

# **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA**



**Thursday, 8 July 2010**

**at 3.00 pm**

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

**MEMBERS: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:**

Councillors Barclay, Cranney, Cook, Gibbon, Griffin, A Lilley, London, Rogan and Wells

Resident Representatives:

Ted Jackson and Angie Wilcox

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
  - 3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2010.
- 4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM**
  - 4.1 Portfolio Holders Response – Hartlepool's Business Incubation System - *Joint Report of Director for Regeneration & Planning and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development*

**5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No items

**6. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS**

6.1 Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2010-11 – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

7.1 The Role of The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum –  
*Scrutiny Support Officer*

7.2 Determining The Scrutiny Forum's Work Programme For 2010/11 – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

**8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN**

**9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, 12 August 2010, at 3.00 pm in  
Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

# **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

## **MINUTES**

**1 April 2010**

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Councillor Trevor Rogan (In the Chair)

Councillors: Kevin Cranney, Steve Gibbon, Alison Lilley and  
Frances London

Resident Representatives: Ted Jackson, John Lynch and Iris Ryder

Officers: Mick Emerson, Principal Economic Development Officer  
(Business)  
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **79. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Rob Cook and Edna Wright.

### **80. Declarations of interest by Members**

Councillor Cranney declared a personal interest in Minute 85.

### **81. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2010**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2010, a copy of which were tabled at the meeting, were confirmed.

### **82. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of this Forum**

None.

**83. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee**

None.

**84. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents**

None.

**85. Draft Final Report – Scrutiny Investigation into Hartlepool's Business Incubation System** *(Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum)*

The Chair referred Members to the draft final report following the Forum's investigation into Hartlepool's Business Incubation System.

The report included terms of reference and methods of investigation. A brief summary of the methods of investigation were detailed below and the evidence provided was set out in the report:-

- (a) Detailed officer presentation and reports supplemented by verbal evidence;
- (b) Holding Forum meetings at the Hartlepool Enterprise and Innovation Centres, two sites key to the Hartlepool Business Incubation System; and
- (c) Verbal evidence from local businesses and support agencies

Details of the key findings were set out in the report in terms of the business incubation system strategy, views of local businesses, the work of support agencies involved in the business incubation system, comparison of Hartlepool's business economy to national and local business statistics and future development plans for business incubation in Hartlepool.

The Forum had gathered evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Forum's key recommendations to Cabinet were as outlined below:-

- (a) That due to long-term sustainability problems of NRF funding and the increasing pressure placed on the Council budget, that the Department seeks innovative ways of attracting sustainable income to support and develop the Business Incubation System in Hartlepool.
- (b) That where empty properties exist in the town, investment is sought to convert them into areas appropriate for
  - (i) business incubation; and

- (ii) move-on accommodation
- (c) That local schools are encouraged to embrace incubator business opportunities through:-
  - (i) Invitation to businesses to link with local schools providing students with an insight into entrepreneurial activities; and
  - (ii) Investigating the role of local businesses representatives as e-mentors.
- (d) That a feasibility study be undertaken into promoting the support available through Hartlepool's Business Incubation System via exhibitions/stands in vacant shops.

The Forum discussed the conclusions and recommendations during which the following comments were raised:-

With regard to recommendation 13.1 (a), a Member suggested that this recommendation be amended to address the long term sustainability problems of the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) and to ensure that the gaps in financial provision were reviewed with a view to prioritising grant support aid for local businesses.

In relation to recommendation 13.1 (b), it was suggested that the feasibility of utilising Section 106 Agreements for the development of appropriate facilities be investigated and this be included in the recommendation.

The Forum discussed the statistical comparisons of Hartlepool's Business Economy to national and local business statistics and were pleased to note the solid growth of businesses in Hartlepool and that the town in recent years had out performed both Tees Valley and the North East. The invaluable and proactive approach of the Council's Economic Development Team in assisting businesses with start-up and the development of sustainable local businesses was also recognised.

### **Recommendation**

That the draft final report be agreed subject to the amendments to recommendations 13.1 (a) and (b), as outlined above, the wording of which to be agreed by the Chair.

## **86. Issues Identified from Forward Plan**

In response to concerns in relation to funding issues and the arrangements in place to address the funding deficit when the Working Neighbourhood Fund expired in 2011, the Principal Economic Development Officer advised that whilst the Economic Development team had a successful track record in securing external funding and the aim was this would continue, funding difficulties remained a concern and the reduction in public sector funding

would continue to have a potential adverse impact on the delivery of services.

## **87. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was reported that this was the last meeting of the current municipal year and the date of the next meeting was to be determined.

The Forum expressed their thanks to the Scrutiny Support Officer and Principal Democratic Services Officer for their support to the Forum during this municipal year.

The meeting concluded at 3.38 pm

CHAIRMAN

## **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

**8 July 2010**



**Report of:** Joint Report of Director for Regeneration & Planning  
and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic  
Development

**Subject:** PORTFOLIO HOLDERS RESPONSE –  
HARTLEPOOL'S BUSINESS INCUBATION SYSTEM

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

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum with feedback on the recommendations from the investigation into 'Hartlepool's Business Incubation System', which was reported to Cabinet on 7 June 2010.

### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The investigation into 'Hartlepool's Business Incubation System' conducted by this Forum falls under the remit of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department and is, under the Executive Delegation Scheme, within the service area covered by the Regeneration and Economic Development Portfolio Holder.
- 2.2 On 7 June 2010, Cabinet considered the Final Report of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum into 'Hartlepool's Incubation System'. This report provides feedback from the Portfolio Holder following Cabinet's consideration of, and decisions in relation to this Forum's recommendations.
- 2.3 Following on from this report, progress towards completion of the actions contained within the Action Plan will be monitored through the Covalent; the Council's Performance Management Database; with standardised six monthly monitoring reports to be presented to the Forum.

### 3. SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXECUTIVE DECISION

- 3.1 Following consideration of the Final Report, Cabinet suggested one addition to the Forum's recommendations. It is suggested that recommendation (e) be included:-

*"That the provision of short term loan finance from the local authority to further support local businesses be explored."*

- 3.2 Details of each recommendation and proposed actions to be taken following approval by Cabinet are provided in the Action Plan attached at **Appendix A**.

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Members note the proposed actions detailed within the Action Plan, appended to this report (**Appendix A**) and seek clarification on its content where felt appropriate.

**Contact Officer:-** Antony Steinberg – Economic Development Manager  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
Telephone Number: 01429 523503  
E-mail – antony.steinberg@hartlepool.gov.uk

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum's Final Report 'Hartlepool Business Incubation System' considered by Cabinet on 7 June 2010; and
- (ii) Decision Record of Cabinet held on 7 June 2010.



**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN****NAME OF FORUM:** Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Hartlepool's Business Incubation System**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** June 2010

	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>DELIVERY TIMESCALE</b>
(a)	<p>That due to long-term sustainability problems of the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) and the increasing pressure placed on the Council budget, that the Department:-</p> <p>(i) Reviews where gaps are in financial provision with the aim of prioritising grant support aid; and</p> <p>(ii) Seeks innovative ways of attracting sustainable income to support and develop the Business Incubation System in Hartlepool.</p>	<p>A review will be undertaken to take into account the existing grant provision across the region and emerging assistance through the Tees Valley Industrial Programme. Through the Tees Valley Finance for Business Group, issues about gaps in provision will be discussed and also opportunities for Hartlepool Businesses to integrate with Regional Funders will be developed.</p> <p>As a service, opportunities to develop the property portfolio will be sought which has the potential in the medium term to provide income which could be utilised to support Hartlepool's Incubation system</p>	<p>Minimal in terms of the review of financial assistance, which will be carried out in-house</p> <p>To be determined in terms of the property development</p>	<p>Mick Emerson</p> <p>Antony Steinberg</p>	<p>Review of financial assistance and creation of opportunities for integration with regional funders by 31/12/2010</p> <p>Development of the property portfolio is ongoing, but will not be in the short term due to the need to ensure the successful launch of the UK Steel Enterprise development at Queens Meadow. Likely delivery date 31/03/2013.</p>

