 November 2004.
- 2.4 Since November 2004 there have been a number of complex negotiations and legal issues that have delayed the start of the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange.

3. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 3.1 The overall aim of the Scrutiny investigation was to gain an understanding of the current development milestones for the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, identifying transport operator attitudes and functionality options.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 4.1 The Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny investigation were as outlined below:-

- (a) To gain an understanding of the current development position of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange and the future milestones for the project;
- (b) To seek the views of transport operators in relation to usage of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange; and
- (c) To explore future functionality plans for the Hartlepool Transport Interchange site.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

- 5.1 The membership of the Scrutiny Forum was as detailed below:-

Councillors R W Cook, S Cook, Cranney, Gibbon, A E Lilley, London, McKenna, Rogan and Wright.

Resident Representatives: John Lynch, Brian McBean and Iris Ryder.

6. METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

- 6.1 Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum met formally from 20 August 2009 to 5 November 2009 to discuss and receive evidence relating to this investigation. A detailed record 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) Detailed Officer presentations supplemented by verbal evidence;
- (b) Site visit facilitated by Officers from the Neighbourhood Services Department to illustrate the scope of current developments and where future developments will occur on site;

- (c) A questionnaire circulated to all bus, coach and taxi companies operating in Hartlepool; and
- (d) Verbal evidence from local transport operators in Hartlepool.

FINDINGS

7 THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENT POSITION OF THE HARTLEPOOL TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

- 7.1 Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum felt that in order to understand the current development position of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, it was important to hear evidence about the history behind the development. Evidence gathered by Members on the development position historically and currently is detailed below:-

History of the Development

- 7.2 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum met on 20 August 2009 where Members received a presentation from the Director of Neighbourhood Services highlighting the background and history behind the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange.
- 7.3 Members were reminded that the original scheme had been developed in 2001/02. Planning permission was granted in November 2004 and the Forum was shown the original designs detailed in **Appendices A and B** at the end of this report. However, Members were concerned that development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange had been extremely slow and with the imminent arrival of the Tall Ships' Races in 2010 there was now an even greater emphasis on the development being completed. The Director of Neighbourhood Services reassured Members that despite lengthy legal arguments, there were now various agreements in place between the groups involved in the development of the Interchange, these groups being Hartlepool Borough Council, Network Rail and Northern Rail. The agreements between these groups had been signed in August 2009, allowing work to commence on the Interchange.
- 7.4 The Forum heard at their meeting of 20 August 2009 that due to the length of time between the original plans and the signing of legal agreements the design of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange had been changed. The changes made to the design had seen the reduction in the number of bus bays to a more appropriate anticipated level of usage from 5 to 3 bays, increased car parking spaces and construction of stairs up to the Gateway Bridge to link the Interchange to the Marina and various nearby leisure and retail outlets. Forum Members were informed that due to these changes it had been necessary to resubmit a planning application and Members were shown the new design as detailed in **Appendix C** at the end of this report. It was anticipated that planning consent for the new design would be granted

in October 2009, although Members noted that the original design and associated planning permission granted in 2004 was still valid.

Site Visit to Evidence Current Development Position

7.5 In order to fully appreciate the scale and the level of current developments that had taken place in relation to the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum undertook a visit to the site of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange on 8 September 2009. During their visit Members noted the following:-

- (i) That the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange site will also see Hartlepool Railway Station renovated, but Members were pleased to hear that the renovation would maintain the Victorian style of the station. The renovation of the Railway Station would see the installation of a new canopy and the unused platform developed to a standard with the installation of planters and lightweight casings to hold artwork of a poster specification. Members also noted that currently the unused platform had been dug up whilst new signalling work is installed as detailed below in Picture1:-



Picture1: Unused platform at Hartlepool Railway Station

- (ii) That the unused platform at the Railway Station had been reviewed by Network Rail, but due to the lack of footfall numbers and the cost of ensuring that access is compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, Members were informed that focus for the potential introduction of the Tees Valley Metro would be along a spur of line that leads off from the main platform as shown overleaf in Picture2:-



Picture2: Spur of line that may be possibly used for Tees Valley Metro

- (iii) That work has already started at the Western end of the site to clear scrub land, remove bushes and trees before levelling work can commence for the installation of the car park, as detailed below in Picture3. Once developed, this area of the site will be landscaped and include real time information on all transport operators utilising the Hartlepool Transport Interchange



Picture3: Western end of site being cleared and levelled for car park

- (iv) That the most technical aspect of the development of the Western end of the site would be the filling in of the disused underpass. Work on this development would take two weeks to complete and ensure that no voids are left, the disused underpass can be seen in Picture4 below:-



Picture4: Disused underpass currently gated to prevent usage.

- (v) That developments at the Eastern end of the site have seen the inclusion of potential business parking facilities and the construction of a permanent maintenance compound for Network Rail as show in Picture5 below:-



Picture5: New maintenance compound for Network Rail.

Current Milestones

- 7.6 With Members mindful of the Tall Ships' Races visiting Hartlepool from 7-10 August 2010, there was a concern about the timescales for development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange. The Forum were keen that an emphasis be placed on developments so that visitors to Hartlepool would benefit from not only an improved transport infrastructure, but also the aesthetically pleasing changes that the Interchange would bring to the area around the Railway Station.
- 7.7 During the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 20 August 2009, Forum Members were reassured that the car park to the Eastern end of the development would be completed and commissioned by November 2009, that between November 2009 and February 2010 Network Rail would be completing canopy works at the Station, with the final stage of completion work to the front of the railway station and the new layout to the Western end of the site being carried out between February and June 2010.

8 VIEWS OF TRANSPORT OPERATORS TOWARDS THE HARTLEPOOL TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

- 8.1 Although Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum supported the creation of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, they wanted to ensure that the transport operator in Hartlepool would use the facilities and were happy with the 'new' design for the Interchange. With this in mind a questionnaire was sent to all bus, coach, taxi and private hire companies in Hartlepool to gather their views, along with an open invitation to attend a meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum.
- 8.2 Members met on 24 September when the views of the transport operators in Hartlepool were presented to Members. The information gathered by Members from the transport operators is summarised below:-
- (i) That three of the major bus / coach companies in Hartlepool and those taxi firms completing the questionnaire and attending the Forum meeting on 24 September, were very supportive of the 'new' plans for the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, with the other major bus company operating in Hartlepool wishing more detailed dialogue before they could commit to using the Interchange;
 - (ii) That the plans for the Hartlepool Transport Interchange would see an increase in passenger numbers for all transport operators and that the Interchange could provide additional security for transport users;
 - (iii) That driver facilities, such as toilets, needed to be provided as part of the Transport Interchange complex;

- (iv) That the taxi layover areas on the plans needed to be re-assessed after consultation with the bus, coach and taxi companies in the Town as each group had differing concerns and suggestions;
- (v) That sufficient space be provided for wheelchair users to access those coaches / buses that utilise wheelchair lifts;
- (vi) That out of hours use of the site needed to be maximised, such as using loading bays as Taxi pick-up points; and
- (vii) That looking at the flow into the Transport Interchange for buses / coaches may negate the need, currently planned, for buses to loop around the roundabout, therefore, saving time and increasingly desirability for the bus companies to access the site.

9 FUTURE FUNCTIONALITY PLANS FOR THE HARTLEPOOL TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

- 9.1 Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum were anxious that the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, would consider how the development might meet the future functionality plans of the users and the potential regenerative value of the site. Evidence gathered by Members in this aspect is detailed below:-

Transport Users

- 9.2 Members received a presentation from the Head of Technical Services at their meeting of 24 September 2009 in relation to the future functionality of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange for those people who would be accessing the site as transport users.
- 9.3 Members were pleased to learn that lighting and landscaping of the site would encourage an open and safe environment for transport users to move around the Interchange, through the usage of low covering foliage, grassed areas, 'white' lighting and the reassurance of CCTV cameras.
- 9.4 The Forum were informed that real time information would be a key component of the site, ensuring that transport users had regularly updated information about the various transport operators accessing the Hartlepool Transport Interchange, although the views of Members were that the site should also not alienate the non-technologically minded transport users, as well as ensuring the disabled transport users were catered for in the design.
- 9.5 Multi-ticketing development was also another future functionality that may arise out of the development of the Transport Interchange along the lines of the Oyster card that operates in London, allowing transport users to move from different modes of transport without the need to purchase separate tickets. Members were, however, concerned that such developments were

future proofed, although the Head of Technical Services commented that this development was only in very early stages of development.

