

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Friday 18th November 2011

at 10.00am

in Committee Room C, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

The Mayor Stuart Drummond, Cabinet Member responsible for Community Safety and Planning, will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Community Cohesion Framework 2012-15 – *Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)*

2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 2.1 List of Locally Listed Buildings – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)*
- 2.2 Review of Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedures – *Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)*

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Commissioning of Domestic Violence Prevention and Intervention Services in Hartlepool – *Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)*
- 3.2 Strategy for the Former Odeon Cinema – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)*

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 November 2011



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: COMMUNITY COHESION FRAMEWORK
2012-15

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide the Portfolio Holder with an opportunity to comment on the draft Community Cohesion Framework which is being developed through consultation with service users, partners and stakeholders.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report provides an overview of the background of Government policy since 2001 in relation to the need to develop and engender 'good community cohesion', including a brief outline of initiatives and new Government policy to date. The Community Cohesion Framework sets out 8 objectives, which form the vision and aim to develop good community cohesion whilst tackling poor community cohesion where it exists.

The report provides an outline of the consultation process and a time frame for implementation.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER

The Community Cohesion Framework seeks to determine how we move forward with the Coalition's 'Big Society' initiatives and how the Framework supports the Council's range of strategies including the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategy 2011-14.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Key decision (test ii applies). Forward Plan reference number RN68/11

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Community Safety and Planning Portfolio on 18 November 2011.

6. DECISION REQUIRED

The Portfolio Holder comments on the Community Cohesion Framework Consultation Process are requested prior to the start of the consultation programme.

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: COMMUNITY COHESION FRAMEWORK
2012-15

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the Community Cohesion Framework for 2012-2015 and the proposed consultation process.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Promoting greater cohesion within communities has formed an important strand of Government policy since 2001. It was in 2001 that disturbances broke out in Bradford, Burnley and Oldham between White and Asian groups; although the activities of right wing extremist groups were recognised as having an influence, local communities believed that the roots of these events lay much deeper.
- 2.2 In response to this the Home Office set up an independent review team to investigate the causal factors influencing the fracturing of community cohesion. (Home Office (2001) Community Cohesion – *The Independent Review Chaired by Ted Cantle*). The team identified specific areas that had impacted on the growing divisions between the communities:
- Ignorance about each others communities had grown into fear and been exploited by extremist groups
 - Levels of poverty and deprivation, competition for scarce resources
 - Failure to communicate, people ‘tip toeing’ around issues of race, religion and culture, not engaging in honest dialogue
 - Lack of a clear consistent message from political leaders
 - Programmes targeted to tackle the needs of specific disadvantaged groups in an arena of scarce resources led to perceptions of unfairness.
- 2.3 The Home Office was given the responsibility of taking the community cohesion agenda forward, initial strategies were focus on crime, race and faith issues, and preventing violent extremist.
- 2.4 In 2003 Home Office guidance for Local Authorities was published in which the main essence of community cohesion was defined as, ‘*the proportion of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds can get on well together*’

- 2.5 Following this the Government set up a time limited Commission on Integration and Cohesion (CoIC) to identify strategies for building better cohesion within communities. The Commission looked further than preventing violent extremism accepting that community cohesion goes beyond issues of race and faith. The CoIC identified local and practical ways to build cohesion, it recommended that a multi strand response was needed, one that would engage the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.
- 2.6 This new focus was on engaging all members of the community, engendering a strong sense of belonging and developing strong and positive relationships between all sections of the community.
- 2.7 In 2009 the Safer Hartlepool Partnership commissioned Redwylde Consultancy to carry out a Community Cohesion Mapping Exercise for Hartlepool.
- 2.8 The mapping exercise highlighted the multiple initiatives being implemented and found that “Most of the key areas for strategy, policy development and the development of an overall vision are in place”.
- 2.9 Whilst the findings of Redwylde’s study were very positive, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership via the Public Confidence and Reassurance Group recommended that a Community Cohesion Framework be developed in order to sustain and build on the existing good work being delivered in the town.
- 2.10 Developing a framework is perhaps very timely given the current financial climate, which is anticipated to have detrimental effects on residents and those organisations both statutory and voluntary who seek to deliver initiatives which have a positive effect on sustaining and developing good community cohesion.

3. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 3.1 Consultation will take place with the following groups and organisations:
 - Safer Hartlepool Partnership
 - Community Safety and Planning Portfolio
 - Key Voluntary Organisations, for example, HVDA, OFCA, Manor West, West View Project, Wharton Annex, Salaam Centre, Hart Gables, Access Group, and Places of Worship (This list is not exhaustive)
 - Child and Adult Services
 - Fire Brigade,
 - Police
 - Health Services

- Social Housing Providers
- Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee
- Neighbourhood Action Plan Forums
- Ward Councillors

- 3.2 In line with the existing Hartlepool Compact, under section (B) Consultation and Policy Code, those involved in the consultation process will be given 8 weeks to feed back their comments, information will include details of the time scale, any decision already made and arrangements for expressing views. The consultees will be provided with a questionnaire, which will guide them through a range of questions in relation to the key elements of the Community Cohesion framework (**Appendix 1**).
- 3.3 Where possible, on line consultation will be the main tool. Where this is not possible, consultees will be written to and provided with a hard copy of the Framework.
- 3.4 It is envisaged that implementation of the framework will commence in February 2012.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 The Portfolio Holder to comment on the draft Community Cohesion Framework and the associated consultation programme.

5. CONTACT OFFICER

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Community Cohesion Framework 2012– 2015

DRAFT



Our Vision:

“by 2020 Hartlepool will be made up of cohesive communities where there is a sense of belonging for all and where people of different backgrounds, circumstances and generations have access to the same opportunities and are able to get along free from discrimination and harassment.”

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D R A F T

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FOREWORD

Cohesive Communities are strong communities, where people feel that they belong and are valued for their contribution to society.

Residents of Hartlepool have a strong identity with the town and a sense of place and therefore have strengths which can be built on as part of the overall Community Cohesion Framework. Nevertheless there are also challenges in areas associated with poor community cohesion and social capital. We recognise that we have a key role in the development and delivery of this framework along with our key partners, both voluntary and statutory together with the wider community in order to bring about positive improvements, particularly in our most disadvantaged communities.

Hartlepool's Ambition:

“Hartlepool will be a thriving, respectful, inclusive and outward looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential.”

This Community Cohesion Framework supports the Borough's Sustainable Community Strategy along with other fundamental strategies such as Child Poverty Strategy and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategy.



(Insert Signature Here)

**Stuart Drummond
Mayor of Hartlepool**

Introduction

The term **Community Cohesion** is defined by the Government as what must happen in all communities to enable different groups of people to get on well together. A key contributor to community cohesion is integration which is what must happen to enable new residents and existing residents to adjust to one another.' Our vision of an integrated and cohesive community is based on three fundamental principles:

- People from different backgrounds having similar life opportunities
- People knowing their rights and responsibilities
- People trusting one another and trusting local institutions to act fairly

And three key ways of living together:

- A shared future vision and sense of belonging
- A focus on what new and existing communities have in common, alongside a recognition of the value of diversity
- Strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds



Community Cohesion – The National Context

In recent years, the issue of Community Cohesion has risen up the national political agenda, initially as part of the Government's response to civil disturbances in several northern towns in 2001. Reports into the causes of these disturbances highlighted issues of deprivation, inequality and lack of communication or understanding within and between communities as significant factors.

The Home Office was given the responsibility of taking the community cohesion agenda forward, initial strategies were focused on crime, race and faith issues, and preventing violent extremism. In 2003 Home Office guidance for Local Authorities was published in which the main essence of community cohesion was defined as, *'the proportion of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds can get on well together'*.

In 2005 the London Tube bombings occurred; following these the Government set up the Commission on Integration and Cohesion (CoIC) to identify strategies for building better cohesion within communities. The Commission looked further than preventing violent extremism accepting that community cohesion goes beyond issues of race and faith. The Commission's report identified local and practical ways to build cohesion, it recommended that a multi strand response was needed, one that would engage the public, private, voluntary and community sector.

The Government acknowledged that the work of the CoIC had given a new clarity and focus to the work of cohesion. This new focus was now on engaging all members of the community, engendering a strong sense of belonging and developing strong and positive relationships between all sections of the community.

In 2007 the Government also launched the Prevent Strategy with the aim of stopping people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism both in the UK and overseas. This was done through challenging the violent extremist ideology and supporting mainstream voices; disrupting those who promote violent extremism; supporting individuals vulnerable to the violent extremist message; increasing the resilience of communities to violent extremism and addressing grievances.

More recent Government initiatives include the Localism Bill outlining its ambitions to give local people more power and influence over improving their lives. The Government has made it clear that the voluntary and community sector has a crucial role to play in "place shaping".

The Government's 2011 Prevent Strategy aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism by challenging ideology, supporting vulnerable people and working with key sectors.

The Prevent Strategy acknowledges that prevention depends on a successful cohesion and integration strategy; however the Government do not advocate that the two strategies and programmes are merged together.

The Local Context

There are already lots of strategies and plans, locally and nationally, which talk about how the Council and others will do their work to promote community cohesion. To strengthen the overall approach we feel the issue of community cohesion must be specifically addressed by drawing on the strategies already in place. The aim is that cohesion is not seen as an 'add on' to these existing strategies but as an integral part of everything that we do.

There is a clear relationship between cohesion and numerous other policy areas including:

- Community Empowerment
- Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour
- Volunteering
- Equalities and perceptions of fair treatment

Supporting community cohesion will therefore also provide additional benefits to these other policy areas. Importantly, a community cohesion framework would further ensure that other policy areas feed into it and take cohesion into account.

A Community Cohesion Framework will provide the following benefits:

- Prevent duplication between service providers
- Provide a cohesive and effective working model
- Be a catalyst for promoting cohesion within communities
- Give the ability to share good practice locally, regionally, and nationally
- Provide opportunities to secure future mainstream and sustainable funding

Existing Strategies Linked to Cohesion

Hartlepool already has in place a number of key strategies that support community cohesion within our communities, these are;

- **Hartlepool's Community Strategy**

Sustainable communities are places in which people want to live, now and in the future. Equality, social inclusion and community cohesion are all essential principles in the creation of a sustainable community. Hartlepool's Community Strategy is the long term plan for the future of Hartlepool. Its vision is that;

Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward-looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential.

The delivery plan for the Community Strategy includes a number of outcomes which this Community Cohesion Framework will help to deliver:-

- **Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (NRS)**

Like many towns and cities, Hartlepool has neighbourhoods that experience high crime and unemployment. Hartlepool's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (NRS), which is a key part of our Community Strategy, sets out actions to reverse this decline and breathe new life into our most disadvantaged neighbourhoods. It's vision is to;

Continue the regeneration of Hartlepool and ensure that local people, organisations and service providers work together to narrow the gap between the most deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the borough, so that in the future, no-one is seriously disadvantaged by where they live.

Increased community cohesion is a key aim within the NRS;

To ensure Hartlepool is a cohesive community where there is a sense of belonging for all and where people of different backgrounds, circumstances and generations are able to get along free from discrimination and harassment.

- **Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy**

The vision within the Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy is that Hartlepool will be;

A place where people have pride and want to live and stay, with everyone taking part, and everyone understanding each others needs.

A key aim within this strategy is;

Ensuring appropriate governance is in place that enables the meaningful participation and empowerment of communities in local government decision making processes, supported by the effective community development work that increases cohesion and enables all sections of the community to make a positive contribution'.