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN****NAME OF FORUM:** Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Hartlepool's Business Incubation System**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** June 2010

	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>DELIVERY TIMESCALE</b>
(b)	<p>That in order to provide more premises for business incubation and move-on accommodation that:-</p> <p>(i) Where empty properties exist in the Town, investment is sought to convert them into appropriate facilities; and</p>	<p>SCRAPT monies have been allocated to this financial year to assist in the improvement of key vacant buildings. Agreement has been made that this funding will include the potential to offer improved rental terms to businesses introduced through the Incubation System</p> <p>Single Programme funding has been secured for the purchase and demolition of the Crown Buildings in Surtees Street with the potential of a new build centre in the future (subject to funding) which would effectively form the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage in terms of development for the Incubation Strategy.</p>	<p>No additional funding required as finance in place.</p> <p>No additional funding required as finance in place.</p>	<p>Mick Emerson</p> <p>Antony Steinberg</p>	<p>31/03/2011</p> <p>31/3/2011 for acquiring and demolition. In terms of new development see comment above in respect of the need to ensure the success of the new development at Queens Meadow before adding more incubation-type space to the market</p>

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN****NAME OF FORUM:** Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Hartlepool's Business Incubation System**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** June 2010

RECOMMENDATION	EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	LEAD OFFICER	DELIVERY TIMESCALE
	(ii) The feasibility of utilising Section 106 Agreements for the development of appropriate facilities is investigated.	s106 are already being utilised where appropriate and could be considered within the Incubation System – although this needs to be considered in line with other strategic objectives which the Council seeks to address through the use of these agreements (worklessness, environmental improvements, security issues)	N/A	Antony Steinberg  31/3/2011
(c)	That local schools are encouraged to embrace incubator business opportunities through:-  (i) Invitation to businesses to link with local schools providing students with an insight into entrepreneurial activities; and  (ii) Investigating the role of local business representatives as e-mentors.	The Tall Ships visit remains a conduit for the development of Enterprise within schools. In particular businesses will be requested to offer time into schools to look at more entrepreneurial activity.  As a means of maintaining momentum, consideration of if a system of e-mentoring could be successful with the aim of piloting activity within one of the schools.	No additional funding required as finance in place.  To be determined – likely to be minimal with much of the work being “in-kind” support	Mick Emerson  By 30/11/2010 to include evaluation of the project  By 31/3/2011

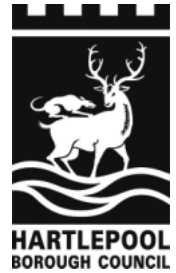
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ENQUIRY ACTION PLAN****NAME OF FORUM:** Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum**NAME OF SCRUTINY ENQUIRY:** Hartlepool's Business Incubation System**DECISION MAKING DATE OF FINAL REPORT:** June 2010

	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE RESPONSE / PROPOSED ACTION</b>	<b>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	<b>DELIVERY TIMESCALE</b>
(d)	That a feasibility study be undertaken into promoting the support available through Hartlepool's Business Incubation System via exhibitions / stands in vacant shops.	To ascertain the benefit of additional promotion, marketing materials will be included as part of the Indoor Market and the effectiveness of this will be monitored	No cost	Mick Emerson	By 30/9/2010
(e)	That the provision of short term loan finance from the local authority to further support local businesses be explored.	Undertake research and identify best practice based on successful existing models.	No cost	Mick Emerson	By 31/12/10

# **REGENERATION & PLANNING SERVICES**

## **SCRUTINY FORUM**

**8 JULY 2010**



**Report of:** Director of Child and Adult Services

**Subject:** YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-11

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### **1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1** To set out proposals for the development of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2010-11

### **2. Background**

- 2.1** The Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework includes a range of elements that work together to improve practice and performance. As part of the framework Youth Offending Services are required to submit a Youth Justice Strategic Plan.
- 2.2** Unlike previous youth justice planning arrangements there are no Youth Justice Board prescribed templates or timeframes. It will enable youth justice strategic planning to be more closely aligned to other key local strategic plans such as the Local Children and Young People Plan and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.
- 2.3** The Youth Offending Service partnership can develop the structure and content of their Youth Justice Plan however, the plan should address four key areas
- Resourcing and value for money
  - Structure and Governance
  - Partnership Arrangements
  - Risks to future delivery
- 2.4** The Youth Justice Strategic Plan will also detail the Youth Offending Services priorities for 2010-11, the Action Plan to address the issues from the Core Case Inspection and subsequent work with the Youth Justice Board Performance Improvement Team.

- 2.5** The Draft Strategic Plan (attached as **appendix 1**) has been developed for consultation with users of the service partners and for consideration by Scrutiny Forum. This was agreed by Cabinet on the 28 June 2010.
- 2.6** The final draft Plan will be considered by Cabinet on the 19 July 2010 and full council on the 5 August 2010

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1** It is recommended that the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum:
- a) consider the contents of this report and the Draft Strategic Youth Justice Strategic Plan.
  - b) formulates any comments and observations on this Budget and Policy Framework item to be fed back to Cabinet.

Contact officer:

Danny Dunleavy, Youth Offending Service Manager

APPENDIX 1



# HARTLEPOOL YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

DRAFT

STRATEGIC PLAN

2010 - 11

APPENDIX 1

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## APPENDIX 1

**Needs Analysis**

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service is located in the North East region of England, with an estimated population of 91,865 of which 10,120 or 11% are aged 10 – 17 years. The 10 – 17 population is predominantly white British 92.5%, with people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds making up 2.5% of the population.

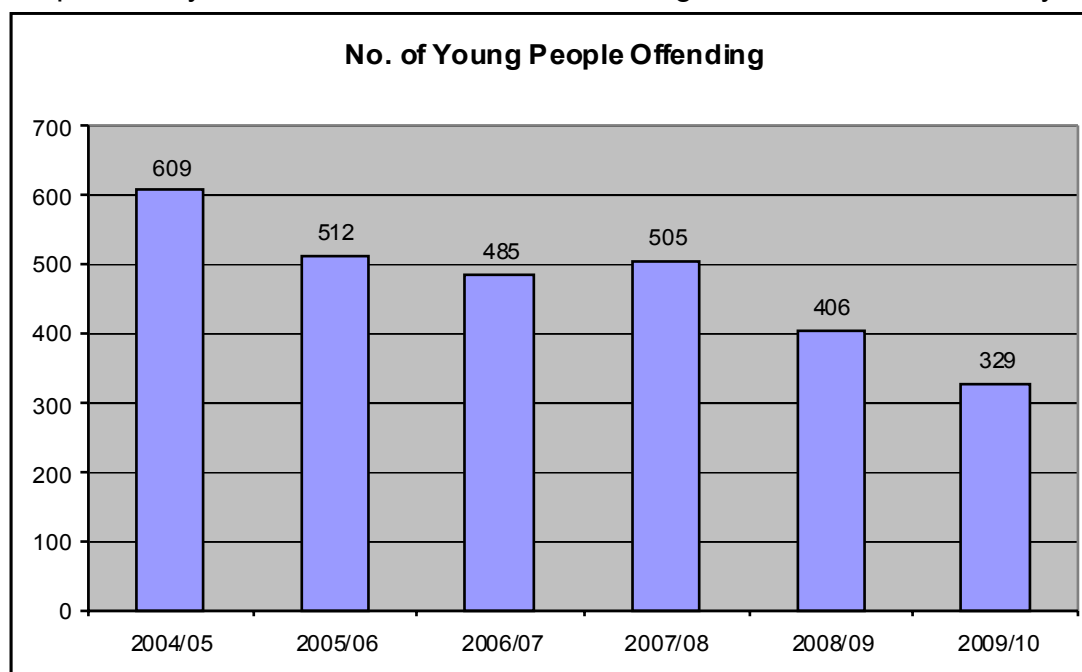
Of the 35 Local Authorities Hartlepool is ranked the 23<sup>rd</sup> most deprived (2007). Hartlepool has 17 wards, seven of which fall into the top 10% of the most deprived wards in Britain. Five wards fall into the top 3% and one ward is in the top 1% most deprived.