- 9.6 Support was also voiced by Members and representatives from the transport providers in Hartlepool, during the meeting of the Forum on 24 September 2009, for the need to address, in the longer term, the daytime economy of the Interchange through the encouragement of eating and drinking facilities as dictated by market forces.

Cyclists

- 9.7 During their meeting of 24 September 2009 Members were reminded of the government cycling initiatives that were looking towards both the environmental and health benefits through cycling as a mode of transport. Members were pleased to learn that Network Rail were going to fund the provision of additional bike storage as part of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange and that the site would have a cycleway spine which would enable quick access to the site for cyclists, as well as ensuring other road users and pedestrians were clearly aware of the cycle routes on site.
- 9.8 At the site meeting held on 8 September 2009, the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Neighbourhoods raised the importance of cycle routes throughout the Interchange and the need to ensure that the cycleway spine was linked beyond the Interchange to other cycleways in the Town.

Tees Valley Metro

- 9.9 Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum were aware of the plans for the development of a Tees Valley Metro and the potential regenerative benefits that such a scheme could have in increasing the linkage of Hartlepool to other areas in the Tees Valley.
- 9.10 Those Members attending the site visit on 8 September 2009 had already seen the potential development area for the Tees Valley Metro, see paragraph 7.5(ii). In addition Members were informed that the introduction of the Tees Valley Metro should also see the resurfacing of the platform in that area and the installation of a new canopy.
- 9.11 When the Forum met on 20 August 2009 the Director for Neighbourhood Services informed Members that the development of the car park to the Western end of the site, would allow for future functionality of this area as a park and ride for the Tees Valley Metro should the scheme be completed and linked into Hartlepool. At their meeting of 24 September 2009, Members learnt that the real time information planned for the site would also incorporate the Tees Valley Metro.

10 CONCLUSIONS

10.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum concluded:-

- (a) That the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange was something that was welcomed by the majority of the major transport operators in Hartlepool;
- (b) That the legal delays to the development of the Transport Interchange had created scepticism about when and what the Interchange would deliver;
- (c) That the arrival of the Tall Ships' Races from 7-10 August 2010 had placed pressure on the aesthetic site developments and enhanced transport users experience to be delivered within a tight timescale;
- (d) That due to increased legal costs and a rationalization of the requirements of transport operators this had meant that the development of a 'new' design had been necessary; and
- (e) That despite aesthetic recommendations emanating from the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum's investigation into Railway Approaches in March 2007, Hartlepool Railway Station's unused platform was still visually unappealing.

11 RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum has taken evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Forum's key recommendations to the Cabinet are as outlined below:-

- (a) That signage in and around the Transport Interchange is clear and ensures users are fully aware of where amenities are located;
- (b) That the Council sets in place an agreed procedure with Network Rail to ensure that the unused platform is cosmetically enhanced and made aesthetically pleasing;
- (c) That a review is carried out with all transport operators as potential users of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange into the plans for layover areas and loading / unloading bays, with the aim of maximising out of hours usage; and
- (d) That a process is put in place to regularly review and keep Members informed of the development of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange with particular reference to usage and transport operator linkage.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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 Transport and Neighbourhoods

Dave Stubbs – Director of Neighbourhood Services

Peter Scott – Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Stuart Green – Assistant Director, Planning and Economic Development

Alastair Smith – Head of Technical Services

David Wilson – Principal Engineer (Construction)

Brendon Colarossi – Senior Engineer (Construction)

External Representatives:

Rob Pattison – Manager, Streamline Taxis

All those transport operators in Hartlepool who took the time to complete the questionnaire into their potential usage of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange.

COUNCILLOR TREVOR ROGAN CHAIR OF THE REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

November 2009

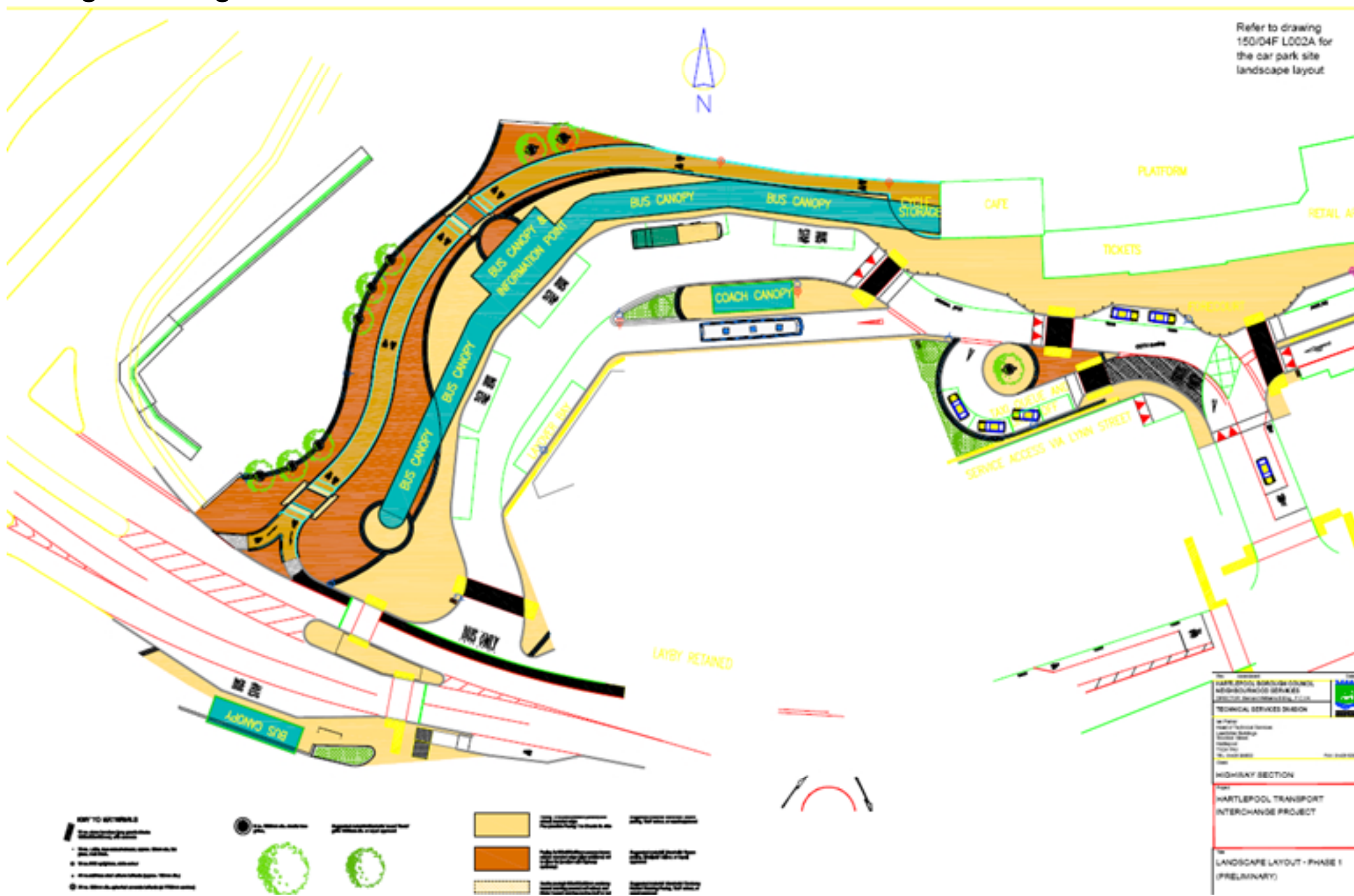
Contact Officer: James Walsh – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel:- 01429 523647
Email:- james.walsh@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