- **Safer Hartlepool Partnership - Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategy**

A key aim within the Strategy is to 'Create confident, cohesive and safe communities'. An annual priority for 2011 – 12 is to 'Reduce anti-social behaviour, with specific focus on privately rented properties and alcohol related youth ASB. Reduce criminal damage specifically to dwellings and improve confidence and cohesion within communities'.

- **The Voluntary Service and Compact Strategy**

The Hartlepool Compact is an agreement between Hartlepool Borough Council, local service providers and commissioners of services and the voluntary and community sector. The purpose of the Compact is to set out codes of practice and terms of engagement that organisations will agree to and more importantly sign up to. This will ensure that all partners are aware of and can be responsible for the level of engagement expected from them and what they expect from others when working in partnership. This mutual agreement between partners will improve their relationships and benefit communities within Hartlepool.

- **Housing Strategy**

The Hartlepool Housing Strategy 2011-2015 identifies how the council and its partners will work together to meet the housing needs and aspirations of Hartlepool Borough Council and its residents. The Housing Strategy is key to building mixed sustainable communities, which will assist in the longer term development of cohesive communities.

- **Child Poverty Strategy**

Hartlepool Borough Council's Child Poverty Strategy is a key part of the authority's business activity. This document underpins the Council's Corporate and Departmental Plans, the Community Strategy and Partnership Plan and will provide the strategic priorities which will aim to improve the life chances of all children, young people and their families.

This new Community Cohesion Framework will pull together the strands of these existing documents and identify what we can do to develop more cohesive communities and ensure that it remains at the forefront of local policy.

The Challenges to Cohesion and Integration

In developing what cohesion means at a local level for Hartlepool we must recognise that there is no single or small group of factors which can explain the level of cohesion within a community. Even the level of deprivation, which is the strongest influence on cohesion, can only explain a few percentage points of difference. Given the complexities and the significant challenges, improving community cohesion will require addressing a number of issues at the same time, such as:

- The persistence of poorer economic and social outcomes for particular communities that can lead to disaffection.
- The concentration of particular groups of people in some residential areas which result in a lack of contact between communities and can cause tensions.
- The tensions that result from the breakdown of relationships and communication between different generations sharing the same space and places.

The Commission for Integration and Cohesion has highlighted that crime and perceptions of crime also have a significant impact on people's perceptions of cohesiveness in their area. Fear of crime can create barriers and damage trust between sections of the community (e.g. between young and older people); highlight the gap between neighbourhoods and affect the confidence of residents in those who they see responsible for tackling crime and Anti Social Behaviour.

Community cohesion is an important issue across the Borough, not just our more disadvantaged communities. However, we recognise that there is a need to tackle poverty in our most deprived neighbourhoods. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 identifies Hartlepool is the 25th most deprived place out of a total of 354 local authority areas, with nearly half of Hartlepool's Residents living in neighbourhoods classified as deprived by Government. This is a major challenge to social inclusion and subsequently has a negative impact on cohesion. If communities are trapped by a cycle of deprivation they can feel alienated and disempowered.

Perception and Physical Performance Indicators that Impact on Cohesion

The Commission on Integration and Community Cohesion (CoIC) noted that whilst monitoring people's perceptions is important, in order to 'take the temperature' of an area, it is also vital to look beneath these perceptions so as to identify the causes of them. Understanding these causes will better enable a local area to undertake work targeted at tackling the cause rather than the effect of poor integration and community cohesion. In undertaking their research, the CoIC found that:

No single factor can cause a breakdown in integration and community cohesion. Rather, a series of problems would have to occur together for cohesion to breakdown. Personal characteristics, attitude and the type of community a person lives in affect perceptions around integration and cohesion.

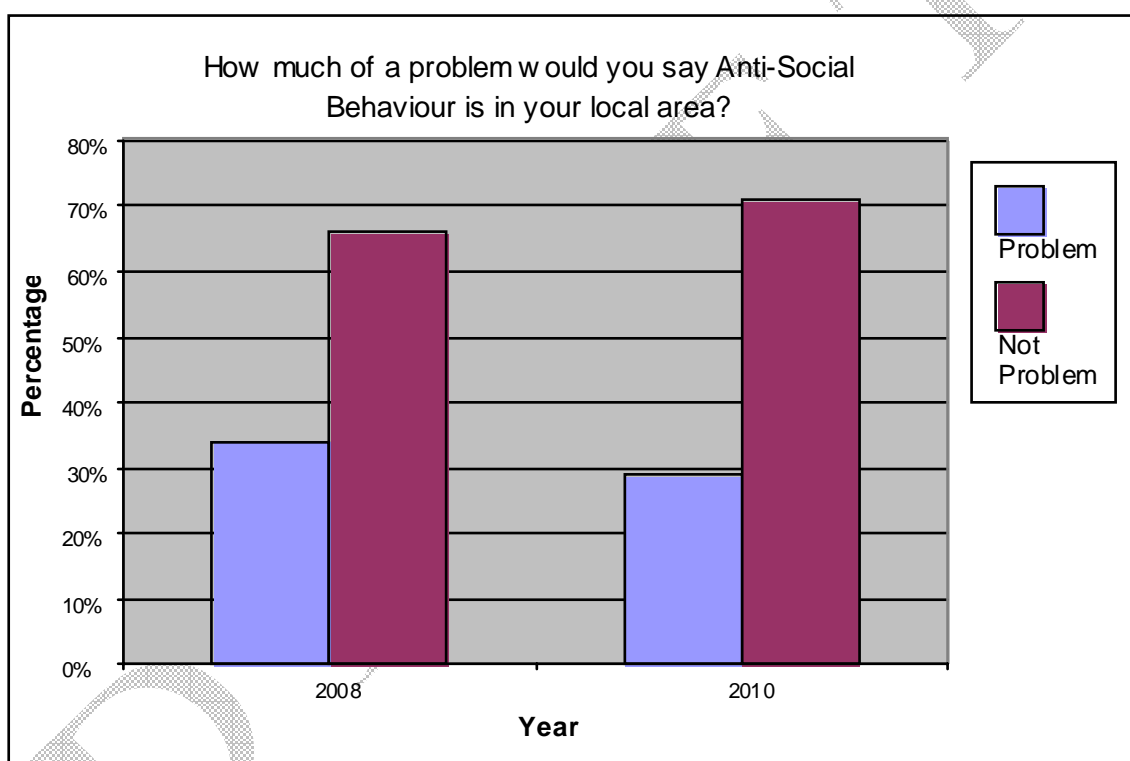
In addition, the Commission identified a series of physical issues that have an important relationship with how a person feels about integration and community cohesion within their area, namely:

- Perception of levels of anti-social behaviour
- Satisfaction with the Council overall
- Satisfaction with cleanliness
- Satisfaction with parks and open spaces
- Satisfaction with participation opportunities

Perception of Levels of Anti Social Behaviour

The 2010 Viewpoint 32 survey indicated that an increasing number of Hartlepool residents felt that anti-social behaviour was not a problem. However anti-social behaviour continues to feature as a neighbourhood priority for many of the Hartlepool wards and remains a Safer Hartlepool Partnership priority.

'Reduce anti-social behaviour, with specific focus on privately rented properties and alcohol related youth ASB. Reduce criminal damage specifically to dwellings and improve confidence and cohesion within communities'.

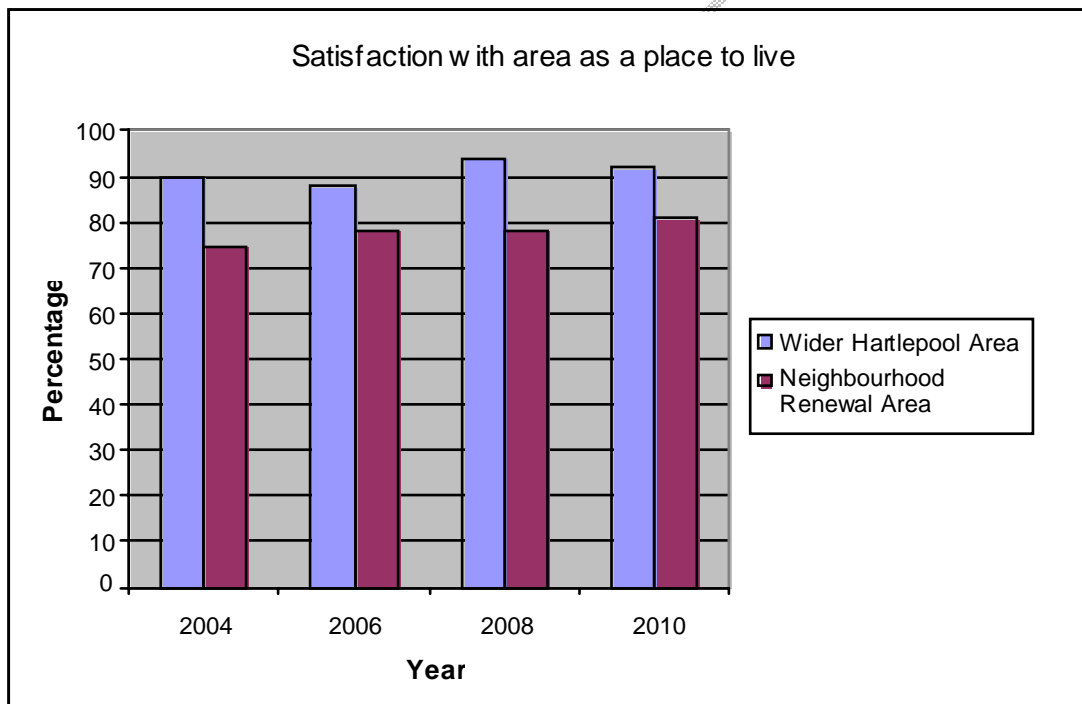


Satisfaction with the Council

The 2008 Place Survey found that 36.6 % of Hartlepool Residents were fairly or very satisfied with the Local Authority. This is lower than the national average of 45 %.

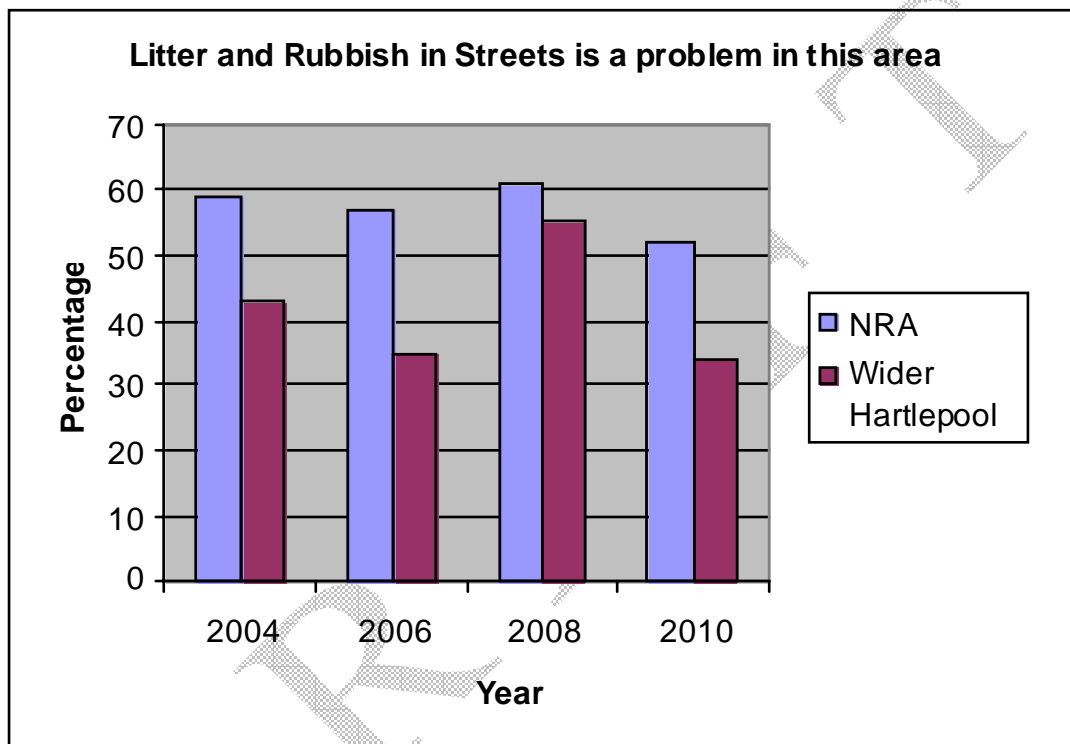
Satisfaction with Area as a Place to Live

In terms of satisfaction with the area as a place to live, there has been a slight increase over time; however within our Neighbourhood Renewal Areas residents remain less satisfied.



