

HARTLEPOOL BOARD

AGENDA

Friday 1 August 2025, 9.00am to 10:30am

Cleveland Fire Bridge, Endeavour House, Queens Meadow Business Park,
Stockton Road, Hartlepool, TS25 5TH

Item		Lead
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	Chair
2.	Conflicts of Interest	Chair/All
3.	Minutes and Actions from the Last Meeting	Chair
4.	Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership Update Report	Scott Campbell and Catherine Wakeling
5.	Community Engagement Plan (Verbal Update)	Julian Penton
6.	Stakeholder Mapping	All
7.	Plan for Neighbourhoods Update and Final Data Pack	Scott Campbell
8.	Any Other Business	All
9.	Date/Time of Next Meeting	

Next Meeting:
Friday 5 September 2025 9:00-10.30am
Council Chambers, Hartlepool Borough Council

Hartlepool Board
Friday 1 August 2025 at 9.00am

Meeting Notes

Attendees – Board Members:

Christiana Celestine – Chair, Hartlepool Diversity Network
Christine Eddowes – Hartlepool Inter Faith Group
Anthony Frain – Constituency Manager for Jonathan Brash MP
Cllr Brenda Harrison - Hartlepool Borough Council
Oliver Huermann – Member of Youth Parliament
Carl Jorgeson – Hartlepool Sport
Andrew Liddell – Cleveland Police
Julian Penton - Hartlepool Community Trust
Dave Preston – Cleveland Fire Brigade
Ellie Puckering – Curious Arts
Martin Raby – The Northern School of Art
Jane Reed - Executive Head, Hartlepool Sixth Form College
Sue Sharpe - Executive Headteacher, Golden Flatts and Lynnfield Primary Schools
Matt Storey – Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner
Catherine Wakeling – Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership
Malcolm Walker – Chair of the Hartlepool Board
Kathryn Whittle – Thirteen Housing

Other Attendees:

Scott Campbell – Hartlepool Borough Council
Steve Hilton - Hartlepool Borough Council
Lisa West – Hartlepool Borough Council

1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies MW welcomed everyone to the Hartlepool Board and thanked DP for hosting at the Cleveland Fire Brigade HQ. Apologies have been received from Neil Atkinson, Sacha Bedding, Jonathan Brash MP (substitute in attendance: Anthony Frain), Iain Caldwell (substitute in attendance: Catherine Wakeling), Phil Douglas (substitute in attendance: Ellie Puckering), Darren Hankey, Cllr Pamela Hargreaves, Haani Hasnain, Karen Hawkins, Denise McGuckin, Alan O'Donoghue (substitute in attendance: Andrew Liddell), Cllr Karen Oliver, Gemma Ptak, and Mark Tilling. MW noted other meetings are taking place today, which has affected attendance alongside summer holidays. He expects to have full attendance at the next meeting in September.	Documents
2.	Conflicts of Interest Carl Jorgeson declared a conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 4, on HOP.	

3.	Minutes and Actions from the Last Meeting It was agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting were seen as a true representation of the meeting. The action log was covered, and actions were all up to date.	 HB Meeting Notes - 04.07.25.docx
4.	Hartlepool Opportunities Partnership Update Report SC presented the report on behalf of HOP and highlighted that in June the Board approved the proposal from HOP. This was to establish HOP as the local infrastructure organisation for the town, and to lead on facilitating Board Advisory Groups. They are also leading on a structured programme of meaningful community and stakeholders' engagement to gather local insight from communities to inform the Plan for Neighbourhoods. HOP have made significant progress with six trustees now in place, interim support being provided by MVDA and an independent chair is currently being recruited and should be in place by September. HOP are also working in partnership with the Council on a grant funding opportunity called Our Hartlepool which linked to the community cohesion work and is open to local VCSEs. A Grant Agreement has been developed between HOP and the Council which should be fully signed by the end of next week. The payment schedule is outlined in the report and financial updates will be provided monthly by HOP. CW added that to date there have been 381 responses in the initial two weeks of the community engagement and these have mainly been through face to face conversations. There are a lot of activity and events planned for August. KW suggested that the results from the community engagement could be analysed by ChatGPT as this had been used recently for a consultation with Thirteen. CE noted that, after hearing about the engagement, the team were recently at a local community event, so she had the opportunity to share her thoughts. We need to be aware that peoples' views can be heavily influenced by others around them especially with face to face engagement and this can impact on the responses. OH highlighted the recent consultation with young people through the Youth Service. He asked if this has been considered to avoid duplication and to mitigate peoples' fatigue with engagement. SC stated that he has recently met with Sarah and Rachel from the Youth Service. He has been sent a copy of the draft report from the Youth Consultation.	 HOP Progress Report.docx

	This work, alongside other engagement that has been carried out, will feed in so that we add value to all of the existing engagements and consultations over the last few years across Hartlepool. CJ stated that there is potential Youth Transformation Funding coming to Hartlepool which would need to be spent by March 2026. As part of this, Hartlepool Sport and the VCS are working on a youth partnership together with the Council. It would be beneficial if this could feed into the Hartlepool Board to receive future updates on the Youth Transformation Funding. BH commented on the importance of this work going ahead, as there have been false starts previously with these efforts as a numbers of years ago there was significant work on this in Hartlepool.	
5.	Community Engagement Plan JP outlined that there are five Community Workers and a network of 20 or so volunteers supporting the engagement through HOP. The target is to speak to a minimum of 1,200 people and, ideally at least 100 people from each ward. The actual numbers are updated weekly on the HCT website, and there has been great co-operation with VCS organisations and the Council. There are already 45 community engagement events which have been planned to cover every ward in Hartlepool. JP said that the team are identifying any wards that have low responses and are undertaking more targeted engagement in those areas. Currently, residents have selected safety and security as their most important priority closely followed by health and wellbeing and community togetherness/cohesion. He confirmed that contact details are being taken for anyone who is interested in getting involved in their community which links to the conversations on community participation at the last Board. There has been a wide age range from those who have responded so far. The Council have offered access to beach huts in Seaton Carew and are also providing us with the opportunity to attend their events in Hartlepool. KW commented that the insight from the engagement will be useful for Thirteen because it will identify priorities for their community funding in Hartlepool. This would complement Plan for Neighbourhoods. SC agreed that this work will provide a real insight into our communities and the engagement will only be the starting point so it will continue throughout the 10-years. It also needs to add value and align to other investment which will include funding from businesses and stakeholders such as Thirteen.	 PfN Community Engagement Plan.doc