The unemployment level in Hartlepool is 6.8% which is above the average for the Tees Valley at 6.1%, North East 5.0% and Nationally 3.9%.

Organisational structures are in place to support partnership working across the Tees Valley (Darlington, Hartlepool, Stockton and South Tees Youth Offending Services). Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) is currently delivered by the Tees Valley ISS consortium with case workers dedicated to Hartlepool Youth Offending Service; however it is likely that the consortium will be disaggregated during the coming year.

**Youth Crime**

In 2009/10 Hartlepool Youth Offending Service dealt with 329 young people (3.3% of 10 – 17 population) who committed 632 offences. This represents a 19% reduction in offenders and 9.6% reduction in offences when compared to the previous year. This is a continuation of the general trend over recent years.



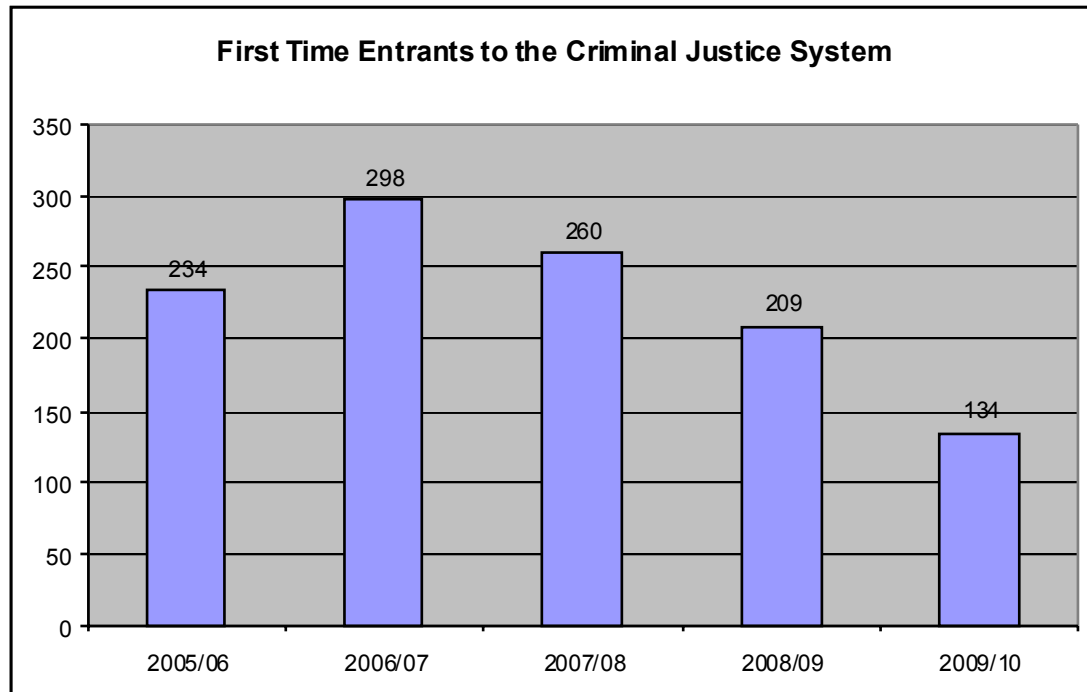
## APPENDIX 1

**Types and Number of Offences Committed by Young People**

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
<b>Violence Against Person</b>	106	124	187	146	117	128
<b>Racially Aggravated Offences</b>	1	3	8	2	0	3
<b>Sexual Offence</b>	2	2	2	3	5	1
<b>Death or Injury by Reckless Driving</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Motoring Offences</b>	169	136	87	74	51	73
<b>Robbery</b>	8	3	4	0	6	4
<b>Domestic Burglary</b>	17	22	47	35	22	14
<b>Non-Domestic Burglary</b>	7	11	16	14	25	8
<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	28	35	24	30	12	21
<b>Theft and Handling</b>	167	142	215	245	200	140
<b>Fraud and Forgery</b>	2	5	13	2	1	5
<b>Arson</b>	0	4	9	8	6	1
<b>Criminal Damage</b>	90	90	140	121	109	103
<b>Drugs Offence</b>	18	16	13	9	23	22
<b>Public Order</b>	36	51	104	101	71	57
<b>Other</b>	23	14	19	18	9	11
<b>Breach of Conditional Discharge</b>	3	2	5	6	6	3
<b>Breach of Statutory Order</b>	21	8	45	33	28	38
<b>Breach of Bail</b>	9	14	14	11	8	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	707	682	952	858	699	632

## APPENDIX 1

Increased prevention work with strong linkages to the schools has resulted in the number of young people entering the Criminal Justice system for the first time decreasing by 35.9% in 2009/10 compared to the previous year, continues the downward trend achieved in recent years.



## APPENDIX 1

**Resourcing and Value for Money**

The Youth Offending Service budget for 2010/11 has remained relatively stable with contributions from partner agencies being similar to the previous year with inflation added. The Local Authority contribution has diminished slightly, but this is due to a change in the centralisation of IT. The budget is made up of grants from the Youth Justice Board and contributions from statutory partners (Health, Police, Probation and Children's Social Care). Hartlepool Borough Council is the major funding partner.

Youth Offending Service contributions 2010/11:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Contribution £</b>
Police	77,602
Probation	52,382
Health	62,776
Local Authority	627,047
Youth Justice Board	535,867
Other	57,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,413,374</b>

A significant risk to the financial position of the Youth Offending Service is the uncertainty associated with the grants currently received by the YOS, namely:

- Core funding
- IRS – Integrated Resettlement Service
- KYPE – Keeping Young People Engaged
- Prevention
- YCAP – Youth Criminal Action Plan

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service believes that it has sufficient resources and staff to deliver youth justice services in line with national standards.

The Youth Offending Service Management Board has supported workforce development with sufficient resources to ensure staff and volunteers have all the necessary support, training and advice to improve their skills and knowledge to deliver effective youth justice services.

Hartlepool has played an active role in the Regional YJB Workforce Development Group and successfully met the training targets set by the YJB. The group has made positive links with the Open University and provides relevant INSET training in which Hartlepool Youth Offending Service participates and makes a financial contribution.

## APPENDIX 1

**Structure and Governance**

The Youth Offending Service Management Board is chaired by the Assistant Director, Planning and Service Integration and has representatives from Child and Adult Services, Community Safety, Police, Probation, Health, Courts and Housing.

Responsibility for the management of the Hartlepool Youth Offending Service lies with the Child and Adult Services Department and there is a close working relationship with the Community Safety and Public Protection Division, particularly in terms of proving better outcomes for children and young people.

The leadership, composition and role of the Management Board are crucial as the Board is directly responsible for:

- Delivery of the principal aim of preventing offending and re-offending and accountability for performance against the youth justice national indicators
- Strategic and performance oversight
- Ensuring the effective delivery of youth justice services for children and young people
- Accountability and representation of youth justice issues
- Ensuring children and young people involved in the Criminal Justice System have access to universal and specialist services delivered by partners and other key agencies.

The Management Board meets on a quarterly basis and monitors the performance of the Youth Offending Service against the National Indicators, comparing data against family groups regionally and nationally.

Members of the board also participate in many other related boards and groups which helps ensure effective partnership working at a strategic level.