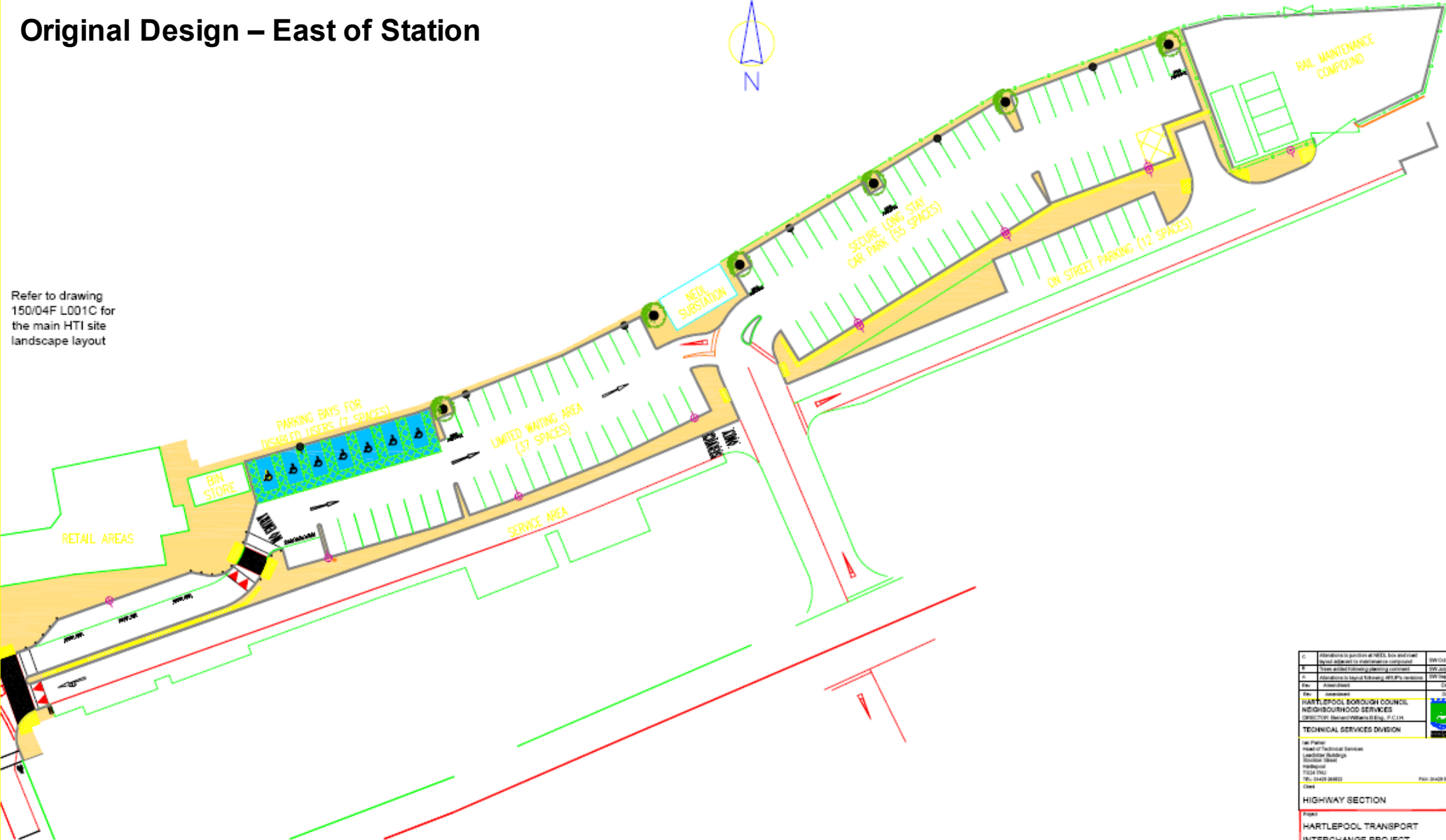
- (a) Report of the Director of Neighbourhood Services entitled 'Hartlepool Transport Interchange' presented at the meeting of Cabinet of 7 January 2008.
- (b) Report of the Head of Technical Services entitled 'Hartlepool Transport Interchange Progress Report' presented at the meeting of Culture, Housing and Transportation Portfolio of 3 May 2006.
- (c) Report of the Head of Procurement and Property Services entitled 'Land Exchange, Hartlepool Transport Interchange' presented at the meeting of Finance and Performance Management Portfolio of 2 May 2006.
- (d) Hartlepool Borough Council (2006) *Hartlepool Borough Council – Local Transport Plan 2006-2011*, Available from: http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/downloads/Hartlepool_LTP_2006.pdf
- (e) Minutes and Decision Record of Planning Committee of 3 November 2004.
- (f) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Scoping Report' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 20 August 2009.
- (g) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'The Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Setting the Scene Presentation – Covering Report' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 20 August 2009.
- (h) Presentation by the Director of Neighbourhood Services entitled 'Hartlepool Transport Interchange' delivered to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 20 August 2009.
- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Evidence from Transport Operators' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 24 September 2009.
- (j) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Evidence on the Future Functionality of the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Covering Report' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 24 September 2009.
- (k) Presentation by the Head of Technical Services entitled 'Future Functionality of the Interchange Site' delivered to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 24 September 2009.

- (l) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Feedback from Site Visit – Covering Report' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 24 September 2009.
- (m) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into the Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Additional Evidence from Transport Operators' presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 5 November 2009.
- (n) Minutes of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum of 20 August, 24 September and 5 November 2009.



Original Design – East of Station

Refer to drawing
150/04F L001C for
the main HTI site
landscape layout



Proposed pedestrian pavement
with tactile paving
This pavement is to be used as a
pedestrian route

Proposed pedestrian pavement
with tactile paving
This pavement is to be used as a
pedestrian route

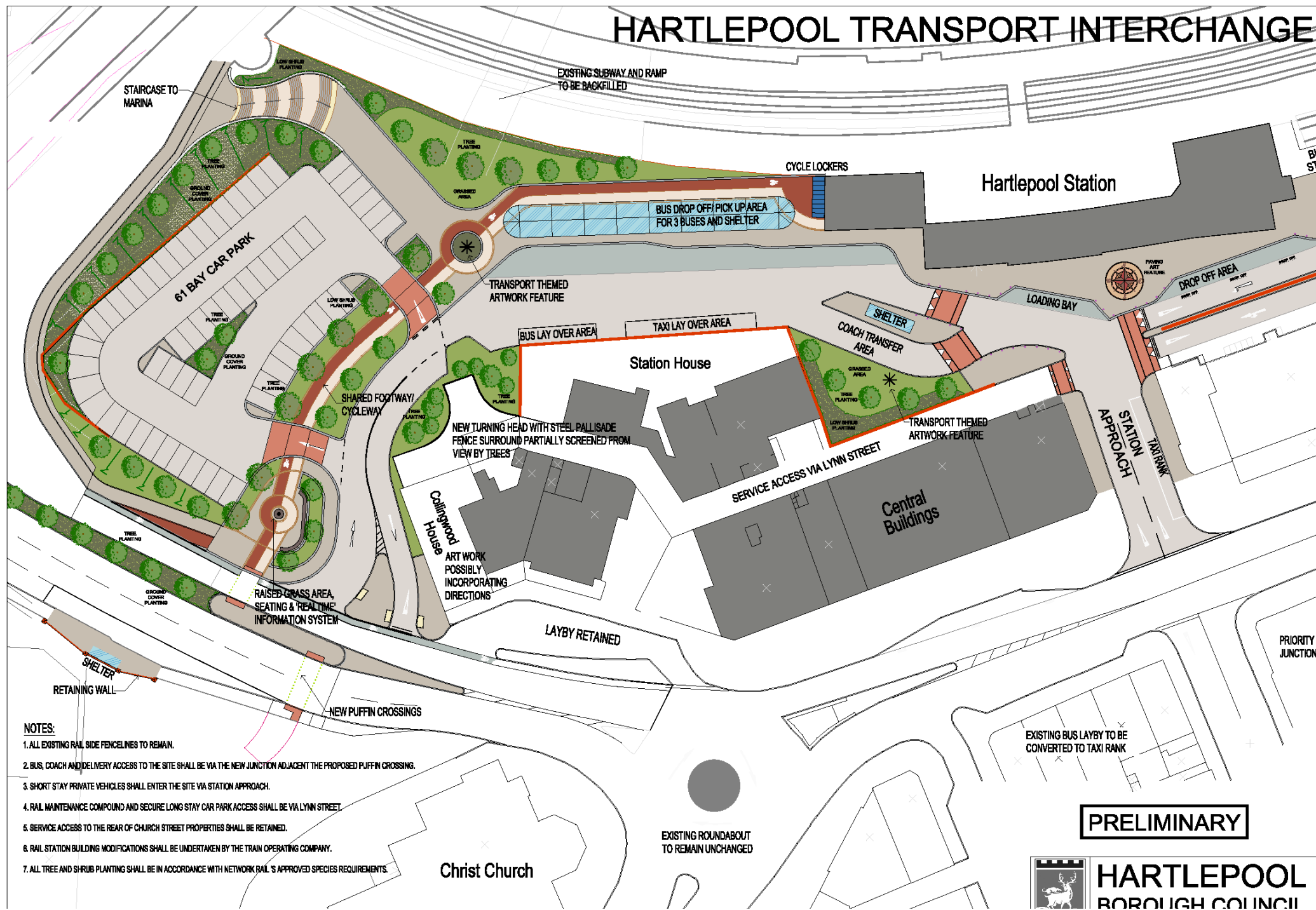
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with tactile paving
This pavement is to be used as a
pedestrian route