	MW advised that it would be useful to get an awareness of some of the wider programmes/investments which align to the Board. SC confirmed that we are hoping to facilitate short presentations to provide information on key programmes at future meetings of the Hartlepool Board.	
6.	Stakeholder Mapping SC introduced the mapping exercise which follows discussions in the previous Board. He asked attendees to use resources including post-it notes and flipchart paper to highlight any stakeholder that they are working with who should be engaged as part of the Plan for Neighbourhoods. The mapping will help with the planning and engagement of stakeholders and will also align with the community engagement being undertaken across Hartlepool It was clarified that a stakeholder could include a group, network, or key organisation that members work with that should know about Plan for Neighbourhoods. Board Members then completed an initial mapping exercise and identified key stakeholder and strategic partners with all of the notes collated onto a large flipchart. Following the meeting, the attached mapping document was collated with stakeholders grouped by theme using the information provided by Board Members. JP commented that a similar mapping exercise was taking in place with NHS, due to reforms and that he would share this. MW commented that quite a lot of people were not at today's meeting, and this was a piece of work may take time to do thoroughly so the mapping will be shared alongside the minutes so it can be added to by Board Members. ACTION: The mapping will be shared with Board Members so they can contribute additional stakeholders and strategic partners in Hartlepool.	 Stakeholder Mapping.docx
7	Plan for Neighbourhoods Update SC presented the final Plan for Neighbourhoods Data Pack for Hartlepool. This version can be shared widely by members and has been published by Government. He also confirmed that, as communicated last week to Board Members, our boundary change request has been approved so it now included the whole Borough of Hartlepool. MW commented that on some of the charts, the indicators are positive and with others the indicators are negative, so they can be a little confusing. MW suggested that a side of	 Hartlepool Data Pack - Final.pdf  Plan for Neighbourhoods Info

	A4 summarising key information/data would be helpful, if possible, by the Council. CJ commented that the infographic in the meeting papers is extremely useful and asked if this could be updated on a regular basis for Board Members. SC confirmed that the Plan for Neighbourhoods Infographic will be updated regularly and shared with members at each meeting of the Hartlepool Board.	
8.	Any Other Business SC outlined that, following confirmation of the boundary change, an update was provided to Parish Councils as part of the regular Parish Council Liaison Meetings. The new boundary incorporates the whole Borough of Hartlepool, including all Parish Council areas, so it would be beneficial for a representative to be nominated by Parish Councils to then join the Hartlepool Board. SC asked for approval for a representative to be nominated by the Parish Councils who would become a member of the Hartlepool Board. MW facilitated a decision on the proposal which was unanimously agreed by the Board. ACTION: A representative will be nominated by the Parish Councils who will become a member of the Hartlepool Board. SC raised communications and marketing which has been discussed in previous meetings and will be on the agenda for the board meeting in September. We would like to establish a small communications and marketing sub-group which will meet over the next month, and an update will then be brought to the next Board. SC asked for volunteers for the sub-group and CC, JP, AF, and KW asked to join. This will be facilitated by Connor Kerr who is the Council's Head of Communications & Marketing. ACTION: The communications and marketing sub-group will be formed which will then provide an update at the next meeting of the Hartlepool Board. CJ asked how members are approved and removed from the Hartlepool Board. He asked if audit and governance oversight can be considered as a future item, especially considering the fact that different people have potential conflicts and belong to several organisations. JR agreed, though commented that the Board is still quite new. CJ added that a trustee of HOP, who works at Joseph Rowntree Foundation would be a useful addition to the Board.	

	SC clarified that there is an established Terms of Reference which is being further developed as part of the Board Development Programme. In relation to membership, the submission to Government in April included proposed members such as a representative from Parish Councils. MW agreed that audit and governance should be added as an item for the next Hartlepool Board. CJ asked for clarification on membership of the Board Advisory Groups. SC confirmed that some of these are long-standing such as for businesses. There is an established Diversity Network, which was set up as part of the cohesion work within Hartlepool. There are a range of young people's networks/forums who will collectively contribute with facilitation from HOP. In addition, progress is being made through partners and HOP on the VCSE Network. A further progress update on Advisory Groups can be provided at a future meeting of the Board. ACTION: There will be an update on Audit and Governance at the next meeting of the Hartlepool Board. BH suggested that the organisation/body/group which members are representing could be added to the name cards to make it easier at future meetings of the Board. ACTION: The name cards will be updated so they include the organisation/body/group which members are representing for the next meeting of the Hartlepool Board.	
9.	Date and Time of Next Meeting The next meeting is currently scheduled for Friday 5 September 2025 from 9am to 10.30am. The venue is to be at the Council Chambers, unless members are advised of a venue change, following discussions on the meetings being held at different venues across Hartlepool. MW advised attendees to get in touch to suggest a venue for the next Board Meeting.	