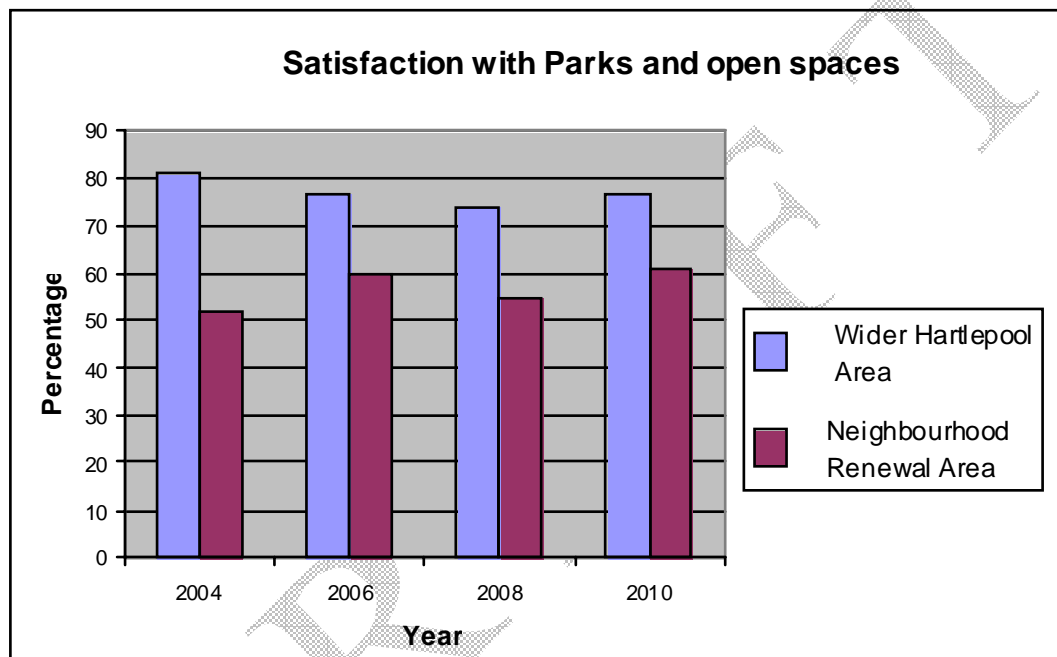
Satisfaction with Cleanliness

The Hartlepool Household Survey 2010 indicated a positive trend in terms the percentage of residents who felt litter or rubbish was a problem in their respective areas. However there remains a clear gap in the perceived level of the problem between the Neighbourhood Renewal Areas of the town and wider Hartlepool.



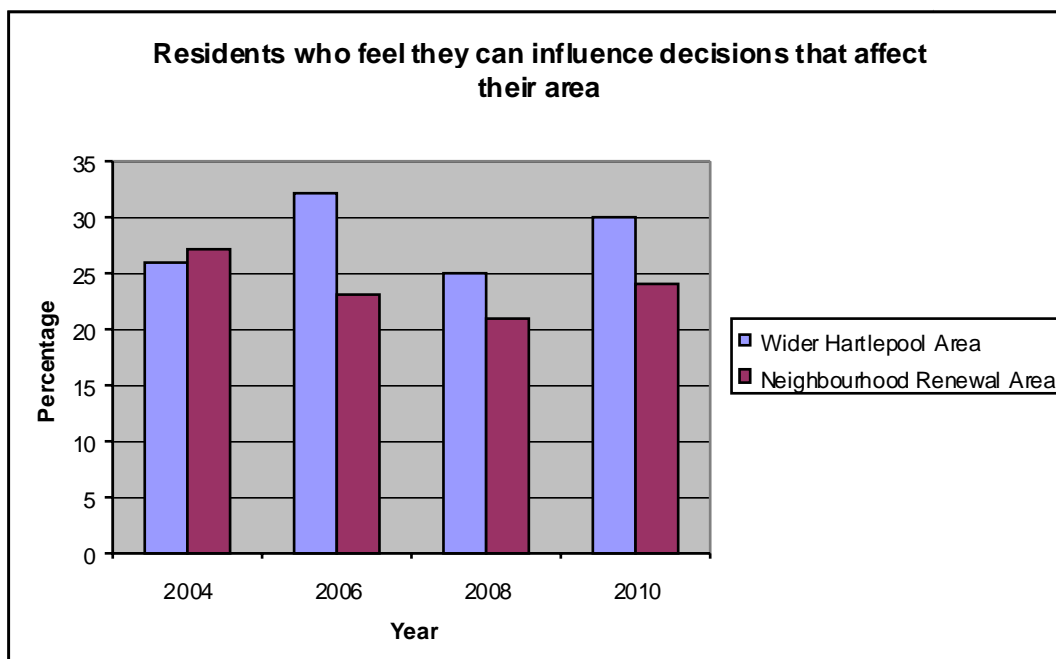
Satisfaction with Parks and Open Spaces

Responses to the 2010 Household survey indicated that satisfaction with parks and open spaces had increased within the Neighbourhood Renewal areas and decreased within wider Hartlepool. Although the gap is narrowing their still remains a significant difference between the areas.



Satisfaction with Participation Opportunities

The Hartlepool Household survey has periodically asked residents whether they feel they can influence decisions within their area. Despite the additional opportunities for residents within the Neighbourhood Renewal Areas to engage via Neighbourhood Action Plans, the feelings of influence remain lower than in the rest of the town.



The above figures give an indication of what the Commission on Integration and Cohesion see as critical factors in terms of the relationships between these areas and cohesive communities; it is clear that the Borough's Neighbourhood Renewal Areas is where these factors are a bigger concern and the communities within it are therefore more susceptible to the problems associated with poor cohesion.

Further evidence which suggests a particular focus on the most vulnerable areas is shown within the [Hartlepool Vulnerable Localities Index](#).

The Vulnerable Localities Index (VLI) is a measure that brings together data on crime, anti-social behaviour, and social exclusion. A vulnerable community displays two core attributes;

- It is an area that experiences problems that relate to community breakdown and fragmentation, and
- It is an area where the trends indicate continual problems, recurring problems or an increasing problem.

Geographic analysis of the vulnerable localities indicates that the majority are located within Neighbourhood renewal areas, with clusters evident in the following wards:

- De Bruce
- Headland and Harbour
- Jesmond
- Victoria
- Burn Valley

We must also recognise that other wards also suffer from many of the problems associated with poor cohesion and as such also have the potential to become vulnerable localities, to ignore these would therefore be detrimental. Where appropriate the actions within this framework will expand into those localities, these include pockets within the following wards;

- Manor House
- Seaton
- Fens and Rossmere
- Foggy Furze

Community Cohesion - A Vision for Hartlepool

The evidence presented within this document clearly highlights the challenges facing all partners within Hartlepool in maintaining and developing more cohesive, integrated communities. To help us achieve this we have developed a vision, a number of key objectives and an associated delivery plan.

Our vision is that;

“by 2020 Hartlepool will be made up of cohesive communities where there is a sense of belonging for all and where people of different backgrounds, circumstances and generations have access to the same opportunities and are able to get along free from discrimination and harassment.”

In taking this framework for cohesion forward **we will**;

- Engage partners across and beyond the Council to improve cohesion
- Improve understanding and unify approaches to cohesion so that everyone sees it as an essential part of their work
- Identify and address gaps in cohesion
- Learn from good practice and successful work that is already happening around developing community cohesion

Objectives

Taking on board both national and local drivers, and the main strategic aims of the Hartlepool Borough Council the themes of this framework focus on the following objectives:

Objective 1

Promote interaction between people and groups

We are committed to ensuring that wherever possible our policies and services promote cohesion and integration and help reduce any tensions and conflict within our neighbourhoods and communities. Within Hartlepool some of our services are more directly involved in things like empowering and strengthening our communities and working to reduce tensions. However cohesion is the responsibility of everyone, from the people who write and approve our policies and strategies, to those who make decisions about how our services are delivered and how resources are spent, to staff managing or delivering services and everyone who interacts with our communities or partners.

Strategic links: Communication, Consultation and Complaints Strategy
Customer Services Strategy
Equality and Diversity Plan
Cultural Strategy

Objective 2

Tackling local attitudes, perception and myths

It is important that the Authority and its partners have a good understanding of how local areas are changing, particularly as a result of demolition of longstanding communities and the development of new communities. Therefore, factual information and reassurance messages need to be communicated to the settled majority communities, and new settlers. Myths and rumours that circulate in local communities and cause division need to be proactively tackled. Our elected Members, staff and key community leaders need support with this. Promoting equality and the diversity of our communities is essential to creating a sense of belonging and shared values. This can not be done in isolation and we need to work with our partners, especially in the media to help build a cohesive and integrated locality. We must be able to provide residents with accurate up to date information about cohesion issues that are relevant to a neighbourhood and to their concerns.

Frontline staff can play an important role in communicating with the public, and will need to be kept informed.

Strategic links: Communication, Consultation and Complaints Strategy
Equality and Diversity Plan
Cultural Strategy

Objective 3

Building trust in local institutions

Different areas will require different strategies to develop trust. The levels of deprivation, use of public services and people's perceptions of their own power to exert pressure or influence will determine our approach. Our services will need to deliver on promises and to be seen to be delivering. We will need to continue to endeavour to give people high quality personal experiences of services, and ensure that the words and behaviour of frontline staff are central to people developing trust in the organisation. Moreover, it will be important to demonstrate that the Authority and its partners are actively listening to local concerns and issues even if it is not always possible to address them.

Strategic links: Hartlepool Partnership Plan
Communication, Consultation and Complaints Strategy
Voluntary Sector Strategy
Hartlepool Compact and Action Plan

Objective 4

Developing the role of young people

Involving and including children and young people in local cohesion work, decision-making and democracy develops their sense of belonging, civic trust and responsibility, and can develop them as a lasting resource for the community. The Authority already has a range of mechanisms in which young people are engaged. These existing mechanisms can be developed further to assist and support young people to understand what escalate and what defuses community conflict, and their role in it. In addition to this exploring ways to build relationships across existing ethnic and social divides, becoming role models in promoting good community relations to their peers and elders will assist in developing a comprehensive action plan for young people's contribution to cohesion.