The YOS Manager is a member of a number of groups where strategies need to take into account young people who offend; Criminal Justice Intervention Managers, Anti-social Behaviour, Family Intervention Project, Parenting Strategy, Substance Misuse, Pupil Referral Unit Management Board, Social Inclusion Strategy Group, Infrastructure Group, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), Strategic Management Board, and Local Children's Safeguarding Board and the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board. The Youth Offending Service is represented at both the Children's Trust and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

**Membership of the Board**

Sue Johnson	-	Assistant Director, Planning and Service Integration Child and Adult Services
Alison Mawson	-	Assistant Director, Community Safety and Public Protection

## APPENDIX 1

Sally Robinson	-	Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services Child and Adult Services
Khalid Azam	-	Assistant Director, Children's Services PCT
June Fawcett	-	Senior Clinical Nurse – Children and Young People
Lucia Saiger	-	Director of Offender Services, Durham Tees Valley Trust
Jean Bell	-	Principal Legal Advisor Hartlepool Magistrates Court
Peter Knights	-	Inspector Neighbourhood Safety
Lynda Igoe	-	Principal Housing Advice Officer

**Structure**

The Youth Offending Service is currently structured into two main areas; prevention and statutory work.

The Prevention Team works with children and young people at risk of becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour and require support to prevent them entering the criminal justice system. The team also work with those young people who have come to the attention of the Police and have been the subject of a triage, reprimand or final warning intervention. Each worker within the team is attached to a designated secondary school as part of the Team Around the School.

The statutory work is undertaken with young people aged 10 – 17 who have entered the criminal justice system and are subject to a court order.

The team work closely with the Police, Courts and a range of agencies including social care, CAMHS, education, housing and the substance misuse team to deliver services to young people and their families to reduce the risk factors associated with their offending.

A working protocol is in place which sets out the working arrangements between Children's Social Care and the Youth Offending Service to ensure delivery of effective provision of services to young people which achieve positive outcomes.

The Youth Offending Service currently has a staff team of 41 people, which includes five seconded staff, six outsourced staff, six sessional workers and a student.

The Youth Offending Service has a team of 15 volunteers who sit as Referral Order Panel members.

All staff and volunteers are subject to enhanced CRB checks which are reviewed every three years.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service is committed to workforce development, understanding the need to develop and maintain a competent and skilled workforce able to deliver an effective and efficient Criminal Justice service.

## APPENDIX 1

**Partnership Arrangements**

Partnership working across the statutory and voluntary sector is well established and effective. Relevant partners second the appropriate level of staff and contribute funding to the Youth Offending Service pooled budget. Additional sources of income have been achieved through successful partnership bids to the Youth Justice Board and the Youth Crime Action Plan, which supports projects such as prevention, parenting, mentoring, reparation schemes, restorative justice and the Integrated Resettlement Service.

Intensive Supervision and Surveillance funding is obtained via the Tees Valley through the four Youth Offending Services (South Tees, Stockton, Darlington and Hartlepool) working together.

The Youth Offending Service is a key member of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, which is a crime prevention and community safety service, covering anti-social behaviour, prevention of offending and re-offending, drugs and alcohol.

Service level agreements and protocols are in place with partner agencies for referrals and delivery of services to young people and their families.

Working partnerships exist with Barnardo's to deliver parenting and mentoring programmes and the Children's Society to deliver restorative justice and victim services.

Prevention services have been developed by the multi-agency involvement in Team Around the School, with a significant decrease in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system.

A good working relationship with the local Police has facilitated the implementation of 'Triage' for young people in Police custody who would previously have received a conviction. The Triage intervention addresses the young persons offending and includes a restorative activity, if the young person successfully completes the Triage intervention there will be no further action from the Police and the young person who does not have a criminal record, which could affect their life chances.

The Youth Offending Service is represented within the Children's Trust Partnership and is a member of the appropriate sub-groups of the Trust.

The Positive Contribution element of the Children and Young People's Plan includes the work of the Youth Offending Service in preventing crime and anti-social behaviour.

## APPENDIX 1

**Risks to Future Delivery**

Major changes to legislation and ways of working have resulted from the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 (which introduced the Youth Rehabilitation Order) and the Youth Justice Board's Scaled Approach which were implemented at the end of November 2009. These changes enable the service to deliver more specific tailored interventions to those young people assessed as being the most likely to re-offend or to present a risk of serious harm to others. Minimum levels of contact are based upon the young persons assessed score using ASSET (assessment tool).

Prior to implementation of the Scaled Approach and the Youth Rehabilitation Order, all Youth Offending Services completed a forecasting toolkit which calculated the levels of contact required under the Scaled Approach. For Hartlepool this predicted a percentage increase in contact. Partner agencies were consulted with regards to the implications for them and their service delivery.

Concerns surround the allocation of future grant funding and the possible loss of specialist staff. Recruitment of social work staff has proved problematic in the past year; however, all social work posts are now filled. A pool of sessional workers has been recruited and trained to ensure that services continue to be delivered to young people in the event of staff absence.



## APPENDIX 1

**Priorities 2010 – 11**

The inspection of youth offending work in Hartlepool by the HMI Probation Inspection Team in October 2009 found that “improvements were needed in the quality of assessment and planning and work to manage vulnerability and safeguarding. We also found that work with Children’s Services was not sufficient in all courses to safeguard all children and young people”.

The recommendation from Local Management Reports following serious incidents during 2009/10 identified similar issues in relation to the management of vulnerability and the need for multi agency involvement in the planning process and the delivery of services.

The Youth Offending Service priorities for 2010 – 11 are based on the action plan following the inspection and are:-

1. To ensure that timely and good quality assessment and plans using ASSET is completed when a course starts
2. That timely and good quality assessment of the individuals vulnerability and risk of harm to others is completed at the start of the intervention case or when appropriate during the intervention
3. From the assessment the intervention plan is specific about what will be done to safeguard the child or young person to make them less likely to re-offend and to minimise any identified risk of harm to others
4. The plan of work is regularly reviewed and correctly recorded in ASSET in line with national standards for Youth Offending Services
5. Regular quality assurance by managers especially in relation to risk and vulnerability is evidence in the case file
6. Review the protocol for social care and the youth offending service to ensure that work undertaken is consistent and complimentary in reducing vulnerability and those who pose a risk of harm to others
7. Ensure that electronic and paper records provide a accurate and timely account of the case to aid continuity of services to children and young people
8. Maintain the quality of work when there are vacancies within the Youth Offending Service

APPENDIX 1

9. To continue to work with the Youth Justice Board Performance Improvement Team to address issues relating to:
  - Governance and leadership
  - Performance and quality systems
  - Resources, practices and processes
  - Partnership working
  - People and organisation
10. Sustain the reduction of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System.
11. Reduce further offending by young people already in the Youth Justice system.
12. Continue to develop and improve interventions to address the needs of the young people following the introduction of the Youth Rehabilitation Order and the scaled approach.
13. Ensure that custodial sentences are only made as a last resort.
14. Provide high quality Restorative Justice services that support victims of crime and provide confidence to the community and Criminal Justice system.
15. Update procedures and partnership working arrangements.
16. Support staff to develop with appropriate and relevant training

## APPENDIX 1

### **Achievements**

During 2009/10 the Youth Offending Service made a number of achievements:-

- We successfully introduced a 'Triage' model at the point of arrest for young people who are assessed by a Prevention worker. Young people and their parents are offered support and guidance and undertake an intervention which includes using a restorative approach. Where young people complete the intervention they are diverted out of the Criminal Justice System.
- The successful introduction and implementation of the Youth Rehabilitation Order and the Scaled Approach.
- Performed well against the National Indicators in particular, First Time Entrants, custody and Education, Training and Employment.
- Achieved high satisfaction levels from victims of crime.
- The inspection of youth offending work in youth Crime Prevention in December 2009 commented "that Hartlepool's prevention approach was in our collective opinion the best structured one we have seen in our field. work. This structure is supported by excellent professional relationships between all agencies, a genuine common purpose ethos was detected"
- Increased the number of reparation activities undertaken by young people, who all now have a restorative element to their work with the Youth Offending Service
- Recruited and trained 7 Referral Order Panel Members

# **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SCRUTINY FORUM REPORT**

**8 July 2010**



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** THE ROLE OF THE REGENERATION AND  
PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To give an overview of the role and functions of the Regeneration and Planning Scrutiny Forum.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Council's approach to Overview and Scrutiny has been informed by government guidance, best practice nationally and experience of what works locally to ensure that the Scrutiny Forum's operate in an optimum scrutiny structure that will enable the Forums to add value and improve services for the residents of Hartlepool.
- 2.2 The role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is briefly discussed in the following section. Following this in section 4, there is a more detailed description of the roles and functions of this forum.