C	Attention to position of trees, low and high level of ground in immediate vicinity	09/04/08
H	Tree added following planning consent	09/04/08
D	Attention to layout following 400kV revision	09/04/08
Rev	01/04/08	Date
Rev	01/04/08	Date
HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES DIRECTOR: NEIGHBOURHOODS & CIL TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION		
Mr Peter Head of Technical Services Leeds Road Hartlepool TS24 7PL Tel: 01429 388000 Fax: 01429 388000		
HIGHWAY SECTION		
HARTLEPOOL TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE PROJECT		
CAR PARK LAYOUT (PRELIMINARY)		
Drawn DW	Scale 1:250	File DW704
Drawing No 150/04F/L002		Rev C
DWG. LAST UPDATED DATE: Sep 04		



SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 DECEMBER 2009



Report of: HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM

Subject: FINAL REPORT – DUST DEPOSITS ON THE HEADLAND

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the findings and recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Forum following its investigation into 'Dust Deposits on the Headland'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 In response to serious concerns from residents on the Headland and surrounding areas to the health implications of dust deposits in these areas, the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum agreed that this issue should be investigated by the Health Scrutiny Forum.
- 2.2 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 9 October 2009 was advised of the Health Scrutiny Forum's intention to investigate the potential health implications of dust deposits on the Headland. In accordance with agreed practice the outcome of the Health Scrutiny Forum's investigation would be presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. Once the report had been received by Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee a decision would be made about if and how any further investigation be undertaken into issues relating to the dust deposits on the Headland that were not covered by the Constitutional function of the Health Scrutiny Forum.

3. METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

- 3.1 Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum met formally on 27 October 2009 at the Borough Hall to receive evidence relating the health implications of dust deposits on the Headland and surrounding areas. A detailed report of the issues raised during this meeting is available from the Council's Democratic Services.

4. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AT THE HEALTH SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

- 4.1 With the health implications of dust deposits on the Headland and surrounding areas being of such great concern to residents, the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum invited all Elected Members and Resident Representatives to the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Forum held on 27 October 2009. Detailed below is the attendance list for the meeting held on 27 October 2009:-

Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum:-

Councillors: S Akers-Belcher (substituting for Councillor Worthy), Brash, Barker, A Lilley, G Lilley, Young

Resident Representatives: Jean Kennedy

Other Councillors in attendance: Allison, Atkinson, Fleming, Griffin, Hall, Jackson, J Marshall, McKenna and Preece.

Other Resident Representatives in attendance: John Cambridge, Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Evelyn Leck, John Lynch, Iris Ryder, Bob Steel and Joan Steel

FINDINGS

5. EVIDENCE GATHERED BY MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM

- 5.1 In order to formulate conclusions and recommendations the Health Scrutiny Forum met on 27 October 2009. Evidence gathered by Members during the meeting is detailed below:-

Evidence from Department for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

- 5.2 The Health Scrutiny Forum met on 27 October and Members received a detailed report by the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods covering the history behind the problems of dust deposits on the Headland, the activities carried out by the Environmental Health Team and the various inter-agency liaison meetings that had taken place between Hartlepool Borough Council, residents, representatives from the Port Authority and other statutory government bodies.
- 5.3 Members were interested to learn that over the years there have been a number of reported problems with noise and dust emanating from the Port and when problems have arisen and complaints received by Hartlepool Borough Council, investigations have been carried out and measures put in place to alleviate the noise and dust problems.

- 5.4 The Principal Environmental Health Officer informed the Forum that between September 2008 and January 2009 there had been no complaints received by the Department relating to dust and noise complaints in connections with activities on the Port. However, since 20 January 2009 there have been a number of complaints concerning 'brown spots on windows' and accumulations of dust.
- 5.5 In order to determine the health risks of the accumulations of dust the Principal Environmental Health Officer presented the Forum with **Table 1** (below) which demonstrated that a number of dust samples had been gathered throughout July and September 2009, taking in a number of different locations and weather conditions. These samples were sent away for independent testing and the results showed levels of iron and titanium that were akin to levels of iron and titanium found in dust deposits elsewhere in the Town.

Table1: Results of Dust Samples

Weekly Samples
Daily Samples

		Iron	Titanium	Cadmium	Lead	Chromium	Arsenic	Mercury
27/07/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	100-200mg/kg	100-200mg/kg	None	None	None	None	None
28/07/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
17/08/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
17/08/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
17/08/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
17/08/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	8 Town Wall	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	8 Town Wall	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None

- 5.6 Forum Members were informed that further sampling had been carried out in other locations on the Headland and that these results were due at the end of October 2009. When Members met on 1 December the results of this further sampling were presented, as detailed in **Table2** overleaf:-

Table2: Results of Further Dust Samples

Weekly Samples
Daily Samples

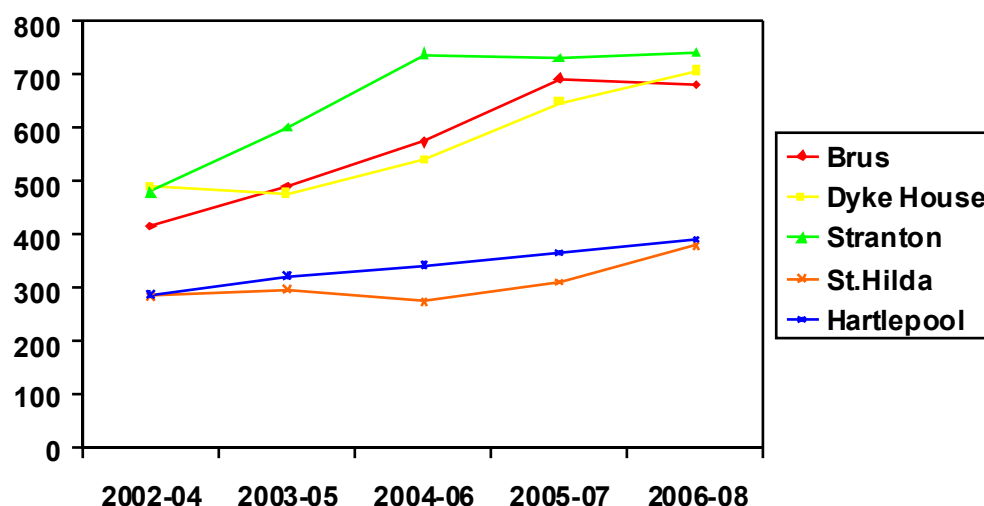
		Iron	Titanium	Cadmium	Lead	Chromium	Arsenic	Mercury
30/06/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
06/07/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
13/07/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/07/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
27/07/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
04/08/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
10/08/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
17/08/2009	8 Town Wall	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/08/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
01/09/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
07/09/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
14/09/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
21/09/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	8 Town Wall	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
24/09/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
09/09/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
20/08/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	3 telford Close	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	18 Thorpe Street	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	9 Seaview Terrace	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	8 Town Wall	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	127 Northgate	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None
28/09/2009	Small Crafts	Trace	Trace	None	None	None	None	None

- 5.7 The Health Scrutiny Forum Members, at their meeting of 27 October 2009, were interested to learn that along with the sampling of dust deposits, the Council also assess the level of PM10 (Particulate Matter, 10 microns in diameter) which are those particulates that can enter the lungs. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) sets an annual acceptable mean level of PM10s as 40 μgm^3 (microgrammes per cubic metre), monitoring on the Headland in 2001 had returned an annual mean of 24 μgm^3 , which Members recognised as being well within the acceptable level dictated by DEFRA.