Strategic links: Child Poverty Strategy
Equality and Diversity Plan
Young People Positive Activities Action Plan
Children and Young People Plan
14-19

Objective 5

Developing effective community leadership

Strong community leadership at all levels is vital in supporting good community relations within Hartlepool. As part of their leadership role, our elected Members, staff and key members of our communities have a responsibility to advocate the importance of cohesion. The Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy for Hartlepool places a strong emphasis on giving communities and residents a bigger say in the services they receive and in the quality of the neighbourhoods in which they live. The Community Empowerment White Paper (2009) and the Localism Bill (2011) both strengthen the commitment to giving people more power over their lives and empowerment in areas such as housing, local public services, and promoting work, enterprise and active citizenship. Active citizenship and community empowerment are crucial to building cohesion and integration - from ensuring that people feel that they have a stake in their local community to developing a common sense of purpose through shared aims and activities.

Strategic links: Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy
Communication, Consultation and Complaints Strategy
Voluntary Sector Strategy

Objective 6

Developing commitment to a shared future

Developing commitment to a shared future with Community groups, the voluntary sector and faith communities plays an important role in working with our communities to realise their potential. They are able to represent the voices of communities, support empowerment and user focused services bringing communities together to effect change. Commitment to a shared future will play an important role in building good community cohesion as it helps people develop a shared sense of belonging to a particular place, it builds community resilience, and it builds individual relationships across identity groups.

Strategic links: Hartlepool Community Strategy
Equality and Diversity Plan

Objective 7

Developing a community resilience

Many of the actions associated with development of resilience are actions undertaken routinely by community development and youth work. Having forums which provide a platform to communities to express their views and influence local decision making is essential to developing this objective. The Authority must build on existing social capital within its communities and clearly identify those communities which lack social capital and are less able to respond to change constructively. We must increase opportunities for volunteering, and develop the capacity of local leaders and community representatives in areas such as conflict resolution and mediation skills.

Within our neighbourhoods we need to ensure that people have a feeling of belonging and that a culture of mutual respect and civility is adopted.

Strategic links: Young Peoples Participation Action Plan
Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy
Adult Education Plan

Objective 8

Tackling the underlying causes of poor community cohesion

The links between disadvantage and cohesion are complex and how these are factored into this framework will depend on the characteristics of each area/neighbourhood. This objective will require actions which will tackle the underlying causes of low cohesion by looking at both the individual and community level disadvantage. It will be necessary to build on existing networks and partnerships e.g. businesses, housing, education, health and Neighbourhood Police. Tackling issues about the local built environment is also key to this objective.

Strategic links: Anti Social Behaviour Strategy
Core Strategy / Development Plan
Housing Strategy
Economic Regeneration Strategy
Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy
Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategy
Domestic Violence Strategy
Social Behaviour Strategy
Older Persons Strategy
PREVENT Action Plan
Neighbourhood Management and Empowerment Strategy

Measuring and Monitoring Community Cohesion

Community Cohesion is not easy to measure; it requires a combination of 'hard' measures (such as crime rates) and 'soft' measures (such as perceptions).

For each key objective there are a number of indicators which help us assess progress. Therefore, alongside a number of perception based measures a number of other more tangible measures are to be included within the action plan.

The action plan will identify actions which are of an immediate, medium and long-term nature, which will be monitored regularly by the 'Public Confidence and Reassurance Group', including quarterly reports being presented to Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

Where possible the following indicators will be used as a measure for this framework and action plan:

- Crime: Burglaries per 1,000 household
- Crime: Violent crime per 1,000 population
- Crime Criminal damage to dwellings and vehicles – per 1,000 population
- Number of hate crimes, (racist, homophobic and faith related crime and disorder) committed locally, per 1, 000 population
- Percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions that affect their local area Number of residents attending three or more NAP forums
- Percentage of people who feel part of the local community
- Proportion of children living in poverty
- Number of community / voluntary sector groups and organisations supported / signposted and assisted.
- Number of private dwellings empty for over 6 months brought back into use.
- Satisfaction with the Council
- Satisfaction with the cleanliness of the area
- Satisfaction with Parks and open spaces
- Satisfaction with Participation Opportunities

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Report To Portfolio Holder
18th November 2011



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)

Subject: LIST OF LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is to update the Portfolio Holder on the progress being made compiling a list of Locally Listed Buildings, and to agree the final list of buildings.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report outlines the background to the local list and the public consultation that has taken place. It explains the progress made compiling the draft list. A summary of the work carried out by an independent panel to compile the final list is provided including those nominations on the list, nominations excluded from the list and where objections have been raised these are outlined. A request is made for agreement of the final list.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Portfolio Holder has responsibility for Conservation.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non Key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder on 18th November 2011.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- i. That the Portfolio Holder considers approving the proposed final list of locally listed buildings shown in Appendix 1 and notes those not included on the final list shown in Appendix 2.

- ii. That the Portfolio Holder considers the nominations outlined in Appendix 3 and considers including these on the final list in line with the recommendations of the independent panel.

Report of: Assistant Director Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: LIST OF LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is to update the Portfolio Holder on the progress being made compiling a list of Locally Listed Buildings, and to agree the final list of buildings.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Hartlepool has some 200 listed buildings. These are properties which have been designated by the government as structures which are of 'special architectural or historic interest'.
- 2.2 Locally listed buildings are not of national significance however they may merit protection because, for example, they are the work of a local architect or have a link to a locally significant historical figure which, although not nationally noteworthy, nevertheless makes a contribution to the local sense of place. These buildings are sometimes omitted from the national list because the view is that there are better examples elsewhere within the country. Some characteristics of buildings may, however, be rare within Hartlepool or may have important group value or may display important local distinctiveness which makes up the town's heritage.
- 2.3 Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment defines a heritage asset as 'A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions.' These can include 'assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process (including local listing).'
- 2.4 Identifying a building, structure or site as being of local importance does not provide any additional statutory protection above and beyond the existing planning controls that currently cover the property. It is, however, a means of highlighting the significance of a building, to the Borough.

3 DRAFT LIST

- 3.1 A draft document of over 200 entries was compiled combining nominations from the public and buildings highlighted during work carried out by officers. The entry for each nomination included a photograph of the nomination, a location plan showing the site and a short description outlining the significance of the entry.
- 3.2 All nominees were notified of the inclusion of their building on the list. They were invited to comment on the nomination should they wish. Guidance was provided on the type of comments which would be accepted. It was stated that comments about the buildings architectural or historic interest would be considered but, personal circumstances, or current or future development proposals could not be taken into account.
- 3.3 Subsequent to this the list was posted on the Councils website and members of the public were invited to comment on the nominations.
- 3.4 An independent panel was established to select the final list. The panel included conservation officers from Middlesbrough and Stockton Councils, a member of the Conservation Area Advisory Committee and a representative specialising in local history.

4 SELECTION OF THE FINAL LIST

- 4.1 At the end of September the selection panel met on four occasions to assess the nominations. Prior to the meeting the panel received a copy of the local list document.
- 4.2 In assessing each nomination the panel were provided with the following information:
- Photographs showing the nomination.
 - A copy of the nomination form where available.
 - Any comments submitted by the owner, occupier or other interested parties.
 - Any available background information.
- 4.3 The nominations were assessed on the following criteria:
- **Design merit:** is it the work of a particular architect or designer of regional or local note? Does it have qualities of age, style or distinctive characteristics relative to the area? Does it have landmark quality? Is it characterful and time-honoured or locally-valued
 - **Historic interest:** does it relate to an important aspect of local, social, economic, cultural, religious or political history; does it have an historic association with an important local feature?
 - **Historic association:** does it have close associations with famous local people (must be well documented); does it relate closely to any statutorily protected structure or site?

- **Survival:** does it survive in a substantial and recognisable form; are historic features and layout still present; does it represent a significant element in the development of the area?
- **Layout:** is it part of a planned layout that has remained substantially intact e.g. a terrace or a square?
- **General:** does it provide an important visual amenity?

4.4 Each criterion was marked on a scale of one to five. Five was the highest score meaning the nomination fully met the requirements of the criterion. One was the lowest score used where the criterion was not met. All nominations scoring 15 or over have been included on the local list.

4.5 The final list constitutes 189 entries. Details of those properties included on the list can be found in Appendix 1. Those properties excluded from the list, 46 in total, are shown in Appendix 2. Some entries which were initially included as single nominations have been combined to form one entry, for example where a number of related buildings are found on one site, such as a cemetery with a lodge house, a chapel and boundary wall, these have been amalgamated from four entries into one entry on the list. As a result the number of entries found on the list has been reduced further.

5. OBJECTIONS TO INCLUSION ON THE FINAL LIST

5.1 Where objections were raised owners and occupiers were contacted to notify them of their inclusion on the draft list and to ascertain if they wish to continue with their objections. Objectors were again notified that comments about the buildings architectural or historic interest could only be considered, and it would not be possible to take into account personal circumstances, or current or future development proposals.

5.2 Initially 11 objections were outstanding however only four objectors have responded to correspondence indicating that they wish to pursue their objections. **Outlined in Appendix 3 are details of the panels score and copies of the objections which have been raised. This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006) namely (para 1), information relating to any individual**

5.3 In a report brought to this Portfolio Holder on 7th September 2010 it was agreed that the final decision over whether to include properties on the list would lie with the Portfolio Holder. Where objections have been raised legal advice has proposed that in this situation the Portfolio Holder should make the final decision over the inclusion of these nominations on the final list.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That the Portfolio Holder considers approving the proposed final list of locally listed buildings shown in Appendix 1 and notes those not included on the final list shown in Appendix 2.
- 6.2 That the Portfolio Holder considers the nominations outlined in Appendix 3 and considers including these on the final list in line with the recommendations of the independent panel.