## **3. ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

- 3.1 The membership of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee reflects both the Council's political make-up and the five standing Scrutiny Forums (which are equally represented on the Committee). A total of sixteen Elected Members serve on the Committee, consisting of the Chair (appointed by Council) and the Chair, Vice-Chair and one other Members from each of the five standing Forums. In addition to this, three Resident representatives are also co-opted onto the Committee, one from each Neighbourhood Consultative Forum.
- 3.2 This approach enables the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to draw on the experience of a variety of Members, represent a cross-section of political views and equally represent each of the five standing Forums. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is responsible for the overall management of Overview and Scrutiny within the Authority. Other authorities' experience of

scrutiny appears to have benefited from the establishment of such a body. Given the increasing importance of the scrutiny role under the new arrangements and the likely increase in workload of the scrutiny function the role of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is invaluable. The main roles and functions of the committee are as follows:-

- (i) To work with the five Forums to decide an annual Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, including the programme of any ad-hoc Forum that it appoints, to ensure that there is efficient use of the Forums and that the potential for duplication of effort is minimised;
- (ii) To lead the involvement of Overview and Scrutiny in the development of the budget and the plans and strategies that make up the policy framework and to delegate issues for consideration to the Forums;
- (iii) Where matters fall within the remit of more than one Overview and Scrutiny Forum, to determine which of them will assume responsibility for any particular issue and to resolve any issues of dispute between overview and scrutiny Forums;
- (iv) To receive requests from Members, the executive and/or the full council for items (including those referred via the Councillor Call for Action mechanism) to be considered by overview and scrutiny forums and to allocate them, if appropriate to one or more overview and scrutiny forum;
- (v) To put in place and maintain a system to ensure reports from Overview and Scrutiny to the Executive are managed efficiently and do not exceed any limits set out in the Constitution (this includes making decisions about the priority of reports, if the volume of such reports creates difficulty for the management of Executive business or jeopardises the efficient running of the Council business);
- (vi) To exercise the power of call-in in relation to Executive decisions made as set out in Section 21 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000, or allocate them to the appropriate overview and scrutiny Forum for consideration; and
- (vii) Assessing, monitoring and advising on the role of the Council's central support services in supporting the Council's progress towards the Community Strategy's priority aims, including:-
  - General policies of the Council relating to the efficient use of resources (people, money, property, information technology); and
  - District Auditor performance reports, the District Auditor's Annual Audit Letter, Best Value Performance Indicators and health and safety issues.

#### 4. FUNCTIONS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FORUMS

4.1 The five standing Overview and Scrutiny Forums have three main functions and these are set out in the following paragraphs:-

(a) Policy Development and Review

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
- (ii) Conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
- (iii) Consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
- (iv) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area; and
- (v) Liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

(b) Scrutiny

Overview and Scrutiny Forums may:

- (i) Review and scrutinise the decisions of the Executive and Chief Officers both in relation to individual decisions and their overall strategic direction;
- (ii) Review and scrutinise the work of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
- (iii) Question members of the Executive and Chief Officers about their decisions, whether generally in comparison with the service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
- (iv) Review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area, requesting them to attend and address relevant scrutiny forums to speak about their activities and performance;
- (v) Investigate other issues of local concern, outside the control of the Council and other public bodies in the area, and make recommendations to the Council, the Executive and / or other organisations arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process;

- (vi) Question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent); and
- (vii) Make recommendations to the executive and / or the council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

(c) Finance

Overview and Scrutiny Committees may exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to them. This presently consists of a dedicated overview and scrutiny budget of 50k. Applications for funding must be made through Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee.

## 5. THE REMIT OF THIS FORUM

- 5.1 The strategic direction of the Scrutiny Forums will be to assess, monitor and advise on the Council's progress towards the 7 priority aims of the Community Strategy whilst the operational direction of the individual Scrutiny Forums will be governed by the remits outlined in the Constitution.

The remit of the Regeneration and Planning Scrutiny Forum is as follows:-

*'To consider issues relating to regeneration, the Community Strategy, building control, development control, economic development, landscape and conservation, strategic housing and community safety.'*

- 5.2 There will be, however, from time to time, be issues that could be considered by more than one forum and it will be for the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to determine which forum should examine a particular issue. It is also open to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to appoint ad hoc forums. For example, where an issue comes within the remit of two scrutiny forums, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee could decide to establish an ad hoc forum made up of four Members from each of those two Forums.

## 6. SCHEDULE OF FORUM DATES FOR 2010/11

- 6.1 Detailed below, for Members information, are the scheduled dates for meetings of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum in 2010/11. Please note that all scheduled meetings will commence at 3.00pm, in various venues across the town, with the capacity for additional meetings to be arranged where required to accommodate the needs of individual inquiries.

Thursday 12 August 2010;  
 Thursday 9 September 2010;  
 Thursday 14 October 2010;  
 Thursday 4 November 2010;  
 Thursday 20 January 2011;  
 Thursday 3 February 2011; and  
 Thursday 31 March 2011.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 No specific action is required as a result of this report, however, Members may have questions about the role of the Forum.

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## BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

- (i) Hartlepool Borough Council Constitution.



## **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

8 July 2010



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** DETERMINING THE SCRUTINY FORUM'S WORK  
PROGRAMME FOR 2010/11

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

- 1.1 To provide the Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum with a range of information, extracted from various sources to assist in the consideration of suitable topics for inclusion into the Forum's Work Programme for the 2010/11 Municipal Year.

### **2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum needs to develop a Work Programme for the 2010/11 Municipal Year, together with a timeframe for each review, for consideration by the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on the 23 July 2010. Detailed terms of reference should be developed at the start of each inquiry.
- 2.2 As such the Director for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods; Cabinet Members for Community Safety and Housing, Regeneration and Economic Development and Corporate Plan have been the foundation sources for this report to enable the Forum to compile its Work Programme.
- 2.3 However, it should be appreciated that some of the areas detailed below are continually evolving and further details will emerge throughout the year.
- 2.4 In addition to establishing the Forum's Work Programme, the Forum may consider it appropriate to receive illustrations from service departments in relation to impending legislation and to respond on an ad hoc basis to emerging issues which would be considered appropriate for an investigation or review to be undertaken.

TOPIC	Director, Elected Mayor and Cabinet Member	Member(s)	Referral	Member of the Public / Resident Representative / Community Group
<p>Business Transformation – Service Delivery Options (SDO's)</p> <p>Further information in relation to this possible Work Programme item to be circulated following the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee meeting on the 25 June 2010, at which consideration is to be given to the process for Scrutiny consideration of SDO's.</p>	X			
<p>Conservation Grant Scheme</p> <p>(Issue: To evaluate the Conservation Grant Scheme)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix A</b>.</p>	X			
<p>Voluntary Sector Premises Pool</p> <p>(Issue: To evaluate the Voluntary Sector Premises Pool)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix B</b></p>	X			
<p>One Stop Shop</p> <p>(Issue: To explore the role of the One Stop Shop in providing advice prior to the submission of planning applications)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix C</b></p>	X			

<p>New Deal for Communities</p> <p>(Issue: To consider the actual benefits which have been experienced by the people who were living in the area at the start of the NDC and compare outcomes for those people)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix D</b></p>		X		
<p>Community Engagement / Empowerment in Hartlepool</p> <p>(Issue: To explore how well partners are working together and sharing information)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix E</b></p>				X
<p>Domestic Violence</p> <p>(Issue: To assess the effectiveness of organisations involved in the reporting of incidents of domestic violence)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix F</b></p>	X			
<p>Working Neighbourhoods Fund</p> <p>(Issue: To assess the impact of the withdrawal of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and its impact on the worklessness agenda)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix G</b></p>	X	X		
<p>Tall Ships' Races Legacy</p> <p>(Issue: To review the effect of the Tall Ships' Races on the local economy and local businesses)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix H</b></p>	X	X		

<p>Broadband Provision in Rural Areas</p> <p>(Issue: To explore the provision / availability of broadband services in rural areas and how this can be improved.)</p> <p>For further details see <b>Appendix I</b>.</p> <p>Suggested 'one-off' joint meeting with Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum.</p>	X			
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- 2.5 In setting the Work Programme for 2010/11 consideration also needs to be given to the following Budget and Policy Framework documents, which will be presented to the Forum during the course of the year.