Evidence from Executive Director of Public Health

- 5.8 Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum were delighted to receive a presentation at their meeting on 27 October 2009, from the Executive Director of Public Health, NHS Tees in relation to a recent investigation he had undertaken into the health of residents on the Headland in Hartlepool. After being contacted by a St Hilda Ward Councillor and hearing concerns from local residents, the Executive Director of Public Health had agreed to look into health issues on the Headland and to ascertain if there was a trend that could be linked to the dust deposits.
- 5.9 The Executive Director of Public Health explained to Members that the methodology behind researching the health of the residents of the Headland was to examine data relating to respiratory, skin and liver disease as the most likely health complications to arise from contact with dust deposits.
- 5.10 The Forum was particularly interested in data gathered relating to hospital admission for respiratory illness, as detailed in **Graph1** below. This evidence indicated very clearly that in comparison to neighbouring wards and the whole of Hartlepool, residents of the Headland were less likely to be admitted to hospital with lower respiratory disease.

Graph1: Directly age-standardised hospital admission rate per 100,000 for lower respiratory disease (J40-J45) in Hartlepool 2002-2008



- 5.11 In relation to **Graph1** (above) a question was raised about the location of the scrap metal pile 20 years ago, as being on the site of the Marina. With the site of the Marina falling into the Stranton Ward, it was queried if such high figures for hospital admission for lower respiratory disease could be caused by a delay in action of the dust, similar to the length of time for cases of asbestosis. The Executive Director of Public Health stated that scientifically it was not

possible to determine if the previous location of the scrap pile had a health effect on residents in that area, with other factors such as smoking being more likely for the high numbers of respiratory disease in that ward. In addition it was scientifically unsound to speculate on the scrap metal pile causing respiratory disease, when current figures for the Headland did not prove a current link between the location of the scrap pile and respiratory disease.

- 5.12 The evidence gathered from the Headland Medical Practice also equally demonstrated to Members that there was not enough statistical difference of excessive health problems in relation to dermatitis, eczema, respiratory disease, liver, skin and respiratory diagnoses to conclude that the dust deposits were causing health problems for the residents of the Headland. However, the Executive Director for Public Health had agreed to look into cancer data, although it was noted by the Forum that it would be usual to find a correlation between respiratory or skin diseases and cases of cancer when the contaminate was airborne.

Evidence from Health Protection Agency

- 5.13 The Consultant in Health Protection from the Health Protection Agency had provided written evidence to the Health Scrutiny Forum at their meeting of 27 October 2009. The Consultant in Health Protection highlighted to Members the role of the Health Protection Agency and that they supported the evidence provided by the Executive Director of Public Health. However, in background papers received by the Forum, Members noted that in inter-agency meeting on 8 September 2008 the Health Protection Agency had stated that with the Headland being a deprived ward, that there were links between the health of the people and the deprivation of the area.

Evidence from Residents of the Headland

- 5.14 When the Health Scrutiny Forum met on 27 October 2009, the residents of the Headland and surrounding areas provided the Members of the Forum with detailed evidence both verbal, in photographic form and reiterated their concern of the problems of dust deposits by presenting the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum with a signed petition.
- 5.15 The verbal evidence presented by residents stated a belief that the dust deposits were causing lung and skin problems, as well as an associated rise in stress caused by noise from the port area and damage to windows, cars and other property from the dust deposits. There was also concern raised by residents about the damping operations that were designed to spray water over the scrap metal to reduce dust emissions, but that the run off was potentially causing environmental damage to marine life that had yet to be investigated. It was clear to Members of the Forum that levels of frustration from residents of the Headland and surrounding area was high and that trust was at an all time low.

- 5.16 Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum were shown a video which demonstrated the loading of scrap metal onto a ship in the port and dust emissions from activity, which was described as not meeting the procedures outlined when loading scrap metal onto boats. During the video it was reiterated to Member of the Forum that residents were suffering from the anxiety and stress due to the constant need to clean windows, carpets, curtains and other areas where the dust was accumulating.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The Health Scrutiny Forum concluded:-
- 6.2 That it is recognised that there is a problem with dust deposits from the Port area, that not only has it been a historical problem, but after a hiatus of complaints to the Council, there was currently a reoccurrence of dust problems affecting residents of the Headland;
- 6.3 That evidence gathered by the Executive Director of Public Health concluded that there was no evidence to suggest the dust deposits were causing respiratory, liver or skin diseases in residents of the Headland;
- 6.4 That issues around levels of cancer need further analysis before a view could be reached in relation to any possible links to dust deposits;
- 6.5 That it was scientifically impossible and unsound to conclude that the previous location for the scrap metal pile was the cause behind levels of respiratory disease in the Stranton area of Hartlepool;
- 6.6 That so far sampling of dust deposits on the Headland were consistent with the content of general dust; and
- 6.7 That concerns in relation to the potential damage to property, the environment, the possible statutory nuisance and any operational deficiencies arising from Port operations were noted, but it was recognised that these went beyond the limitations of the function of the Health Scrutiny Forum.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Health Scrutiny Forum 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 Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee are as outlined below:-
- (a) That the Health Scrutiny Forum receives results of further investigations into dust deposits on the Headland by the Executive Director of Public Health into cancer rates;

- (b) That the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum contacts the Executive Director of Public Health to request that in conjunction to the investigation outlined in recommendation (a), further exploration be undertaken to ascertain any potential link between dust deposits on the Headland and surrounding area and the occurrence of stress related illness;
- (c) That a further scrutiny investigation be carried out into the dust deposits on the Headland and surrounding areas by an appropriate committee / forum with reference to the following areas:-
 - (i) A site visit to the Port area to observe the loading of scrap metal onto a ship and examination into the potential damage to properties, the environment, noise and any possible statutory nuisance of Port activities;
 - (ii) Consultation with the Port workforce and exploration of possible options in terms of enforcement, ensuring that any operational deficiencies on the Port site are not repeated; and
 - (iii) Exploration into the role of the Environment Agency as the legally responsible body for the regulation of the operating permit of activities in the Port.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 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;

Councillor Ged Hall, Portfolio Holder for Adult and Public Health Services;

Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods;

Adrian Hurst, Principal Environmental Health Officer;

Sylvia Tempest, Environmental Standards Manager.

External Representatives

Members of the public who participated and contributed throughout the investigation and at the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Forum held in the Borough Hall on 27 October 2009;

Professor Peter Kelly, Executive Director of Public Health, NHS Tees;

Paul Quayle, QA/SHE Manager, Heerema Hartlepool Ltd;

Mr Alan Lloyd, Construction Manager, Heerema Hartlepool Ltd;

Ken Smith, Operations Director, PD Ports;

Ian Baxter, Regional Manager, Van Dalen Hartlepool Ltd;

Mr Ashby, Van Dalen Hartlepool Ltd; and

Mr M Bardon, Van Dalen Hartlepool Ltd.

**COUNCILLOR JONATHAN BRASH
CHAIR OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM**

December 2009

Contact Officer:- James Walsh – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523647
Email: james.walsh@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Manager entitled 'Dust on the Headland – Request for Scrutiny Investigation' presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 9 October 2009.
- (ii) Report of the Scrutiny Manager entitled 'Dust Deposits on the Headland – Covering Report' presented to the Health Scrutiny Forum of 27 October 2009.
- (iii) Report of the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods entitled 'Dust Deposits on the Headland' presented to the Health Scrutiny Forum of 27 October 2009.
- (iv) Presentation by the Executive Director of Public Health entitled 'An Overview of Health on the Headland in Hartlepool' received by the Health Scrutiny Forum of 27 October 2009.
- (v) Minutes of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of 9 October 2009.
- (vi) Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Forum of 27 October 2009.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Chair of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 September 2009, the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-
- 2.2 'Shaping the Future of Care Together – Green Paper' - At the meeting of the Forum on 30 September 2009, Members held a 'one-off' meeting to consider the Government's Green Paper on 'Shaping the Future of Care Together'. The Green Paper set out the Government vision for a new care and support system. The aim of the meeting was to gather views at a local level and contribute to the formulation of a local response. The overall local response was sent to Central Government on 13 November 2009.
- 2.3 Investigation into 'Putting People First – The Delivery of Personalised Adult Social Care Services' – At the meeting of the Forum on 14 October 2009, the Forum started their investigation into 'Putting People First – The Delivery of Personalised Adult Social Care Services'. Members received a 'setting the scene' presentation from the Child and Adult Services Department which provided an overview of the 'Putting People First' agenda and progress in Hartlepool; what the Council has achieved; and the plans for the future.
- 2.4 At the meeting of the Forum of the 14 October 2009, Members also discussed the options for gathering alternative practice evidence from other local authorities. Members agreed to invite representatives from Oldham Council and Manchester City Council along to their next meeting.
- 2.5 At the next evidence gathering session of the Forum, Members will receive further evidence from:

- (a) Oldham Council and Manchester City Council;
 - (b) The Portfolio Holder for Adult and Public Health Services;
 - (c) Julie Stansfield, Managing Director from 'In Control';
 - (d) Users of the services; and
 - (e) Local residents and people who use the services.
- 2.6 The Forum at its meeting on the 24 February 2010 will complete its evidence gathering and it is intended that a Draft Final Report will be discussed at the meeting of the Forum on 31 March 2010.
- 2.7 Draft Allotments Development Strategy 2010 – 2015 – The draft Allotments Development Strategy is currently under review and the Forum at its meeting of 11 November 2009 received a presentation from officers from the Child and Adult Services Department which provided an overview of the results of the consultation feedback to date. A further meeting of the Forum is to be arranged for Members to consider further feedback from the consultation process.
- 2.8 The Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Consultation Proposals for 2010/11: The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum on the 02 November 2009 considered the initial budget pressures for the Child and Adult Services Department relating to the provision of Adult and Community Services and reported its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 27 November 2009. A formal response will be presented to Cabinet on the 14 December 2009.
- 2.9 Forward Plan – The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2009, no items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR CHRIS SIMMONS
CHAIR OF ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM -
PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum, since the start of the new 2009/10 Municipal Year.

2. PROGRESS OF THE FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 September 2009, the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-
- 2.2 Targeted and Detached Youth Work: The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum at its meeting on the 1 October 2009 commenced its investigation in 'Targeted and Detached Youth Work'. The Forum has to date received a very detailed and informative 'Setting the Scene' report. In addition to this, during November members of the Forum have undertaken individual visits to observe detached youth work in action. Further visits will also be undertaken in January 2010 to observe targeted youth work and the results of all of these visits are to be considered by the Forum as part of its investigation.
- 2.3 The Forum is on track to complete this investigation by the 30 March 2010 so that its Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee by 23 March 2010, for submission to Cabinet on 10 May 2010, as planned.
- 2.4 'Appropriate Accommodation for Homeless Young People for Whatever Reason' – 2008/09 Investigation: It has recently been discovered that the activities / approach undertaken by the Forum in completing this investigation have been included as a case study in a document recently published by Shelter. The document entitled 'Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People in Housing Need' is aimed at providing a benchmarking guide for joint

working between services and the inclusion of the work undertaken in Hartlepool as a best practice case study is a very positive outcome.

- 2.5 Child and Adult Services Department: Budget and Policy Framework 2010/11: The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on the 4 November 2009 considered initial budget proposals for the Children's Services areas of provision within the Child and Adult Services Department. The Forum's views on these initial proposals were reported back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 27 November 2009 and will subsequently be noted by Cabinet on the 14 December 2009.
- 2.6 On the 20 January 2010 the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum will consider the finalised budget proposals for the Children's Services areas of provision within the Child and Adult Services Department. Views expressed by the Forum will then be reported back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 15 January 2010 with an overall Scrutiny view on the finalised budget proposals to be presented to Cabinet on 9 February 2010.
- 2.7 Forward Plan: – The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum at each of its meetings continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2009, no specific items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR JANE SHAW
CHAIR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum

Subject: HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Health Scrutiny Forum, since the last progress report to this Committee.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 September 2009, the Health Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-
- 2.2 Transforming Community Services in Hartlepool - At the meeting of this Forum on 23 September 2009, Members received a detailed presentation from Hartlepool PCT on the transformation of community services in Hartlepool, as well as an update on the integrated urgent care / out of hours services in Hartlepool.
- 2.3 World Class Commissioning – The Forum met on 6 October 2009 to receive an update from Hartlepool PCT on progress to date on its World Class Commissioning programme. Members noted that some changes had been made to the programme to reflect NHS feedback and the changes to the economic climate.
- 2.4 Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool – Members of the Forum were particularly concerned to hear about the issue of Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool after the publication of Health Profiles that indicated life expectancies for women in Hartlepool are the lowest in the country, with subsequent national attention on this issue through coverage on the Radio 4 programme 'Woman's Hour'.
- 2.5 At their meeting of 6 October 2009, the Forum received a presentation from local NHS providers on issues that were affecting women's life expectancy in

- Hartlepool. In concluding the presentation, Members agreed to be maintain a watching brief in relation to Health Inequalities with particular reference to those specific areas relating to Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool
- 2.6 Dust Deposits on the Headland – Members of the Forum met on 27 October 2009 at the Borough Hall on the Headland to consider the health implications of dust deposits on the Headland.
- 2.7 After concerns had been raised with the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum, Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 9 October 2009 were advised of the intention of this Forum to undertake an investigation into the health implications of dust deposits on the Headland.
- 2.8 On the agenda for today's meeting is the Forum's Final Report on the issue of Dust Deposits on the Headland and in forming their recommendations, Members have been extremely grateful to the evidence provided from officers of the Regeneration & Neighbourhoods Department and the Executive Director for Public Health, NHS Tees.
- 2.9 Park Road Health Centre – Members of the Forum undertook a site visit on 30 October 2009 to the new Walk in Health Centre that is being developed on Park Road. Although the project is not planned to open until May 2010, Members were impressed with the scale of the facility and the variety of services that will be on offer once the building is operational. Signposting will, however, be a key to the success of the development and Members have been reassured that the communication strategy in relation to Park Road Health Centre is a key facet to the development.
- 2.10 Alcohol Abuse – Prevention and Treatment - The Health Scrutiny Forum at its meeting on the 10 November 2009 commenced its evidence gathering into 'Alcohol Abuse – Prevention and Treatment'. During the meeting on 10 November 2009, The Forum received a very detailed and informative 'Setting the Scene' report, with thought provoking input from the Portfolio Holders for Children's Services and Adult & Public Health Services. Further evidence will be sought from agencies involved in prevention and treatment services, including Balance North East who ran the recent 'North East Big Drink Debate'.
- 2.11 The Forum is on track to complete this investigation by the 13 April 2010 so that its Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee by 23 April 2010, for submission to Cabinet on 10 May 2010, as planned.
- 2.12 Regional Health Scrutiny – The Forum met on 1 December 2009 and received an update in relation to developments between the 12 North East Local Authorities in relation to a Regional Approach to Health Scrutiny. After a successful bid for 10 days support from the CfPS's Expert Advisory Team (EAT) it is hoped that the EAT Advisor can provide guidance on developing the protocols for the formalisation of Regional Health Scrutiny, similar to the arrangements for the Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee. The

meeting of the Heads of Health Scrutiny is prior to the deadline for papers for today's meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, so a verbal update will be provided in relation to the EAT Advisor and a potential application for CfPS funding for a regional approach to Health Inequalities looking at the issues surrounding ex-servicemen and women.

- 2.13 Additional Health Scrutiny Forum Meeting - Following discussions with health representatives from the PCT, I can confirm that an additional meeting of the Health Scrutiny Forum will be held on 5 January 2010 at 3pm to receive presentations in relation to:-

- (i) Momentum Programme Update; and
- (ii) The Consultant Referral Process.

- 2.14 Forward Plan – The Health Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report no specific items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR JONATHAN BRASH
CHAIR OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
– PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 September 2009, the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-
- 2.2 Investigation into 'Climate Change and Carbon Management' – At the meeting of the Forum on 21 September 2009, the Forum started their investigation into 'Climate Change and Carbon Management'. Members received a 'setting the scene' presentation from the Council's Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department which provided an overview of the Climate Change agenda and what duty the Authority has to respond to; and an overview of the Carbon Management Programme along with the impact it has on the Council.
- 2.3 At the meeting of the Forum of the 21 September 2009, Members also received a second presentation from the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department on the Carbon Reduction Commitment.
- 2.4 The Forum continued its investigation into 'Climate Change and Carbon Management' at its meeting of 26 October 2009. At this meeting Members received verbal evidence from:-
- (a) The Energy Saving Trust;
 - (b) The Environmental Sustainability Coordinator from Middlesbrough Council on their achievement of Beacon Status; and

- (c) Officers from the Council's Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department on the reduction of use of energy from within the Council; progress to date on the initiatives that the Council is involved with; and the environmental impact of street lighting along with the benefits of new energy efficient technology.