7. CONTACT OFFICER

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Appendix 1

Nominations included on the final list

Dalton Piercy and Rural Areas

Brierton North Farm and outbuildings, Brierton Lane
High Stotfold Farm
Leamount, The Green
West Pasture, Old Farm House and Out Buildings, Dalton Back Lane

Elwick

Elwick House, Elwick Road
16 The Green
Elwick WI, The Green
Home Farm, The Green, Barn to front of farm
Holmlea, The Green
North Farm including outbuildings, The Green
MacOrville, 37 The Green
Spotted Cow, The Green
Village Shop, The Green
Bus Shelter, The Green, Elwick

Greatham

Grove House, 4 The Drive
1 Egerton Terrace
3 – 9 (consecutive) Egerton Terrace
Meadowcroft & Fairfield, Egerton Terrace
1 Front Street
3 Front Street & 1 The Drive
5 Front Street
17 & 19 Front Street
Greatham Community Centre, Front Street
Greatham Hall, Front Street
Hall Farm, Front Street
Bull and Dog, 8 High Street
10 – 16 (even) High Street
22 High Street
Smith Arms Public House, 29 High Street
The Gray Memorial Hall Wesleyan School, High Street
The Greatham Independent Methodist Church, High Street
Building behind Methodist Chapel, High Street
2, 4, 6 West Row (formerly The Cottage)
War Memorial, St John the Baptist, Greatham
Pill Box off Station Lane, Greatham
Anti Tank Defences, North Greatham Bridge
Pill Box, North east Greatham Beck
Park House, West Row
Post Office, Woodbine Terrace

Hart

Chaplains Well, Butts Lane
Outbuilding, Beckwood House, Front Street
Hart Farm, Front Street including Out Buildings
Home Farm Barns, Stables and Old Farm House, Front Street
The White Hart PH, Front Street
Former farm buildings and agricultural buildings at Hart Pastures
Chare Walls, approach to St Mary Magdalene Church

Headland and Central

Headland Lighthouse, Bath Terrace
Morison Hall, Church Close
Cosmopolitan Hotel, Durham Street
Redheugh Gardens, Cliff Terrace
Bowling Greens and Tennis Courts at Marine Crescent
St Mary's Presbytery, 23 Middlegate
Lamp Post, Middlegate
Town Square, Middlegate
Town Moor, Moor Parade
Spion Kop Cemetery, Old Cemetery Road
Powlett Hotel, Powlett Road
Croft Gardens, Sandwell Chare
The Ship, Sunnyside
Horsely Buildings, Throston Street
West View Cemetery including Lodge
Pilot Pier, Headland
Breakwater, Headland

Newton Bewley

Manor Farm House
Fairfield Farm House, Newton Bewley

Seaton Carew

1 – 5 The Cliff
Staincliff Hotel, The Cliff
7 & 8 The Cliff
14 & 15 The Cliff
Glenclyffe, 11 – 13 The Cliff
31 – 34 (consecutive) The Cliff & 2 Station Lane
9 Green Terrace
The Vesper House, 8 – 16 (even) Queen Street
Ashburn Cottage, The Front
Commemorative Stone, The Esplanade, Seaton Carew
War Memorial, The Green, Seaton Carew

South of the Town Centre

Victoria Homes off Blakelock Road
Burn Valley Gardens
Coronation Homes, Brinkburn Road
Jubilee Homes, Brinkburn Road
Pink Domino, Catcote Road

St Aidan's School Loyalty Road
Rossmere Park
Foggy Furze Library, 152 Stockton Road
Briardene, 299 Stockton Road
Stranton Cemetery including Gates, Lodge and Chapel of Rest
War Memorial, Stanton Cemetery
St Cuthberts School, Stratford Road
Owton Fens Aged Persons Hostel, Thetford Road
34 Westbourne Road
99 Westbourne Road

Town Centre

Training Centre, Brougham Terrace
War Memorial, St Oswald's Church, Brougham Terrace
Central Buildings, Church Street
Hartlepool Railway Station, Church Street
Yorkshire bank, Church Street
8 Church Street
9 Church Street
10 & 11 Church Street
20 & 21 Church Street
22 & 23 Church Street
31 & 32 Church Street
47 Church Street
48 Church Street
College of Art Annex, Upper Church Street & 11 Church Square
Collingwood House and White House, Church Square
William Gray House, Clarence Road
Methodist Church, Grange Road
North Cemetery, Hart Lane
Seaton High Light, Jacksons Landing
Church Hall, Murray Street
St Georges United Reformed Church, Park Road
Camerons Lion Brewery and Offices, Stranton
Causeway Public House Stranton
9 Scarborough Street
8 & 10 Scarborough Street
22 Scarborough Street
The Clarendon, Tower Street
Jackson Arms, 19 Tower Street
23 – 31 (odd) Vicarage Gardens
18 – 26 (even) Victoria Road
30 Victoria Road
34 Victoria Road
44 Victoria Road
Greenbank, Waldon Street
Social Club, Waldon Street
9 Whitby Street

West of the Town Centre

36 Clifton Avenue

48 Clifton Avenue
5 & 7 Elm Grove
8 & 10 Elm Grove
9 Elm Grove
11 & 13 Elm Grove
14 Elm Grove
Bukateema, Elwick Road
Beechlands / Hartendale, Elwick Road / Queensberry Avenue
Redlands, Grange Road
50 Granville Avenue
71 Granville Avenue
1 – 7 (odd) The Grove
15 The Grove
6 Hutton Avenue
22 & 24 Hutton Avenue
23 & 25 Hutton Avenue
65 – 71 (odd) Hutton Avenue
88 Milton Road
238 Park Road
242 – 254 (even) Park Road
Crosby War Memorial Homes, Ryehill Gardens
22 Tunstall Avenue
42 Tunstall Avenue
2 & 4 Wilton Avenue
5 – 11 (odd) Wilton Avenue
55 & 57 Wooler Road & 52 The Grove

West Park

5 & 7 Coniscliffe Road
High Trees, High Trees Cottage and Manor Garth, Creswell Drive
3, 7 – 11 (odd) Egerton Road
17 Egerton Road
Briarfields House, Lodge and Outbuildings Elwick Road
Dunelm / West Lodge, Elwick Road
Four Winds Court, Elwick Road
Meadowcroft Lodge, and adjacent entrance gates, Elwick Road
Pavilion, Hartlepool Cricket Club, Elwick Road
Westlands, Elwick Road
Aldersyde, The Parade
Hollymount, The Parade
Middle Fens / Parklands, The Parade
Oak Ridge / Tunstall Grange, The Parade
The White House, The Parade
Bradgate Lodge, Park Avenue
Norlands / Tunstall Lodge, Park Avenue
1 – 7 (odd) West Park

Appendix 2

Nominations excluded from the final list

Dalton Piercy

Amerston Hall Farm, nr Crookfoot Reservoir
Blue House Farm and adjoining buildings, Dalton Back Lane
The Grove (located north east of the village)

Elwick

27 The Green, Mediaeval mandola
Church Side Cottage
Old Elwick Hall School

Greatham

The Grove
13 High Street
46 & 48 High Street
RHM Greatham Marsh Lane
Wall at Post Office, Woodbine Terrace

Hart and Middle Warren

Outbuilding, Brewery Cottage, Front Street
The Raby Arms, Front Street
Raby Cottage, Front Street
White Cottage, Front Street,
Bede Cottage and 1 – 6 Palace Row
Tall Ships, Middle Warren

Headland and Central

New Inn, Broadfield Road
Harbour Refuge, Croft Terrace
Boxing Club (Old Co-op), Northgate
The Globe, Northgate
The Northgate, Northgate
Victoria Arms, Northgate
The Fisherman's Arms, Southgate

Newton Bewley

Grange Farm, Newton Bewley

Seaton Carew

5 The Front

South of Town Centre

Hartlepool Sixth Form College, Blakelock Road
St Cuthberts Roman Catholic Church, Stockton Road
Presbetry to St Cuthert's RC Church, 130 Stockton Road
Travellers Rest, Stockton Road
Holmewood, 301 Stockton Road
30 Westbrooke Avenue

Town Centre

Christopher Street

Lambs Jewellers, York Road

West of Town Centre

102 Grange Road

17 The Grove

40 Hutton Avenue

126 - 128 Park Road

130 - 132 Park Road

5 – 11 Stanhope Avenue

St Lukes Church, corner of Tunstall Avenue / Hart Lane

West Park

29 Egerton Road

Open Spaces

Land adjacent to Quarry Farm from Elwick Road to Worset Lane

St Mary's Church Walled Gardens

Old Putting Green, Middlegate

Triangle of Land to Park Drive / West Park

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 November 2011



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: REVIEW OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
POLICY AND PROCEDURES

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks Portfolio Holder approval for a revised policy with associated procedures for dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report gives an overview of key changes and the reasons they are being proposed.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Anti-Social Behaviour is a Community Safety issue.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Portfolio Holder meeting on 18 November 2011.

6. DECISION REQUIRED

To approve the implementation of the revised policy.

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: REVIEW OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
POLICY AND PROCEDURES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks Portfolio Holder approval for a revised policy with associated procedures for dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The review of the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and procedures was precipitated by a number of factors.
- 2.2 There had been a number of changes in the organisation to which anti-social behaviour officers made referrals, and these need to be reflected in the way the team works as we move forward.
- 2.3 The Community Safety Team has reduced due to the impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review and the ASBU has had to absorb other responsibilities. As such ASBU needs to be sure that resources are directed to those cases where we can have most impact, whilst ensuring that advice and assistance is offered to those suffering low level anti-social behaviour.
- 2.4 The ASBU aspires to take a more restorative approach to dealing with cases due to the higher impact this approach can have, in that in mending relationships the scene is set for less future anti-social behaviour. A referral route to the reparation work carried out by the Youth Offending Service has been agreed and is now operational.
- 2.5 The ASBU has historically spent a disproportionate amount of time dealing with cases where it was apparent from the outset that there was no realistic chance of enforcement work being either successful or in some cases desirable. In other cases the ASBU has been faced with complaints on how decisions have been made on case progression that our existing procedures did not cover. The new policy explicitly includes sections on the factors taken into consideration in such decisions.

- 2.6 The ASBU has in the past expended time and energy on cases that were also being pursued by other agencies. The new procedures offer a more rigorous approach to preventing duplication.

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The ASB Policy (**Appendix 1**) proposes that cases are dealt with on a tiered basis. The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer will decide on the tier that the case fits into. The detailed procedures give guidance in this respect but there needs to be a degree of discretion applied as a typography of anti-social behaviour categories will not in all instances indicate the degree of anti-social behaviour being suffered, and some cases will involve more than one type of anti-social behaviour.
- 3.2 Tier One cases will be recorded and advice offered, and mediation where appropriate. Examples of this type of case include parking issues, high hedges, untidy gardens, boundary disputes.
- 3.3 Tier Two cases will be recorded, advice offered and mediation where appropriate. These cases may also be referred on to other agencies, such as the Neighbourhood Police Team and Environmental Protection Section. Examples of this type of case include neighbourhood disputes, football nuisance, flytipping, noise from pubs, nuisance involving ball games.
- 3.4 Tier Three cases will be dealt with as a case by the anti-social behaviour officer. Cases include Hate incidents; loutish behaviour, verbal abuse;. In each tier three case the officer will complete a full case record; assess the vulnerability of the complainant, and agree an action plan with the complainant.
- 3.5 In addition to the tiered system which is designed to ensure that the specialised knowledge and skills of the anti-social behaviour officers are put to best use, two other tests will be applied to the case work., in deciding whether cases should escalate to legal action.
- 3.6 The evidential test, as detailed in the Code for Crown Prosecutors as issued in February 2010. This is designed to ensure that time is not spent pursuing legal action with no realistic chance of success. Regard needs to be had to the availability, reliability and strength of evidence. Whilst there is a Code for the Crown Prosecutors other public authorities should have regard to its contents on sufficiency of evidence but also on public interest features as to what action should be taken.

- 3.7 The public interest test seeks to ensure that legal action is not pursued where, for example, the costs would be disproportionate to the benefit to be gained, or where a restorative approach could give the same benefit. Regard is to be had for aggravating factors in the case, such as if vulnerable people have been taken advantage of and if a prosecution is in the interest of maintaining public confidence.
- 3.8 In addition, to ensure that consideration is given to those cases where repeat calls may be made which are low level in nature and thus may not precipitate a case being opened but which may none the less be a symptom of wider vulnerability, a multi-agency approach to assessing the needs of repeat callers is to be implemented from November 2011. This will involve the Police Problem Solving Co-ordinator analysing repeat calls and agreeing actions at a monthly meeting. This approach is already taken in Middlesbrough and is to be developed across the force. In Hartlepool the meeting will involve the ASBU, Police, Victim Support, Housing Hartlepool and will review current caseloads as well as allocating new repeat calls. Minutes of these meetings will be circulated to Neighbourhood Managers and progress reviews reported to the Neighbourhood Leadership Board.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There is a risk that the revised policy will put an additional burden on other agencies which are unable to cope. There is however already agreement in place that low level anti-social behaviour cases be passed onto Neighbourhood Police Teams and they received training on this in November 2009 and further training in referral to mediation services in 2010. There is no indication that the new procedures will place additional burdens over that which was previously agreed. The new policy and procedures has been subject to consultation with the Chief Inspector for Neighbourhood Policing. Concern was expressed that at times the other workload of the Neighbourhood Police teams could mean that they are unable to deal with referrals. This position will need to be subject to regular review., and will be managed through the “repeat caller process” described at 3.3 above, which will include vulnerability assessment and joint case management .

