

**JOINT COMMUNITY SAFETY &  
HOUSING AND FINANCE AND  
PROCUREMENT PORTFOLIO  
DECISION SCHEDULE**



**Wednesday 27 October 2010**

**at 2.00 pm**

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

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond responsible for Community Safety and Housing and Councillor Robbie Payne, Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance and Procurement will consider the following items.

**1. KEY DECISIONS**

No items

**2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

2.1 Sustainable Construction Policy – *Assistant Director (Resources)*

**3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No items

**JOINT PORTFOLIO HOLDERS FOR COMMUNITY  
SAFETY & HOUSING AND FINANCE &  
PROCUREMENT**

Report To Portfolio Holders  
27<sup>th</sup> October 2010



**Report of:** Assistant Director (Resources)

**Subject:** SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION POLICY

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## SUMMARY

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek endorsement for the proposed Sustainable Construction Policy.

### 2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The statement details Hartlepool Borough Council's intentions with regard to incorporating sustainability issues into its construction activities and introduces the role of sustainable construction in delivering Hartlepool's Community Strategy.

### 3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBERS

Portfolio Holders are the champions for construction and sustainable development.

### 4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key decision.

### 5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holders only.

### 6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That Portfolio Holders endorse the Sustainable Construction Policy as a precursor to the development of a more comprehensive Sustainable Construction Strategy to be reported to a future joint meeting of the Portfolio Holders.

**Report of:** Assistant Director (Resources)

**Subject:** SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION POLICY

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek endorsement for the proposed Sustainable Construction Policy.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 In 2005 the Government published its second UK Sustainable Development Strategy: Securing the Future. This strategy paved the way for the publication of the UK Strategy for Sustainable Construction which was prepared to 'help to deliver the aims set out in the UK's Sustainable Development Strategy' (source: Strategy for Sustainable Construction, June 2008).
- 2.2 National initiatives such as the Code for Sustainable Homes and the forthcoming Code for Sustainable Buildings are increasing awareness of sustainability in the construction industry and driving standards higher.
- 2.3 It has been calculated that buildings account for nearly half of the country's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a third of landfill waste and a quarter of all raw materials used in the economy (source: Strategy for Sustainable Construction, June 2008). We spend most of our lives inside buildings whether they be our homes or places of work; the designers, builders and managers of buildings need to ensure that they are safe, comfortable and in appropriate accessible locations. Sustainable construction addresses these issues.
- 2.4 Sustainable construction principles encourage safer working on construction sites, improved relationships between the contractor on site and the local community, use of local suppliers and contractors, training opportunities for labourers, safe storage of materials on site, recycling and re-use of 'waste' materials, inclusion of insulation and energy saving techniques and provision of renewable energy generation.
- 2.5 The draft policy includes all types of construction, encompassing highways as well as buildings. It also includes all aspects of construction from design through to building management, renovation and where necessary demolition. Sustainable construction delivers benefits to the economy, community and environment and the owner of the building in terms of lower running costs.
- 2.6 The recently revised Sustainable Procurement Policy and Strategy have strong links to sustainable construction. The principles of sustainable procurement support the sustainable construction agenda and procurement will be developed as one of the themes in the sustainable construction strategy.

### 3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The draft Sustainable Construction Policy in **Appendix 1** offers a clear statement of the Council's intent with regard to addressing sustainability issues in its construction practices.
- 3.2 The adoption of a sustainable construction policy is regarded as good practice, particularly if it includes all of the principles of sustainable development – supporting the economy, community and environment alongside futurity and global considerations.
- 3.3 The next stage in the process is to prepare a sustainable construction strategy which will provide more detail on how the Council will address sustainability in its construction activities.
- 3.4 Future revisions of the strategy will incorporate construction activity lead by other organisations across the borough.

### 4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Portfolio Holders endorse the Sustainable Construction Policy as a precursor to the development of a more comprehensive Sustainable Construction Strategy to be reported to a future joint meeting of the Portfolio Holders.

### 5. CONTACT OFFICER

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## Draft Sustainable Construction Policy

### Hartlepool Borough Council Sustainable Construction Policy

The Council is committed to sustainable construction of all buildings and structures, their design and planning, commissioning, construction, renovation, management and where necessary demolition. This policy primarily relates to buildings and structures which the Council is responsible for however the Council's influence and responsibility extends beyond its own estate and it is aware of the wider impacts and influences of the policies it agrees and the money it spends. Future revisions of the policy will therefore affect all construction activities in the borough and will be applied through the planning, development and building control regimes.

This statement of intent illustrates the Council's commitment to delivering the Community Strategy, the Council's Corporate Strategy, the UK Sustainable Development Strategy and the UK Sustainable Construction Strategy. The Code for Sustainable Homes and the emerging Code for Sustainable Buildings are driving increasingly high sustainability standards in new buildings; by the end of the decade all new buildings will be designed and built to be 'zero carbon' for example.

This policy and subsequent delivery related documents will incorporate all aspects of sustainable development: supporting the community, environment and economy, and will consider global impacts and long term issues. Subsequent documents will contain more detail on how to apply sustainable construction principles in practice.

Sustainable construction addresses a wide range of areas including reduced long term building management costs, value for money, increased comfort for building users, energy efficiency, training and use of local labour, greater flexibility of building use, increased safety on sites, effective communication with local residents and businesses, support for local building suppliers, respecting heritage and archaeology, reduced resource use through the re-use of 'waste' building materials which also reduces costs, use of locally sourced and environmentally friendly building materials, and providing buildings which relate to their local surroundings. Sustainable construction also means new and renovated buildings and structures are designed to reduce carbon emissions and to withstand the likely effects of climate change.

The Council will develop its commitment to sustainable construction around the following themes:

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|---|-----------------------|
| ○ materials                               | ○ procurement         |
| ○ energy, carbon & climate change         | ○ water               |
| ○ community                               | ○ waste               |
| ○ design & heritage including archaeology | ○ natural environment |
|   | ○ access & movement   |

The next stage in this process will be the development of a sustainable construction strategy, it is intended that the strategy will be published in 2010/11. The actions contained in the strategy will be reviewed regularly and progress reported.