The Forum received written evidence from:-

- (a) The Mayor as Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Housing;
- (b) The Chair of Hartlepool's Environment Partnership; and
- (c) The North East Improvement and Efficiency Partnership.

- 2.5 At the meeting of the Forum of the 26 October 2009, Members were invited to participate in a Climate Change Activity Session as part of the evidence gathering process for the Forum's investigation into 'Climate Change and Carbon Management'. The activity session was held in conjunction with 11 Million Day on 6th November 2009. Members and a class of year 5 pupils participated in the activities. The first activity was a play which looked at how water is wasted on a daily basis and how to be 'waterwise'. The second activity introduced the concept of food miles and their carbon implications and looked at the importance of buying locally sourced food. For the final activity the children were asked to make personal pledges to help with climate change.
- 2.6 The Forum at its meeting on the 01 February 2010 will complete its evidence gathering and it is intended that a Draft Final Report will be discussed at the meeting of the Forum on 01 March 2010.
- 2.7 'Car Parking on Estates' - At the meeting of the Forum on 23 November 2009, Members held a 'one-off' meeting to consider car parking on estates in Hartlepool. At the meeting Members considered resident parking schemes; tarmac of grass verges; funding streams; partnership working; flooding; enforcement and legislation; role of the police and local authority; footpath parking; and obstruction of dropped kerbs.
- 2.8 The Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Consultation Proposals for 2010/11: The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum on the 09 November 2009 considered the initial budget pressures and priorities for the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department relating to the provision of Neighbourhood Services and reported its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 27 November 2009. A formal response will be presented to Cabinet on the 14 December 2009.

- 2.9 Forward Plan – The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2009, no items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR STEPHEN AKERS - BELCHER
CHAIR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



**Report of: Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services
Scrutiny Forum**

**Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
SCRUTINY FORUM - PROGRESS REPORT**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum, since the last progress report to this Committee.

2. PROGRESS OF THE FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 September 2009, the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-
- 2.2 The Hartlepool Transport Interchange: On the agenda for today's meeting is the Forum's Final Report into the Hartlepool Transport Interchange that was approved by the Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum, at their meeting of 5 November 2009.
- 2.3 In forming their recommendations, Members have consulted widely and have taken on board the views of all the transport operators in the town through a questionnaire and invitation to a meeting of the Forum on 24 September 2009, as well as undertaking a site visit to the Hartlepool Transport Interchange development on 8 September 2009.
- 2.4 Pending approval from this Committee, the Forum is intending to present the Final Report to Cabinet at their meeting of 11 January 2010.
- 2.5 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department: Budget and Policy Framework 2010/11: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on the 5 November 2009 considered initial budget proposals for the Regeneration and Planning areas of provision within the Regeneration and Neighbourhood Services Department. The Forum's views on these initial

proposals were reported back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 27 November 2009 and will subsequently be noted by Cabinet on the 14 December 2009.

- 2.6 On the 21 January 2010 the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum will consider the finalised budget proposals for the Regeneration and Planning areas of provision within the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Services Department. Views expressed by the Forum will then be reported back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 15 January 2010 with an overall Scrutiny view on the finalised budget proposals to be presented to Cabinet on 9 February 2010.
- 2.7 Hartlepool's Business Incubation System: The Forum received the topic of Hartlepool's Business Incubation System at its meeting of 5 November 2009 and approved the Aim, Terms of Reference and Timetable for its investigation.
- 2.8 The Forum is intending to hold its February meeting at the Hartlepool Enterprise Centre in Brougham Terrace and its March meeting at the Hartlepool Innovation Centre in Queens Meadow Business Park, gathering evidence from a range of sources including local businesses who have been in contact with the Business Incubation System in Hartlepool.
- 2.9 The Forum is on track to complete this investigation by the 1 April 2010 so that its Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee by 23 April 2010, for submission to Cabinet on 10 May 2010, as planned.
- 2.10 Forward Plan: – The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2009, no specific items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR TREVOR ROGAN
CHAIR OF REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Subject: SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE –
PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date of this Committee, since my last progress report to this Committee on 18 September 2009.

2. PROGRESS ON THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

- 2.1 I am pleased inform Members that substantial efforts are continuing to be made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to ensure that their work programmes for 2009/10 are delivered to the prescribed timescales. In addition to this, over the coming months this Committee along with the four standing Scrutiny Forums (with the exception to the Health Scrutiny Forum) will also be heavily involved in the budget consultation process for 2010/11 and appropriate arrangements have been made to accommodate this in all Work Programmes.

3. GENERAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ISSUES

- 3.1 Final Reports Recently Considered / Awaiting Consideration – At the time of writing this report I can confirm that the following Final Report are awaiting consideration by the Authority's Cabinet:-

(a) Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum - Hartlepool Transport Interchange – Final Report (Cabinet - 11 January 2009).

- 3.2 Informal Meetings of the Scrutiny Chairs – I am pleased to report that an informal meeting with the Scrutiny Chairs will be held on 13 November 2009. To ensure openness and transparency is maintained, I am pleased to inform Members that the following issues are to be discussed during the meeting:-

1) Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2009/10:

- (i) Progress To Date; and
 - (ii) Funding Requests.
- 2) Process for Scrutiny involvement in consideration of the 2010 Departmental and Corporate Plans
- 3) 11 Million Day Feedback – 6 November 2009
- 4) Young Peoples Involvement in this years Scrutiny Investigations – Feedback from Secondary School Council Forum (20th October 2009)
- 3.3 The next informal meeting of the Scrutiny Chairs is to be held on 15 January 2010 and I will advise this Committee of any matters of interest via my next progress report.
- 3.4 Joint Cabinet and Scrutiny Meeting – I can confirm that the next joint meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 16 December 2009 commencing at 4.30 pm to 5.30pm in Committee Room B, of the Civic Centre. Should Members have any items that they wish to be included on the agenda, please inform the Scrutiny Manager by Monday, 7 December 2009.
- 3.5 Member Attendances – Working Group – The inaugural meeting of the Working Group established by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to look at arrangements for the recording and reporting of Members allowances was held on the 11 September 2009. A further meeting on the Working Group was held on the 27 November 2009 and at this meeting the decision was taken to undertake a pilot / trial of a 'proforma' form (electronic and paper versions available) to enable Members to record their attendances at none formally constituted meetings. This pilot is to run until the end of January 2010 with its results in terms of the viability of the 'proforma' for Members and the operational implications of the collation of the resulting information to be utilised in the formulation of the Working Group's report back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. Members will have already received written notification of this pilot / trial and are encouraged to participate.
- 3.6 Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 9 October 2009, participated in the consultation process being undertaken as part of the ongoing Neighbourhood Consultative Forum Review. The views of the Committee are to be included in the report to be considered by Cabinet on the 25 January 2010 and Council on the 11 February 2010.
- 3.7 Civic Suite Microphone System – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 16 October 2009, gave detailed consideration to issues / problems experienced in relation to the Civic Centre microphone system. In accordance with the wishes of Members a further meeting of the Committee held on the 13 November 2009 was utilised to test the system, with a further report to be presented to the Committee on the outcome of the investigation. A report

outlining the conclusions of the investigation will now be presented to the Committee on the 15 January 2009.

- 3.8 Workforce Issues Working Group – Following the success of the Working Group constituted from representatives of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Group (that looked at the development of the People Strategy and the Single Status Agreement), the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 16 October 2009, considered a report outlining other possible workforce issues that could be considered through a similar route. On the basis of this report, the Committee approved the creation of the 'Work Force Working Group' and agreed that the group would meet to consider / refine its remit / work programme and report back to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.
- 3.9 Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 13 November 2009 received a presentation on the implementation of the above regulations in Hartlepool. Following this meeting consultations are in the process of being undertaken with the appropriate responsible authorities who comprise a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and a further report will then be presented to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.
- 3.10 Child Poverty / Financial Inclusion Investigation – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 13 November 2009 commenced its Child Poverty / Financial Inclusion investigation with a detailed 'setting the scene' report. Further evidence is to be provided over the coming months with the Committee on track for completion of its investigation by April 2010.
- 3.11 Forward Plan: – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Committee's last progress report, in September 2009, no specific items have been identified.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the content of this report.