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The implementation of this policy does not have any legal implications. It needs to be noted however that the procedures will be subject to further review following introduction of new primary legislation expected in early 2012 which will bring in new powers for dealing with anti-social behaviour.

6. SECTION 17

- 6.1 The new policy and procedures are not anticipated to have an adverse impact on Crime and Disorder in Hartlepool. In ensuring that low level incidents are dealt with by the responsible agencies, these agencies will be fulfilling their Section 17 obligations.

7 RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Portfolio Holder is requested to approve the revised policy and procedures for dealing with anti-social behaviour

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 The new policy and procedures will ensure that partner agencies play their full part in dealing with anti-social behaviour whilst enabling the specialist knowledge of the anti-social behaviour officers to be used to best effect.
- 8.2 The new emphasis on a restorative approach is aimed to help build better relationships in communities and between individuals.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Draft Anti-social Behaviour Case Management Policy Summary
Draft Anti-social Behaviour Case Management Procedures
Draft protocol for Repeat Callers

10. CONTACT OFFICER

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Hartlepool Anti-social Behaviour Unit



Anti-social Behaviour Case Management Policy Summary

Foreword

Hartlepool's Anti-social Behaviour Unit believes that the people of Hartlepool have the right to live their lives free from harassment, alarm or distress.

It is our goal to work effectively with the public and our partner agencies to deal with the factors that affect the quality of life of residents through education, prevention, diversion, support, and/or enforcement. We aim to take a restorative approach wherever practicable to make good harm caused.

The aim of this policy document is to explain how Hartlepool's Anti-social Behaviour Unit deals with anti-social behaviour/hate incident complaints received on behalf of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

This policy is a brief outline of the approach taken by the Anti-social Behaviour and is supported by a more detailed procedural document which will be accessible on-line.

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1. Definitions

1.1 Anti-social Behaviour Definition

Hartlepool Anti-social Behaviour Unit has adopted the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 definition of anti-social behaviour as:

“Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as (the defendant).”

This definition allows for a broad range of behaviour to be classed as anti-social behaviour.

This is useful as people's understanding of what is anti-social behaviour is based on their individual perception of the behaviour. This means that what is acceptable behaviour to one person may not be acceptable behaviour to another.

Depending on the circumstances some anti-social behaviour may also be a criminal offence.

The two tests that the Unit will use to determine if behaviour is anti-social behaviour are:

- Is it likely that a 'reasonable person' experiencing the behaviour would be caused harassment, alarm or distress? AND
- Has the behaviour happened more than once to at least one person? If it's an isolated incident, then it won't count as anti-social behaviour.¹

1.2 Hate Incident/Crime Definitions

A hate incident is one where the person reporting it, who could be the victim or any other person, believes the incident is linked to a protected characteristic as defined by the Equality Act 2010. These are:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

¹ Citizens Advice Bureau website. (2011) What is anti-social behaviour? CAB.

2. Service Standards

Where a complaint is investigated by Hartlepool Anti-social Behaviour Unit the following standards of service will apply:

- 2.1 We will be fair, impartial and professional.**
- 2.2 We will record all complaints that you make.**
- 2.3 We will aim to make an initial response to your complaint within five working days.**

The Unit has a target for an initial response to all complaints involving actual or threatened violence or hate incidents within 1 working day and to all other complaints within 5 working days.

- 2.4 We will respond to straightforward correspondence within 10 working days.**

- 2.5 We will respond to complex correspondence within 20 working days.**

- 2.6 We will tell you who is dealing with your complaint.**

- 2.7 We will assess the information you provide when making a complaint and depending on the circumstances and severity of the problem will:**

- i. Level 3 complaints – provide you with telephone advice regarding the problem, and where appropriate, offer you mediation,**
 - ii. Level 2 complaints – provide you with telephone advice regarding the problem, and where appropriate, offer you mediation and/or a referral to your wards Neighbourhood Policing Team Officer(s) and/or the relevant section(s) from Hartlepool Borough Council for further assistance,**
 - iii. Level 1 complaints – an Anti-social Behaviour Officer will contact you to seek to complete an ASBU Complaint Registration Form which includes a Vulnerability Matrix assessment and an action plan. This may be done over the phone, in your home, at our office or at a location of your choosing.**

- 2.8 We will, where appropriate, offer you victim support and crime prevention help.**

- 2.9 We will share your information with others according to the permissions you give us. (subject to the conditions of section 3)**
- 2.10 We will direct you to the Unit's web-page for information and advice about how we deal with anti-social behaviour/hate incidents, and offer alternative means to access information and services for those without internet access.**
- 2.11 We will agree with you how we aim to keep you informed about what happens with your complaint.**
- 2.12 We will assess what action is appropriate to take against those involved in anti-social behaviour/hate incidents.**

What actions are taken will be determined by the Unit taking into account;

- Your wishes,
 - Whether there is sufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of taking action regarding a complaint.
 - Whether the action would be in the public interest.
 - The resources and sanctions that are available, appropriate and proportionate to deal with the behaviour,
 - The likelihood of success of an action.
- 2.13 On case closure your opinion will be sought on the service provided. Responds will be periodically assessed and procedures reviewed where necessary.**

3. Sharing Information and Data Protection

The Anti-social Behaviour Unit will abide by Hartlepool Borough Council's Data Protection, Freedom of Information and Information Security Policies.

- 3.1 All information regarding a complaint will be classified as confidential information and will be marked as such.
- 3.2 Where possible, the Unit will correspond with our clients by phone and e-mail as this reduces costs, eliminates postal delays and is better for the environment.
- 3.3 The Unit will explain to our clients how information about their complaint will be recorded and who will have access to it. (As explained in the ASBU Complaint Registration Form)
- 3.4 The Unit will not reveal the identity of our clients to those alleged to be responsible for the behaviour reported or their representatives.
- 3.5 The Unit will exchange information under the local information sharing protocol. Where there is information our clients wish to keep confidential, this will be respected so far as this is compatible with:
 - The legal obligations of the Council/Cleveland Police,
 - The prevention/detection of disorder or crime,
 - The protection of public safety,
 - The protection of health or morals,
 - The protection of the rights and freedoms of others,
 - Child protection / protection of vulnerable adults,
 - If failure to share the information could place a person at risk of harm,
 - Where the exchange of information is necessary for the effective operation of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

4. Reporting and Investigating Complaints²

- 4.1 All complaints reported to the Unit will be recorded.
- 4.2 The Unit will assess the information provided by our clients when making their complaint and will decide which level the complaint falls into.
- a) **Level 3 complaints** – provide the client with telephone advice regarding the problem, and where appropriate, offer them mediation,
- b) **Level 2 complaints** – provide the client with telephone advice regarding the problem, and where appropriate, offer them mediation and/or a referral to their wards Neighbourhood Policing Team Officer(s) and/or the relevant section(s) from Hartlepool Borough Council for further assistance,
- c) **Level 1 complaints** – an Anti-social Behaviour Officer will contact the client to seek to complete an ASBU Complaint Registration Form (appended) which includes a Vulnerability Matrix assessment and an action plan. This may be done over the phone, in their home, at our office, or at a location of the client's choosing.
- 4.3 To prevent duplication of effort, minimise the use of public resources and ensure that the most appropriate agency is responsible for investigating a complaint, the Unit will not investigate a complaint received where:
- The primary responsibility for investigating the complaint is held by another agency. For example:
 - Cleveland Police - anti-social behaviour which is also a crime,
 - Social Landlord - breaches of their Tenancy Agreement.
 - Hartlepool Borough Council - anti-social behaviour which is the responsibility of another department. i.e. noise from pubs/clubs.
 - Website operators – breach of a sites code of conduct.
 - The complaint is already being investigated by another agency,
 - The complaint has already been investigated by another agency,
 - The complaint does not meet the Evidential Test,
 - The complaint does not meet the Public Interest Test,
 - The complaint has already been investigated by the Unit and it is judged to not be in the public interest to open a new investigation.
 - The Unit decides that it would not be practical to take action.

² Development and Practice Report (2004) Defining and Measuring Anti-social Behaviour. Home Office

- 4.4 The Unit may work with its partners and/or carry out a joint investigation into a complaint where it considers it necessary, appropriate and in the public interest to do so.
- 4.5 The Unit will record all complaints that are made anonymously as intelligence. Where complaints reported in this manner can be verified through other means then appropriate action will be taken as with any other complaints subject to its circumstances.
- 4.11 The Unit will seek to agree an action plan with its clients setting out how their complaint will be investigated. In the first instance the Unit will aim to facilitate making good the harm caused to the individual and the community, bearing in mind that the **safety of the client and any witnesses will be the first consideration**. The action plan will also cover the support needs of the client, by assessing the impact of the complaint on the client and their family, and making appropriate referrals for support.
- 4.12 The action plan will not take responsibility away from our clients. Clients will be required to participate in the investigation by reporting further incidents and where appropriate by providing evidence of them by completing Diary Sheets, or by giving a witness statement, and if necessary attending court.

5. What Action We Can Take

- 5.1 Every complaint reported to Hartlepool's Anti-social Behaviour Unit is different. Our aim is to try to resolve or reduce the problems that are reported to the Unit using the most appropriate and effective solutions available. This often involves working in close partnership with other agencies in Hartlepool to put together a package of measures that are designed to tackle the problem behaviour.
- 5.2 Subject to the stipulations indicated at 2.12, action by the Unit may include;
- Providing advice,
 - Providing access to mediation,
 - Providing access to diversion activities for young people,
 - Providing access to support - i.e. parenting/housing/behavioural,
 - Providing access to alcohol and drug treatment,
 - Facilitating a restorative justice approach to the complaint.
 - Issuing written warnings,
 - Requesting a landlord warn their tenant about breaching their tenancy agreement,
 - Having a someone sign an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement,
 - Using other enforcement agency powers to deal with the problem,
 - Requesting a landlord evict their tenant,
 - Involving Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Protection agencies,
 - Assisting Cleveland Police with a criminal prosecution,
 - Taking legal enforcement - for example; applying for ASBO, premise closure order, parenting order.
- 5.3 Where serious complaints occur (particularly those which involve threats of violence/actual violence) legal action may, where appropriate be immediately pursued to protect a client.

6. APPENDIX

ASBU Case Management Registration Form

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COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 November 2011



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: THE COMMISSIONING OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
INTERVENTION SERVICES IN HARTLEPOOL

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Portfolio Holder that the decision to commission domestic violence prevention and intervention services by the Council as one contract was agreed by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Procurement on 13 October 2011.

The contract will be tendered, subject to funding, for three years with an option to extend for a further two periods of twelve months each.

To advise the Portfolio Holder of the weightings to be used in the tender evaluations.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

This report provides background information with regards to the nature and extent of domestic violence in Hartlepool, current domestic violence services provided, and indicates why it has been agreed that the services be consolidated into one contract.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER

Domestic Violence is a high priority Community Safety Issue.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

For information.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Finance and Procurement on 13 October 2011
Community Safety and Planning Portfolio 18 November 2011

6. DECISION REQUIRED

Report is for information only.

