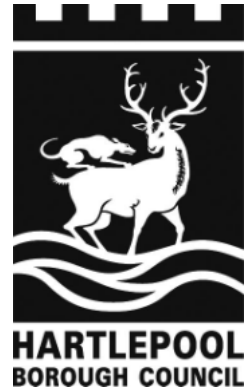


# **REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO**

## **DECISION SCHEDULE**



**Friday, 30 April 2010**

**at 3.00 pm**

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

Councillor P Hargreaves, Cabinet member responsible for Regeneration and Economic Development will consider the following items.

**1. KEY DECISIONS**

No items

**2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

2.1 Empty Shops Fund – *Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhoods*

**3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

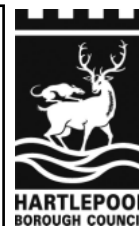
3.1 Tees Valley: Plugged In Places Initiative - *Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering Services)*

**4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

No items

## **REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder  
30 April 2010



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** Empty Shops Fund

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To request the portfolio holder's approval on the use of Empty Shops Fund resources.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report provides an update on the development of projects relating to a funding allocation aimed at mitigating the impact of empty shops within the town centre..

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The regeneration of the central area and use of regeneration resources lies within the remit of the Regeneration and Economic Development Portfolio.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-Key

#### **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Regeneration and Economic Development Portfolio meeting on 30 April, 2010.

**6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

Portfolio holder is requested to approve the use of Empty Shops Fund resources on the basis set out in paragraphs 3.2 – 3.4 of this report.

**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** EMPTY SHOPS FUND

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To request the portfolio holder's approval on the use of Empty Shops Fund resources.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Hartlepool was awarded £52,631 unringfenced revenue grant which can be used at the discretion of the Council to help mitigate the impact of empty shops within the Town Centre.
- 2.2 To date the following schemes have been funded:
- a) Expansion of Indoor Market Initiative – £35,000 of the funding was utilised to bring added value to the Indoor Market Initiative.
  - b) Multi-Use Drop-in Unit – £10,000 was provided as part funding towards the "Ship in a Shop" initiative
- 2.3 At the portfolio meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010, it was agreed that officers would undertake some research into the benefits other areas have received from offering funding to improve the appearance of shop fronts. This work is ongoing, and alternative sources of funding are being considered.

**3. OUTDOOR MARKET**

- 3.1 In the meantime work to continue the Markets Initiative by relocating the outdoor market is coming to fruition, with a launch date of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010. This project forms part of the "Buy Local" Initiative.
- 3.2 In order to ensure maximum benefit for the relocation a scheme is being developed to provide banners which will direct people to both the indoor and outdoor market, as well as providing sheeting for the stalls on the outdoor market to ensure that every stall has a consistent appearance.
- 3.3 Proposals for improvements to the wall which will form the backdrop to the relocated outdoor market are also under consideration.

- 3.4 In total these proposals are anticipated to cost a maximum of £11,000 and the Portfolio Holder is requested to approve a contribution of £7,361 from the Empty Shops funding, which equates to the remainder of the funding provided.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISK**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Council. The funding is in the form of a grant which is unringfenced, revenue grant to be used as considered appropriate by the Council.
- 4.2 There is limited risk to the Council in relation to financial management as the grant is flexible in terms of what it can be used towards and there are no restrictions on timescale for spend.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 Portfolio holder is requested to approve the use of Empty Shops Fund resources on the basis set out in paragraphs 3.2 – 3.4 of this report.

**6. CONTACT OFFICER**

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## **REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder

30 April 2010



**Report of:** Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering Services)

**Subject:** TEES VALLEY: PLUGGED IN PLACES INITIATIVE

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise Portfolio Holder of the developments relating to the Plugged in Places Initiative following a successful funding application made through the Regional Development Agency One North East and the Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

This report outlines the progress following an announcement and subsequent press release of the initiative.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Regeneration and Economic Development.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non key.

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

This is for information only.

#### **6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

For information only.

**Report of:** Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering Services)

**Subject:** Tees Valley: Plugged In Places Initiative

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Portfolio Holder of the developments relating to the Plugged in Places Initiative following a successful funding application made through the Regional Development Agency One North East and the Office for Low Emission Vehicles.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A fund to roll-out electric vehicle charging points across the country was initially announced by Regional Development Agency One North East and the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV). As a consequence, a total of 1,300 charging points will now be installed across the region over the next three years on streets, in car parks, at residential and commercial locations and at retail and leisure facilities, after OLEV confirmed funding of £2,978,000 for the regional project through its Plugged in Places programme.
- 2.2 This is a considerable achievement as only three locations have been funded. Our bid (North East) was singled out by the assessors as being the strongest of all submissions and we received particular praise for the support and commitment demonstrated by the region as a whole.
- 2.3 Plugged in Places will provide significant funds to establish electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the region. This will enable us to install charging points and to fund research and development into innovative charging technologies such as rapid and inductive charging. The North East is set to become the UK's first 'wired' region and will be home to one of the first and largest networks of charging points in Europe. This is the culmination of almost 18 months of work and confirms the region's leading role in the development of electric vehicles and supporting infrastructure. It will also hopefully enable us to capitalise on this emerging industry, creating new jobs and opportunities for regional businesses.

### **3. PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 The Integrated Transport Unit is working with regional partners in order to plan and install the initiative across the Tees Valley. In addition we are considering further opportunities to procure additional electric vehicles to be used as part of the Councils Vehicle Replacement Programme.

### **4. RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That the Portfolio Holder agrees the detail of the initiative and will receive a further report with detail on progress in September 2010.

### **5. CONTACT OFFICER**

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Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department

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