**COUNCILLOR MARJORIE JAMES
CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

11 December 2009



Report of: Assistant Chief Executive

Subject: SERVICE PLANNING UPDATE FOR 2010/11:
PROPOSED OUTCOMES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to consider the proposed outcomes to be used as the framework for developing department plans and the Corporate Plan for 2010/11.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The department plans and Corporate Plan are for the 3 years 2008/09 to 2010/11. This coincides with the Local Area Agreement and the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review and allocation of funding to local government which is reflected in the Council's own Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 2.2 The Corporate Plan is the Council's top-level plan. It sets out the Council's top priorities and contributions for delivering the Community Strategy aims in 2010/11. Progress is reported regularly to Cabinet and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee throughout the year. The Corporate Plan is an important document because it formally communicates the council's vision and priorities.
- 2.3 As in previous years, the focus of the Corporate Plan for 2010/11 is on the top priority activities for improvement rather than day to day service delivery. Additional improvement and service delivery priorities are picked up through Departmental plans which are reported to individual portfolio holders.
- 2.4 Although the Service Planning Framework has been amended slightly this year, proposals will still be considered by each of the Scrutiny Forums in March 2010 and this Committee will be involved throughout the production of the Corporate Plan. Further details on the changes made to the Framework can be found below.

3 THE SERVICE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 The Service Planning Framework has been amended slightly in order to: -
- Simplify arrangements
 - Provide a clearer framework for service planning
 - Further integrate arrangements for service planning for the Council and the Hartlepool Partnership
- 3.2 The four key elements of the framework and plans will remain unchanged – outcomes, actions, PIs and risks. The Council's service planning framework is based on having a clear set of outcomes that the Council is working towards achieving.
- 3.3 Service Planning for the last 2 years has been based on a common set of outcomes shared by the Council in the department and Corporate Plans and by the Hartlepool Partnership in its Local Area Agreement (LAA). The department and Corporate Plans have included a small number of additional outcomes that do not form part of the LAA. These have been reviewed as part of the 2010/11 Service Planning process and can be seen at **Appendix A**.
- 3.4 At this stage only the proposed outcomes have been developed, which will form the framework from which the Corporate Plan and all Departmental Plans will be derived. Once these outcomes have been agreed further work will be undertaken to develop the actions that will underpin the Outcomes, and which will ultimately appear in the Service Planning documents. These actions will be brought back to this committee for discussion in March.
- 3.5 2010/11 is the final year of the existing three year LAA. Service planning for future years will include a more thorough review of the existing outcome framework, enabling further alignment with proposals for a new LAA.
- 3.6 As in previous years scrutiny and executive Members will have a number of opportunities to discuss proposals throughout the planning process and ultimately will be asked to agree the Corporate Plan and all Departmental Plans later in 2010.

4 PROPOSED OUTCOMES 2010/11

- 4.1 Council Officers from across all Departments have identified the Outcomes that will form the basis for the Service Planning Process in 2010/11. The list of proposed Outcomes is attached at **Appendix A**. The majority of outcomes are shared with the Local Area Agreement and will be reviewed next year upon completion of the current 3-year LAA period. There are a small number of additional outcomes that are proposed to complete the Outcome Framework for 2010/11.

- 4.2 The proposed list is not a final definitive list. Officers will continue to review the outcomes over the coming months and will propose amendments, if appropriate and if changing priorities demand it. Any proposed changes to the list of outcomes will be brought to Cabinet and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for consideration. In addition to this the next stage of the process is to identify those key actions, performance indicators and risks that underpin the outcomes. These will be reported to all Scrutiny Forums, and Coordinating Committee, in March 2010.

5 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The key dates for completing the plan are as follows: -
- 5.2 The Scrutiny Forums and Coordinating Committee will be asked to consider a more detailed Outcome Framework in March 2010, including key actions, performance indicators and risks that underpin each Outcome.
- 5.3 Cabinet and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee will then be asked to consider proposed Corporate Plan in July 2010.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee is asked to consider and comment on the proposed Corporate Plan outcomes for 2010/11 as attached at **Appendix A**.

Contact Officers:- Andrew Atkin – Assistant Chief Executive
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
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1.1 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

9.4 APPENDIX A

Service Planning 2010/11 – Proposed Outcomes

Jobs and the Economy

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Attract Investment	Israr Hussain	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Be globally competitive	Mick Emerson	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Create more employment opportunities for local people	Patrick Wilson	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Achieve economic wellbeing for all children and young people ensuring that they are prepared for working life (Every Child Matters)	Tom Argument	Child and Adults
No	Promote Hartlepool's interests in economic regeneration policy making at the national, regional and sub-regional levels	Derek Gouldburn	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
No	Support and promote appropriate physical and economic regeneration and pursue external funding opportunities	Andy Golightly	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Lifelong Learning and Skills

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Enjoy and Achieve (Every Child Matters)	Caroline O'Neill	Child and Adults
Yes	Provision of high quality learning and skills opportunities that drive economic competitiveness, widen participation and build social justice	Diane Martin	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
No	Transform teaching and learning opportunities, supported by £100m+ investment from Building Schools for the Future and Primary Capital Programme	Caroline O'Neill	Child and Adults

Health and Wellbeing

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Improved Health	Louise Wallace	Child and Adults
Yes	Be Healthy (Every Child Matters)	Louise Wallace	Child and Adults
Yes	Exercise of choice and control and retention of personal dignity	Jill Harrison	Child and Adults
Yes	Improved Mental Health and Wellbeing	Beverley Thompson	Child and Adults

Yes	Easier Access to Services	Jill Harrison	Child and Adults
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Community Safety

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Reduced Crime	Brian Neale	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Reduced harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol	Chris Hart	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Improved neighbourhood safety and increased public confidence, leading to reduced fear of crime and anti-social behaviour	Sally Forth	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Reducing offending and re-offending	Chris Catchpole	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Stay Safe (Every Child Matters)	Sally Robinson	Child and Adults

Environment

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Deliver sustainable communities through high quality planning, new build and sensitive conservation and protect and enhance the local natural environment	Sarah Scarr	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Improve the quality of the local environment by having cleaner, greener and safer public, private and community spaces	Albert Cope	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Provide a sustainable safe, efficient, effective and accessible transport system	Mike Blair	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Make better use of natural resources and reduce the generation of waste and maximising recycling	Colin Ogden	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Prepare for the impacts of and secure local and global action to tackle climate change	Sylvia Tempest	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Promote community involvement in positive action to reduce poverty through fair trade and promoting peace and security	Sylvia Tempest	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Housing

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Balancing Housing supply and demand	Nigel Johnson	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Improving the quality of existing housing	John Smalley	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Changing housing needs and meeting the Housing Needs of Vulnerable People	Nigel Johnson	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

No	Better Access to Housing	Lynda Igoe	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
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Culture and Leisure

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Enrich individual lives, strengthen communities and improve places where people live through enjoyment of leisure, culture and sport	John Mennear	Child and Adults
Yes	Cultural and leisure services, better meet the needs of the community, especially those from disadvantaged areas	John Mennear	Child and Adults

Strengthening Communities

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
Yes	Empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services	Karen Oliver	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Yes	Make a positive contribution (Every Child Matters)	John Robinson	Child and Adults
Yes	Improving quality of life and ensuring service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs with particular focus on disadvantaged areas	Catherine Frank	Corporate Strategy
Yes	Improving Financial Inclusion	John Morton	Finance
Yes	Freedom from discrimination and harassment	Wally Stagg	Human Resources
No	Ensure communities are well prepared to respond to emergency situations	Denis Hampson	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Organisational Development

LAA	Proposed Outcome	Lead Officer	Lead Department/Division
No	Improve Performance Management, Data Quality and Risk Management Arrangements	Andrew Atkin	Corporate Strategy
No	Deliver effective customer focussed services and improve customer satisfaction	Joanne Machers	Human Resources
No	Provide a high quality Consultation and Information Service	Andrew Atkin	Corporate Strategy
No	Raise the profile and enhance the reputation of the Council	Andrew Atkin	Corporate Strategy
No	Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation	Andrew Atkin / Chris Little	Corporate Strategy / Finance

No	Continue to support, develop and improve efficiency of the Council's Democratic function	Andrew Atkin	Corporate Strategy
No	Ensure robust governance arrangements for core business and key partnerships	Peter Devlin/Chris Little	Legal Services / Finance
No	Delivery of effective legal services	Peter Devlin	Legal Services
No	Improve Elected Member and Workforce arrangements	Joanne Machers	Human Resources
No	Improve financial management and reporting	Chris Little	Finance
No	Reduce the risk and incidences of Fraud	Chris Little	Finance