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: THE COMMISSIONING OF DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND
INTERVENTION SERVICES IN HARTLEPOOL

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Portfolio Holder that the decision to commission domestic violence prevention and intervention services by the Council as one contract was agreed by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Procurement on 13 October 2011.
- 1.2 The contract will be tendered, subject to funding, for three years with an option to extend for a further two periods of twelve months each.
- 1.3 To advise the Portfolio Holder of the weightings to be used in the tender evaluations.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 From 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011 the relevant crime statistics for Hartlepool were:
 - 2846 domestic related incidents (an increase of 208 incidents compared to the previous year)
 - 765 domestic related crimes
 - 66% crimes that involved physical violence
 - 1.5% related to sexual violence but again this is a highly under reported crime
 - Since 2005 there have been 3 domestic murders and 2 attempted murders in Hartlepool
- 2.2 Core Services currently provided in Hartlepool are:
 - Refuge provision
 - Adult outreach floating support
 - Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
 - Male perpetrator programme
 - Multi agency risk assessment and Conferencing (MARAC) with a co-ordinator.
 - Sexual Violence Counselling
 - Target hardening

- 2.3 In December 2010, the Partnerships Team within the Chief Executive's Department produced a report; "Domestic Violence - Mapping of Services in Hartlepool". The report gave an overview of the effectiveness of the services that are being delivered in Hartlepool; how services are accessed; the barriers people face and why people drop out of the support system. The report made 25 recommendations, one of which was that Partners should consider undertaking joint commissioning of domestic violence services.
- 2.4 Domestic Violence is recognised as a key issue in Hartlepool . In January 2011, the Community Safety Partnership's Domestic Violence Group, together with the main service providers in Hartlepool agreed eight shared priorities. These are:
- Prevention, including workforce development
 - Support to female victims with children, including Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA)
 - Refuge and (new) move on accommodation
 - Support to children in households with Domestic Violence
 - Support to female victims (including IDVA service)
 - Male perpetrator programme
 - Support to male victims
 - Security improvements to victims' homes
- 2.5 The content of this report has been produced with input from the Corporate Procurement Team.

3 CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION SERVICES

- 3.1 Domestic Violence prevention and intervention services in Hartlepool are currently funded from a number of different funding streams or budgets. The majority of the funding comes from the Local Authority. Additional funding comes from agencies such as Police, Probation, Ministry of Justice and Health.. Total expenditure is in the region of £275,000 per annum.
- 3.2 Funding for domestic violence prevention and intervention services within the Local Authority is provided by both Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, and Children and Adult Services Departments, under a variety of contracts with varying expiry dates.
- 3.3 There is currently no strategic approach to commissioning domestic violence services or any one agency or Directorate which takes a lead.

4 FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 In accordance with the recommendation of the review of January 2010, it is proposed that the core services listed above are let as one single contract. Hartlepool Borough Council will lead the procurement process, following standard HBC contract procurement rules, on behalf of and in collaboration with the other funding partners.
- 4.2 The Safer Hartlepool Executive Group meeting of 14th September 2011 agreed the pooling of funding for Domestic Violence across partner agencies to enable the services to be let as one contract.
- 4.3 The contract would be managed by a steering group made up of stakeholders, comprising the funding agencies with representative service users.
- 4.4 The contract value would be approximately £275,000 per annum, but would be flexible enough to allow for the fact that funding streams are not guaranteed in future years and the work done would be tailored to reflect the resources available to pay for them, as agreed with the steering group in the light of strategic priorities.
- 4.5 The intention is to have the contract in place by 31st March 2012, and an indicative timetable has been devised by the Corporate Procurement team to facilitate this.
- 4.6 Given the nature of the service, it is proposed that the tenders will be assessed on a ratio of 60% quality and 40% price. A full report on the outcome of these evaluations will be presented to Contract Scrutiny Committee to ensure compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules.
- 4.7 The Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder agreed this approach on 13th October 2011.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 To note that domestic violence prevention and intervention services be commissioned as one contract and that one agency will act as lead provider, in the event of a partnership submission.
- 5.2 To note that the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Procurement agreed this approach on 13 October 2011. The contract will be tendered, subject to funding, for 3 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years
- 5.3 To note that a weighting of price (40%), and quality (60%) as the basis of evaluating tender submissions will be applied.

6 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 A single contract will allow for improved corporate understanding of domestic violence, reflecting the high priority of the issue.
- 6.2 The letting and management of one contract rather than several will be less resource intensive.
- 6.3 The lead provider will be responsible for the co-ordination of contract delivery thus freeing HBC resource that might otherwise be required for this.
- 6.4 A single flexible contract will enable the lead provider to adjust delivery as changes in future funding may require.
- 6.5 It is anticipated that a single contract will deliver savings by streamlining the procurement and contract monitoring requirements of the Council.

7 CONTACT OFFICER

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COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PLANNING PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder
18 November 2011



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)

Subject: STRATEGY FOR THE FORMER ODEON
CINEMA

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide information to the Portfolio Holder on a strategy developed to address the issues surrounding the former Odeon Cinema on Raby Road.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Officers met with English Heritage earlier this year to discuss the former Odeon Cinema and approaches which could be taken to find a solution for the site. English Heritage suggested putting together a strategy for the site to provide a clear plan of the actions that the Local Authority intends to take. This report provides an outline of the contents of that strategy.

3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Conservation policy falls within this Portfolio.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key decision.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Community Safety and Planning Portfolio meeting 18th November 2011.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Portfolio Holder notes the strategy to secure a future for the former Odeon Cinema, Raby Road.

Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)

Subject: STRATEGY FOR THE FORMER ODEON
CINEMA

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Officers are currently working to find a sustainable solution for the former Odeon Cinema building. A strategy has been compiled outlining the approach that will be taken along with a timetable setting out when the work will be carried out.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The property was built in the mid 1930s and was purpose designed with a single screen auditorium to accommodate 1,600 people. To the side of the building are a number of small retail units which can be accessed independently of the cinema. The whole of the building is grade II listed.
- 2.2 The structure has been vacant for over ten years with no clear plan providing a future for the building. The Council has carried out works to ensure that the property is secure and sound however obtaining a use for the former cinema remains the key to providing a future for the property.
- 2.3 Earlier this year officers met with English Heritage to discuss the work carried out by the Authority to date and to consider any further approaches that could be taken. English Heritage is the Government's statutory advisor on the historic environment. They would be consulted on any planning application for major alterations to the property or the demolition of the building. Their work would include reviewing any evidence that the Local Authority produced to justify proposals for the property.
- 2.4 English Heritage suggested that officers compile an action plan to clarify the routes they would be pursuing in securing a use for the site. In working with English Heritage on this and pursuing an agreed route this will assist in future dialogue with them to find a solution for this site.

- 2.5 The future use of the building is also linked to the Authority's wider aspirations for this area. Expressions of interest are currently being sought for the redevelopment of the Mill House area and included within the scope of this project is the Former Odeon Cinema. This has been done to enhance the potential interest in the building and help to build the case for a compulsory purchase order if a suitable use is found for the building as part of the wider redevelopment of the area.

3. STRATEGY

- 3.1 The strategy sets out the steps the Council proposes to take to find a suitable use for the building. The aim of the strategy is to find a long term use for the site. The Strategy takes into consideration all previous work on the building and co-ordinates this into a single document. Whilst the main focus of the strategy is finding a use for the building it does consider alternative options should this not be possible such as obtaining a vacant site in this location.
- 3.2 An Action Plan has been put together outlining the steps that will be taken to deliver the strategy.
- 3.3 English Heritage has been consulted on the approach and reviewed the draft strategy. The comments received from officers have been supportive. They acknowledge the difficulty in finding a new use for the building noting that, 'Even without the inaction of the current owners the building's scale and distinctive form coupled with the constrained site and edge of town location present strong challenges to its conversion and conservation.' They suggest that the approach to securing a new use for the building outlined by the Authority in the strategy is, 'refreshingly focussed and proactive.'
- 3.4 A copy of the strategy can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.5 The owners of the building have been made aware that it is the intention of the Authority to put together a strategy for the site and they were invited to meet officers to discuss the building. No response has been received at the time of writing this report.

4. RECOMENDATION

- 4.1 That the Portfolio Holder notes the strategy to secure a future for the former Odeon Cinema, Raby Road.

5 CONTACT OFFICER

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Appendix 1

A Strategy to Secure a Future for the Former Odeon Cinema



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Contents

1. Introduction
2. Site Description
3. The Building
4. Condition of the Building
5. Current Use
6. Action Plan
7. Timetable for implementation of the action plan
8. Progress reports

Appendix 1 Background Information

- Location Plan
- List Description
- Planning History

Appendix 2 Related Documents

Appendix 3 Progress Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council is committed to finding sustainable solutions to a number of vacant sites and buildings across the Borough. One such property is the former Odeon Cinema located on Raby Road, a grade II listed building. This strategy sets out the steps the Council proposes to take to find a suitable use for the building. The document should be read in conjunction with the Development Brief produced in November 2010.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The former Odeon Cinema is prominently located on the edge of Hartlepool Town Centre on the junction of two major roads Raby Road and York Road.
- 2.2 The Odeon site adjoins a substantial residential neighbourhood and several smaller retail and service sector businesses. A plan showing the location of the property can be found in Appendix 1.

3. The Building

- 3.1 The former Odeon Cinema is a prominent local landmark building. It exerts a significant physical influence upon the surrounding residential neighbourhoods.
- 3.2 The building is constructed in an Art Deco style, common to many cinemas developed at the time. Built with steel and concrete and clad mainly in brick with elevations up to four storeys, the front of the building is dominated by a stone frieze which sits above the main entrance.
- 3.3 The cinema was purpose built with a single storey auditorium to accommodate 1,600 people. To the side of the building are a number of small retail units which can be accessed independently of the cinema.

4. Condition of the building

- 4.1 Externally the building is in a poor state of repair. A visual inspection would suggest that little general maintenance of the property has taken place in recent years and as a result the building is beginning to deteriorate.
- 4.2 Internal access of the building has not been possible however third party reports would suggest that inside the property is also suffering from a lack of basic maintenance.

5. Current use

- 5.1 The Odeon closed as a cinema in 1981. It has since had a number of uses including a snooker club. In the 1990s it was converted to provide a night club facility with two small screens and separate auditoria. The nightclub use ceased in 1993 and the entire premises were closed in 1999. A full planning history for the property can be seen in Appendix 1.

6. Actions Plan

- 6.1 The Council has put together an action plan outlining how it intends to address the needs of this site. This can be found on the following pages of this strategy.
- 6.2 The aim of the strategy is to find a long term use for the site. This route has been chosen as although a short term use of the building would usually be seen as providing security and assist in the continued maintenance of a

property it is our understanding that the building would not be in a suitable state for immediate occupancy and therefore unlikely to attract anyone interested in a short term use. Further information on reuses of the building can be found in the Development Brief produced in November 2010 which outlines potential new uses for the property.

AIM: FIND A SUITABLE USE FOR THE FORMER ODEON CINEMA**1. Objective: Establish regular contact with the owners of the property.**

The Odeon has been owned for many years by two Hartlepool based business persons Messrs B & T Wilkinson trading as Capnac Leisure (the owners). Each partner has a 50% stake and any transaction requires unanimity.