<b>BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS</b>	<b>Estimated timetable for consideration by the Forum</b>
Youth Justice Plan 2010/11	8 July 2010
Development Plan (Plans and Strategies)	September 2010
Budget 2011/12	November 2010/December 2010, January 2011
Departmental Plan 2011/12	January / February 2011
Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategy 2008-2014	January – March 2011
Youth Justice Plan 2011/12	April 2011

- 2.6 Having considered the above information together with individual Members' identified topics for inclusion into the Work Programme, the Forum may wish to discuss various aspects contained within the Corporate Performance Plan 2010/11 to raise potential areas for consideration. They could range from areas already identified as suitable for development through commitments or areas where the specific performance is below the targeted level. For this purpose, **Appendices J and K** detail the relevant Sections of the Corporate Performance Plan for the Panel's consideration as outlined below:-

**Appendix J** – Council's Priority Contributions to Community Strategy Themes 'Jobs and the Economy'; 'Lifelong Learning and Skills'; 'Environment'; 'Housing'; 'Community Safety'; and 'Strengthening Communities'.

**Appendix K** - Performance Indicator Table: 'Jobs and the Economy'; 'Community Safety'; 'Environment'; 'Housing' and 'Strengthening Communities'.

- 2.7 The Forum may also wish to apply a degree of emphasis on a particular source. For example, would the Forum consider issues which are clearly raised as a concern by the public to carry more weight than those considered important by the service provider? In practice the Forum will need to apply a considered opinion from all sources against the individual subject area.
- 2.8 Once the Forum has identified Scrutiny topics, anticipated time frames need to be applied. It is suggested to the Forum that a standard template for applying time allocations should be treated with caution as when scoping a subject a number of complexities may arise, therefore the anticipated duration should be allocated to the subjects on an individual basis.
- 2.9 The Forum is also advised to be cautious in setting an overly ambitious Work Programme for which it may be unable to deliver.
- 2.10 In addition to the above, the Forum may also consider establishing some small Sub-Groups, known as Working Groups to look at sharp focused areas of supplementary aspects of the main topic being scrutinised.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum is requested to consider the wide range of information detailed within this report (and the possible implications of Scrutiny consideration of SDO's) to assist in the determination of its 2010/11 Work Programme, to be approved by the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee at its meeting on 23 July 2010. Members may want to choose a maximum of two items for the coming year, which will allow for flexibility in the Forum's work programme for emerging issues and referrals from Council/Cabinet.

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

- (i) Corporate Performance Plan for 2010/11

<p><b>Topic:</b></p> <p>Conservation Grant Scheme</p>
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>To evaluate the Conservation Grant Scheme.</p>
<p><b>Background Information</b></p> <p>The conservation grant scheme is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year. For the first two years the budget was £50,000 however for the last two years it has been £75,000. Grant is offered to residential properties which are built pre-1919 and are located in conservation areas or which are listed buildings. Grant is available for structural works, works to make a building water tight such as re-roofing and leadwork and works to repair and restore traditional details. Applications are processed on a first come first served basis with applications held until budget becomes available.</p> <p>Scrutiny could evaluate the success or otherwise of the scheme. For example since the beginning of the scheme 75 applications have been processed. An examination could be made of where these applications have been located and the wider benefits of the grants with the investment from residents which is brought about by the offer of grant. There are also wide benefits to tradesmen in the town who specialise in works on traditional buildings which could be considered.</p>
<p><b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b></p> <p>Strategic – look at the spread of grants across the eight conservation areas and listed buildings through out the town and consider if this is fair or if the current remit of the grants should be reconsidered to target grants at areas and properties which have received little or no conservation grant funding.</p> <p>Efficiency / Quality of Service Provision – look at the existing remit for the conservation grant scheme and consider if this remains appropriate or if the remit should be widened to include part of the budget to be specifically allocated to other items such as repairs to properties.</p> <p>Further to this an examination of the service provision could be made to see if there are any ways to improve the way the grant is delivered from the point residents make an appointment to obtain a schedule of works for eligible grant works to the grant being paid to them once the works are finished.</p>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b></p> <p>None</p>

<b>Topic</b>
Voluntary Sector Premises Pool (VSPP) Grant Fund 2010/11
<b>Aim</b>
To evaluate the VSPP Grant Fund
<b>Background Information</b>
<p>The VSPP Grant Fund is modelled on a New Deal for Communities (NDC) project, which was established in 2002 for 6 years, and later extended for a further year in 2008.</p> <p>The project provides a flexible grant fund from which discretionary awards can be granted to community/voluntary groups based within the Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) area or in certain circumstances to those outside of the area who serve a high proportion of NR area residents. The aim of the Grant Fund is to enable community/voluntary groups to make capital improvements to their premises, which are used in the delivery of services, facilities and activities to residents of the NR area to improve the efficiency, conditions, health and safety, security, access or fabric of their premises or to facilitate the expansion of a service or activity.</p> <p>Each group can apply for a 100% grant of up to a maximum of £3,000 towards improving their premises, although this can be flexible in exceptional circumstances, depending on funding availability and the benefits an application will bring to the NR area. The total budget for the project is £25,000 over the current financial year.</p> <p>The objectives of the project are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ to reverse the decline in membership caused by inhospitable surroundings;</li> <li>▪ to improve conditions for individuals that use the community / voluntary groups' premises and the paid staff and/or volunteers;</li> <li>▪ to increase the number of residents participating in and benefiting from the services, facilities and activities provided by community / voluntary groups;</li> <li>▪ to improve access to the community/voluntary groups premises, services, facilities and activities for all sections of the community with a particular emphasis on the needs of the physically disabled;</li> <li>▪ to enable community/voluntary groups to make savings in running / operational costs and;</li> <li>▪ to reduce the vulnerability of premises to crime.</li> </ul> <p>The project is managed and administered by Hartlepool Borough Council's Community Regeneration Team, whilst the decision as to which groups will benefit from the grants is made by the VSPP Grant Panel, by assessing applications in line with the qualifying criteria and allocating funding.</p> <p>The Scrutiny Forum could evaluate the success or otherwise of the Grant Fund, although it must be highlighted that the project has only been underway under the banner of HBC for 3 months, meaning no grants have yet completed on site. 7 Expressions of Initial Interest have been approved in principle by the Forum, in June, totalling just over £19,000, with</p>

further Expressions of Initial Interest to be considered by the Panel in August. The Scrutiny Forum could explore what benefits the VSPP project has brought to the community/voluntary sector in Hartlepool and assess the project against its original objectives.

**What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?**

Strategic – to look at the geographical element of the project, assessing whether the resource available (£25,000) has been spread too thinly (currently available to community/voluntary groups across the NR area – covering 55% of Hartlepool's population) or whether the project should have taken a more focussed approach (for example, restricted to the community/voluntary groups based or serving the most deprived neighbourhoods, perhaps those that fall within the top 3% most deprived wards nationally).

Efficiency/Quality of Service Provision – consider the qualifying criteria for the project plus the works eligible for grant monies, to establish whether this needs to be revised in order to create a greater impact (for example, look at levels of deprivation and target organisations delivering associated services where the gaps are most extensive, rather than project being an open application process. This would result in the project being thematically tied (e.g. to tackling the employment and worklessness agenda).

**Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.**

None.



<b>Topic:</b>  One Stop Shop
<b>Aim</b>  To explore the role of the planning service One Stop Shop in providing advice prior to the submission of planning applications.
<b>Background Information</b>  This is a service which provides informal advice on development proposals prior to the formal submission of planning applications. Officers from across the Council meet once a week to discuss 'informal' proposals following which a report is produced providing advice on suitability, suggested modifications or key issues to consider when preparing the formal planning application. The intention of the service is to secure better quality schemes, speed up the formal planning decision making process and avoid unnecessary work by 'weeding out' unsuitable proposals and advising on issues to be considered before schemes are worked up in detail.
<b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b>  Strategic – Look at the effectiveness of the service to assess the level of benefit the OSS has in terms of the efficiency and quality of planning decisions particularly in terms of design quality, speed of decision making, officer liaison and customer satisfaction. Feedback from people who have used the service (developers/agents/ individual householders) would be sought to assess customer satisfaction and the value of the service to them. Identify any improvements that could be made to the operation of the service.  Efficiency / Quality of Service Provision – Assess the effectiveness of the service in terms of officer time savings in processing subsequent applications and reducing the number of application refusals and appeals. This will help to feed into the forthcoming Service Review of the broader Planning service and the assessment of alternative options such as charging for the OSS service, reducing/expanding the service or stopping the service altogether.
<b>Corporate Plan Actions / PI's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b>  None

<p><b>Topic:</b></p> <p>New Deal for Communities</p>
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>To consider the actual benefits which have been experienced by the people who were living in the area at the start of the NDC and compare outcomes for those people.</p>
<p><b>Background Information</b></p> <p>NDC is a national regeneration scheme which was launched in Hartlepool in 2001 with the aims of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improving housing and the environment;</li> <li>- reducing crime;</li> <li>- increasing educational achievement;</li> <li>- creating jobs and training opportunities;</li> <li>- improving health; and</li> <li>- building a strong community.</li> </ul> <p>Funding for Hartlepool NDC ended in March 2010.</p> <p>An evaluation report on Hartlepool NDC is currently being compiled prior to presentation at a future Cabinet meeting.</p>
<p><b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b></p> <p>To explore how effective NDC activities have been, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The benefits experienced by people living in the NDC area;</li> <li>(ii) An exploration of the outcomes for these people.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b></p> <p>Theme: Strengthening Communities  Outcome: Improving quality of life and ensuring service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs with particular focus on disadvantaged areas.  Action: RNDSC007 – Facilitate effective wind-up and succession strategy for the New Deal for Communities programme.</p>

<p><b>Topic:</b></p> <p>Community Engagement / Empowerment in Hartlepool</p>
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>To explore how well partners are working together and sharing information</p>
<p><b>Background Information</b></p> <p>There are a range of organisations charged with engaging residents in Hartlepool.</p>
<p><b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b></p> <p>To explore how well partners are working together and sharing information as opposed to duplicating effort.</p>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b></p> <p>None.</p>

<b>Topic:</b>  Domestic Violence
<b>Aim</b>  To assess the effectiveness of organisations involved in the reporting of incidents of domestic violence.
<b>Background Information</b>  Levels of reported incidents of domestic violence in Hartlepool are contributing to increased levels of violence in the Town, with approximately 200 reported incidences each month. Currently no one organisation 'owns' domestic violence, with representatives from Health, HBC, Police, Courts, Probation and Voluntary Sector all having a role to play.  In April 2010 Hartlepool Magistrates Court began operating a specialist domestic violence court.
<b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To explore how well partners are working together and sharing information as opposed to duplicating effort; and</li> <li>- To review the renewal of the domestic violence strategy.</li> </ul>
<b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b>  Theme: Community Safety Outcome: Reduced Crime Code: RNDCS001 PI: NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate.

<p><b>Topic:</b></p> <p>Working Neighbourhoods Fund</p>
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>To assess the impact of the withdrawal of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and its impact on the worklessness agenda.</p>
<p><b>Background Information</b></p> <p>The Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) was introduced in April 2008 to replace the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and there is a planned withdrawal of this funding. The resulting withdrawal of WNF will have a major impact on the worklessness agenda.</p> <p>Suggested areas of review:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To assess what options are open to the Local Authority in addressing the withdrawal of the WNF;</li> <li>- To examine how services can be delivered differently, particularly in relation to the worklessness agenda; and</li> <li>- To assess the input of partner organisations such as health in addressing the worklessness agenda.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure the Authority can respond effectively to the withdrawal of WNF in a manner that isn't solely dependent on a cash injection; and</li> <li>- Ensure that all options for the sustainability of WNF projects are explored.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Actions / PI's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b></p> <p>Theme: Jobs and the Economy  Outcome: Attract Investment  PIs: NI 151 – Overall Employment Rate  RPD PO45 – Employment Rate (16-24)  RPD PO52 – Unemployment Rate (Hartlepool)</p>

<b>Topic:</b>  Tall Ships' Races Legacy
<b>Aim</b>  To review the effect of the Tall Ships' Races on the local economy and local businesses
<b>Background Information</b>  <p>The Tall Ships' Races is due to dock at Hartlepool between 7-10 August 2010. Sail Training International who organise the races anticipates that public spending generates on average a local income of 20-35 million Euros per port (this equates to around £16.5 - 28.7 million).</p> <p>Alongside other evaluations to be undertaken to learn from the Tall Ships' Races, Spirul have been contracted to carry out an economic impact assessment and evaluation, this is due to be completed sometime around October 2010.</p>
<b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b>  To assess the impact on the local economy and businesses, to help develop future strategy towards the Town's participation in other events.
<b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b>  None

<p><b>Topic:</b></p> <p>Broadband Provision in Rural Areas</p>
<p><b>Aim</b></p> <p>To explore the provision / availability of broadband services in rural areas and how this can be improved</p> <p>Suggested 'one-off' joint meeting with Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum</p>
<p><b>Background Information</b></p> <p>Some rural areas are disadvantaged by existing broadband provision, which not only affects residents and existing businesses but also stops new enterprises relocating and creating employment.</p> <p>Suggested areas to examine / explore could be:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) What broadband provision is available in rural areas;</li> <li>(b) How does this compare to broadband provision in urban areas;</li> <li>(c) How can broadband provision in rural areas be improved; and</li> <li>(d) How does lack of broadband provision affect the lives of residents and local businesses and their ability to communicate (to incorporate an evaluation of the results of Elwick questionnaire).</li> </ul>
<p><b>What would be the desired area(s) of impact / benefit resulting from the investigation?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Enhance communication in rural areas</li> </ul>
<p><b>Corporate Plan Actions / Pi's and LAA targets to which the issue relates.</b></p> <p>None.</p>

## Regeneration and Planning Services - Corporate Plan 2010/11

This Forum's remit covers Actions under the following Community Strategy Themes / Council Priority areas:

- Jobs and the Economy;
- Lifelong Learning and Skills;
- Community Safety;
- Environment;
- Housing; and
- Strengthening Communities

The information provided in the appendix includes the relevant Community Strategy Themes, which are divided into the Corporate Plan Objectives that have some relevance to this Forum. Under each Corporate Plan Objective there are a number of Actions.

Theme: <b>Jobs and the Economy</b>			
Outcome: <b>Attract Investment</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDJE001	Work with partners to pursue opportunities to support the development of Hartlepool's Central Area including the Innovation and Skills Quarter	31 Mar 2011	Derek Gouldburn
RNDJE002	Jacksons Landing – Facilitate the reuse of the building through a range of partners	30 Jun 2010	Antony Steinberg
Outcome: <b>Create more employment opportunities for local people</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDJE009	Develop employment and training initiatives in partnership with key stakeholders for residents which meet the demands of the local labour market and business community	31 Mar 2011	Diane Martin
Outcome: <b>Promote Hartlepool's interests in economic regeneration policy making at the national, regional and sub-regional levels</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDJE012	Safeguard and promote Hartlepool's interests within the development of the Tees Valley Business Case and the Tees Valley Single Programme	31 Mar 2011	Derek Gouldburn



Theme: <b>Lifelong Learning and Skills</b>			
Outcome: <b>Provision of high quality learning and skills opportunities that drive economic competitiveness, widen participation and build social justice</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDLL001	Work with the business and education sectors to develop initiatives to respond to emerging sectors and technologies including the renewable energy sector.	31 Mar 2011	Diane Martin

Theme: <b>Community Safety</b>			
Outcome: <b>Reduced Crime</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDCS001	Successfully complete introduction of specialist Domestic Violence Court (SDVC)	30 Apr 2010	Brian Neale
Outcome: <b>Reduced harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDCS003	Assess supported Panel / Vulnerable Housing process to increase access to housing for substance mis users and offenders	31 Jul 2010	Chris Hart
RNDCS004	Complete development of alcohol harm reduction strategy	31 Mar 2011	Chris Hart
Outcome: <b>Improved neighbourhood safety and increased public confidence, leading to reduced fear of crime and anti-social behaviour</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDCS009	Create and deliver communications strategy to target those areas where perceptions of anti social behaviour is 20% or higher	30 Sep 2010	Sally Forth
RNDCS010	Develop and deliver an action plan (associated with corporate cohesion group) to establish services required within Hartlepool to support minority groups to integrate with existing communities	31 Mar 2011	Alison Mawson

Theme: <b>Environment</b>			
Outcome: <b>Deliver sustainable communities through high quality planning, new build and sensitive conservation and protect and enhance the local natural environment</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDEN001	Continue the preparation of the Local Development Framework including publication of the Core Strategy and development of SPD's/DPD's in accordance with Local Development Scheme	31 Mar 2011	Derek Gouldburn

Theme: <b>Housing</b>			
Outcome: <b>Balancing Housing supply and demand</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDHO001	Secure completion of affordable housing schemes at Seaton Lane, Charles Street and Kipling Road	31 Mar 2011	Amy Waters
RNDHO002	Implement empty homes action plan for 2010/11	31 Mar 2011	John Smalley
RNDHO003	Complete Growth Point schemes at Seaton Lane and Belle Vue	31 Mar 2011	Andrew Golightly
Outcome: <b>Improving the quality of existing housing</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDHO005	Encourage improvements to homes to meet and exceed 'decent homes standards' (Social Housing)	31 Mar 2011	Nigel Johnson
Outcome: <b>Access to Housing</b>			
Code	Action	Date to be Completed	Responsible Officer
RNDHO010	Implement changes to Common Allocations Policy approved from review	30 Sep 2010	Lynda Igoe

Theme: <b>Strengthening Communities</b>			
Outcome: <b>Improving quality of life and ensuring service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs with particular focus on disadvantaged areas</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date to be Completed</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>
RNDSC006	Complete internal review of Neighbourhood Renewal priority areas, for future consultation	31 Jan 2011	Sylvia Burn
RNDSC007	Facilitate effective wind-up and succession strategy for the New Deal for Communities programme	31 Mar 2011	Sylvia Burn

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Every council is required by the Department for Communities and Local Government to collect and publish a range of National performance indicators (NI's). In addition to these Government indicators, services in Hartlepool Borough Council have also set 'Local indicators,' these statutory and non-statutory indicators are set out in the pages that follow.

Four of the Community Strategy themes have some relevance to this Forum, and are listed below:-

⇒ <b>Jobs and the Economy</b>	⇒ <b>Community Safety</b>
⇒ <b>Environment</b>	⇒ <b>Housing</b>
⇒ <b>Strengthening Communities</b>	

NI's are set by the government and information for these are included in the Corporate Plan. Some of the NI's have additional uses these include:-

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)</b> The means of assessing the Council's performance and how well it works together with other public bodies to meet the needs of Hartlepool residents. Replaced the Comprehensive Performance Assessment in April 2009.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public Service Agreement (PSA)</b> Agreement between local and central government to improve performance across a range of indicators based upon national and local priority</li> </ul>
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Theme: <b>Jobs and the Economy</b>			
Outcome: <b>Attract Investment</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
NI 151	Overall Employment rate (working-age)	63.9%	68.8%
RPD P045	Employment Rate (16-24) (LAA H9)	41.5	54.4
RPD P052	Unemployment rate (Hartlepool) (LAA JE5)	7.4	3.7
Outcome: <b>Be globally competitive</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
NI 166	Median earnings of employees in the area	£486.00	£499.0
NI 171	New business registration rate	34.0	47.5
Outcome: <b>Create more employment opportunities for local people</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
NI 146	Adults with learning disabilities in employment	16.6%	18.0%
NI 152	Working age people on out of work benefits	22.0%	18.7%
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing	34.1%	26.0%
RPD P054	Youth Unemployment rate (Hartlepool) (LAA JE7) [A]	31.7	32.2
RPD P055	Youth Unemployment rate (Neighbourhood Renewal narrowing the gap) (LAA JE8) [A]	31.5	32.5
Theme: <b>Community Safety</b>			
Outcome: <b>Reduced Crime</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime rate	10.84	15.48
NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate	8.92	7.14

Theme: <b>Community Safety (Continued)</b>			
Outcome: <b>Reduced harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual
		Value	2010/11
NI 40	Number of drug users recorded as being in effective treatment	731	765
Outcome: <b>Reducing offending and re-offending</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual
		Value	2010/11
NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	1.21	1.45
NI 30	Reoffending rate of prolific and other priority offenders	25%	20%
NI 38	Drug related (Class A) offending rate	1.01	1
NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 population aged 10-17	1363	2070

Theme: <b>Environment</b>			
Outcome: <b>Deliver sustainable communities through high quality planning, new build and sensitive conservation and protect and enhance the local natural environment</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual
		Value	2010/11
LAA Env P001	Number of Volunteer days spent working on nature conservation	689	715
NI 197	Improved Local Biodiversity – proportion of Local Sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented	29%	30%

Theme: <b>Housing</b>			
Outcome: <b>Balancing Housing supply and demand</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
LAA H P001	Number of new homes brought back into use	15	63
LAA H p002	Number of sustainable homes constructed	104	100
NI 155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	127	80
Outcome: <b>Improving the Quality of Existing Housing</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
RPD P041	Achieving decent homes standard in social housing sector (Hartlepool) - RSL (LAA H1b)	100%	100%
RPD P042	Achieving decent homes standard in private sector housing sector (LAA H2)	73.46	71.94
Outcome: <b>Changing housing needs and Meeting the Housing Needs of Vulnerable People</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
RPD P011	Housing Advice Service: Preventing Homelessness (BVPI 213)	9.57	11.00
RPD P043	The percentage of new tenants receiving support from HBC sustaining their tenancies for 6 months (LAA H7)		95%
Outcome: <b>Access to Housing</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
NI 155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	127	80
RPD P043	The percentage of new tenants receiving support from HBC sustaining their tenancies for 6 months (LAA H7)		95%

Theme: <b>Strengthening Communities</b>			
Outcome: <b>Improving quality of life and ensuring service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs with particular focus on disadvantaged areas</b>			
Code	Indicator	2009/10	Annual 2010/11
		Value	
MORI P02a	Proportion of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live		85
MORI P02b	Proportion of people satisfied with their local area as a place to live (NRA narrowing the gap)		82
NI 5	Overall/general satisfaction with local area		79.4%