Since the closure of the building, the owners themselves have not brought forward any plans to refurbish or redevelop the premises. In present circumstances, without positive intervention, it is likely that the Odeon will remain vacant.

A key issue with this site is establishing regular contact with the owners. This would allow the local authority to keep the owners informed of actions that they are taking to address the issue of the building. In addition this would provide an opportunity for the owners to provide information on their intentions for the future of the building.

Most recently legal action has been taken against the owners to enable works to be carried out to repair the property. By establishing regular contact with both owners this would allow such issues to be addressed on a more informal basis which would be beneficial for all parties involved.

Actions:

1. Contact each owner of the property and establish an agreed method of communication in future.
2. Agree a scheme of regular contact with the owners of the property to provide updated information on the position of the property owners and actions of the local authority. For example the parties meet every four months to provide a progress report on the property.
3. Contact the owners at the current known addresses by way of letters sent recorded delivery to provide an update on the progress of the Council's actions to ensure transparency if regular contact cannot be established.

2. Objective: Find an appropriate use for the site.

The local authority is looking to find a suitable occupier for the building who will provide an appropriate use for the site. This could be someone who can take forward the property independently of the local authority and reach an agreement with the existing owners of the property. In such an instance the authority would look to support the potential owner providing advice where possible to achieve its desired end. Alternatively this may be someone who would look to enter into a development agreement with the local authority. A key issue with the property is finding a use which is suitable for such a building.

Actions:

1. Advertise the building in local and national publications and on major commercial property websites.
2. Advertise the building through the Council's website.
3. Advertise the building through relevant organisations, for example SAVE.
4. Directly contact developers who may be interested in this property.
5. Directly contact suitable users for the property.
6. Directly contact local charities who may be interested in the property.
7. Contact regional Building Preservation Trusts who may be interested in taking on the property.

3. Objective: Establish legal requirements to facilitate a suitable use for the building.

The property is not in the ownership of the local authority therefore HBC will look to use the powers available to it to facilitate a suitable use for the building. This would include accessing the buildings to assess the condition of the property, ensuring the property is in a sound state and enabling a change in ownership of the property.

Actions:

1. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to access the property.
2. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to facilitate third party access to the building.
3. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to enable a change in ownership of the site.

4. Objective: Establish financial assistance available for the development of the site.

Should the local authority be able to find a suitable occupier for the building there may be a requirement to assist the owner in establishing the availability of funding sources to facilitate the use. This may be in the form of a grant or a loan.

At this stage and in the future the resources available for such a site will change and should be updated on a regular basis, however a broad outline of such funding should be provided to assist potential occupiers in clarifying what may be available to them.

Actions:

1. Establish what, if any, grant assistance would be available for the building.
2. Establish what, if any, grant assistance would be available for the occupier.

5. Objective: Find a way of facilitating the development of the site.

The local authority may be able to find a suitable occupier for the building however if the building remains in the existing ownership taking this development forward may prove challenging.

A key issue will be to ensure that the expectations regarding the value of the property are realistic so all parties involved can see clearly the current market value of the property and establish the finances that need to be put in place to complete any transaction.

After establishing a value independently for the property the local authority would look to continue discussions with the existing owners to assist in facilitating the occupation of the building. Should it not be possible to conclude this in a way that is satisfactory to all parties involved the local authority would look to use the legal powers available to it to assist in this process.

Actions:

1. Once interest in the property is established make the existing owners of the property aware of the interest and agree a period of time upon which a decision on the future ownership of the building can be made.

2. Once interest in the property is established, commission an independent valuation of the property and make this available to all parties involved.
3. Once interest in the property is established, should an agreement with the existing owners not be reached within the agreed period of time, the local authority will begin the process of compulsory purchase.

6. Objective: Inform the community in the area regularly of the situation with the building and raise awareness of the history of the building.

The building dominates the residential area it is located in and as a result of its dilapidated condition and disuse has had a negative impact on the surrounding community. As actions are progressed to find a suitable use for the building it is proposed that the immediate community should be informed of the progress made.

Further to this the building is listed on architectural and historic merit. Raising awareness of this issue may inform the community of the merits of the building and increase support to find a solution for the site.

Actions:

1. Establish an agreed, regular line of communication with local residents groups, for example provide a written update to residents groups every six months.
2. Look into the potential to provide a display on the history and architecture of the building.

7. Objective: Establish an alternative proposal should a use for the building not be forthcoming.

If a use for the building is not forthcoming an alternative use for the site should be considered. As the building is listed this would be investigated as a last resort however this should be progressed to ensure that there are alternative routes which can be followed if all other proposals for the existing site fail.

Actions:

1. Establish potential uses for the site.
2. Establish the legal process to reach this conclusion should the building remain in the existing ownership.

8. Objective: Establish a pro-active approach to ensure that the building is maintained and is safe.

The building is currently vacant with little, visible, on-going maintenance being carried out. Legal advice and ultimately action using statutory powers has been taken to ensure that the property remains safe and does not endanger those residents who have cause to be around the structure. A key element of ensuring that this site has a viable future is making sure that the structure remains secure and advising the owners of the property of any urgent works that are required to minimise the need for further legal action in relation to this matter.

Actions:

1. Set up regular site visits by local authority officers to monitor the condition of the building.
2. Write to the owners of the property and inform them of any issues with the fabric of the building that has arisen from the monitoring work.

3. Take appropriate action to resolve any issues identified where required.

9. Objective: Continue regular contact with English Heritage to review future activities.

English Heritage provides local authorities with expert advice and guidance on carrying out works to heritage assets. As the proposals for this property develop, advice and guidance will be sought from them on the most appropriate course of action to ensure that this satisfies both the aims of the local authority and English Heritage.

Actions:

1. Contact English Heritage on a quarterly basis to provide updates on progress.

7. Timetable for implementation of the action plan

- 7.1 The objectives and associated actions can be found in the table on the following pages. Each action has been prioritised with one of the following anticipated timescales:

High – to be reviewed every 3 months.

Medium – to be reviewed every 6 months.

Low – to be reviewed every year.

- 7.2 The aim of this strategy is to find a suitable use for the former Odeon Cinema Site. It is anticipated that the actions will be ongoing and will be required to be reviewed on a regular basis. A broad timetable to direct progress has been produced and can be found alongside the Action Plan.

7 Timetable for implementation of the Action Plan

Objective	Action	Priority
1. Establish regular contact with the owners of the property.	1. Contact each owner of the property and establish an agreed method of communication in future.	H
	2. Agree a scheme of regular contact with the owners of the property to provide updated information on the position of the property owners and actions of the local authority. For example the parties to meet every four months to provide a progress report on the property.	H
	3. Contact the owners at the current known addresses by way of letters sent recorded delivery to provide an update on the progress of the Council's actions to ensure transparency if regular contact cannot be established.	H
2. Find an appropriate use for the site.	1. Advertise the building in local and national publications and on major commercial property websites.	M
	2. Advertise the building through the Council's website	M
	3. Advertise the building through relevant organisations, for example SAVE	H
	4. Directly contact developers who may be interested in this property.	H
	5. Directly contact suitable users for the property.	H
	6. Directly contact local charities who may be interested in the property.	H
	7. Contact regional Building Preservation Trusts who may be interested in taking on the property.	H
3. Establish legal requirements to facilitate a suitable use for the building.	1. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to access the property.	M
	2. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to facilitate third party access to the building.	H
	3. Establish the legal powers available to HBC to enable a change in ownership of the site.	H
4. Establish financial assistance available for the development of the site.	1. Establish what, if any, grant assistance would be available for the building.	M
	2. Establish what, if any, grant assistance would be available for the occupier.	M

7 Timetable for the Implementation of the Action Plan Continued

Objective	Action	Priority
5. Find a way of facilitating the development of the site.	1. Once interest in the property is established make the existing owners of the property aware of the interest and agree a period of time upon which a decision on the future ownership of the building can be made.	L
	2. Once interest in the property is established commission an independent valuation of the property and make this available to all parties involved.	L
	3. Once interest in the property is established, should an agreement with the existing owners not be reached within the agreed period of time, the local authority will begin the process of compulsory purchase.	L
6. Inform the community in the area regularly of the situation with the building and raise awareness of the history of the building.	1. Establish an agreed, regular line of communication with local residents groups, for example provide a written update to residents groups every six months.	M
	2. Look into the potential to provide a display on the history and architecture of the building.	L
7. Establish an alternative proposal should a use for the building not be forthcoming	1. Establish potential uses for the site of the building.	M
	2. Establish the legal process to reach this conclusion should the building not be HBC ownership.	M
8. Establish a pro-active approach to ensure that the building is maintained and is safe.	1. Set up regular site visits by local authority officers to monitor the condition of the building.	H
	2. Write to the owners of the property and inform them of any issues with the fabric of the building that has arisen from the monitoring work.	H

7 Timetable for the Implementation of the Action Plan Continued

Objective	Action	Priority
9. Continue regular contact with English Heritage to review future activities.	1. Contact English Heritage on a quarterly basis to provide updates on progress.	H

7 Timetable for the Implementation of the Action Plan Continued

ID	Task Name	Start	Finish	July	September	November	January	March	May	July	September	November
1	Marketing	Wed 24/08/11	Fri 30/11/12									
2	Marketing to Find a Use for the Existing Building	Mon 03/10/11	Fri 30/11/12									
3	Discuss Marketing Results with English Heritage	Tue 01/05/12	Thu 31/05/12									
4	Explore Alternative Uses for the Site	Fri 01/06/12	Fri 30/11/12									
5	Review Progress with English Heritage	Fri 30/11/12	Fri 30/11/12									
6												
7	Contact	Wed 24/08/11	Mon 26/11/12									
8	Owners	Wed 24/08/11	Fri 24/08/12									
13	English Heritage	Wed 24/08/11	Fri 24/08/12									
18												
19	Maintenance	Wed 24/08/11	Mon 26/11/12									
20	Site Inspection	Wed 24/08/11	Mon 26/11/12									

8. Progress reports

- 8.1 Work has been on going for a number of years to resolve the issue of this site. A summary of the current work that has been carried out to address the issues of the property can be found in the progress report in Appendix 3.
- 8.2 It is proposed that progress reports will be completed on a regular basis and appended to this document to ensure that a record of the actions taken and associated evidence are clearly documented.

APPENDIX 1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 1. Location Plan**
- 2. List Description**
- 3. Planning History**

Location Plan



Crown Copyright Licence No 100023390 (2010)

Scale 1:1250

DRAWN BY J. BROWN 2010
DEPT REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS
HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

List Description

Listing NGR: NZ4899332502

RABY ROAD
NZ 5032(west side)
4/92 & 10/92 Odeon Cinema

GV II

Wrongly shown on O.S. plan as Hart Road. Cinema, 1936 by W. & T. R. Milburn Partnership. Steel and concrete structure clad in dull red brick and sandstone ashlar, roof not visible. Gently-curved front with main mass stepping gradually upwards from right to symmetrical frontispiece above entrance. Channelled rusticated ground floor with 9 blank panels in centre and right parts. Paired entrances with ticket office between and quadrant-curved sides with small curved shop windows. Wide projecting canopy, with fluted fascia and patterned soffit, extends to right to shelter long-forgotten queues. Tall frieze above entrance carved with over-life-size figures of athletic dancers in Art Deco background. Vertical panels above to stepped parapet. Blank upper right part has close-set parallel brick bands above stone floor band which continues below frieze into curved left angle bay with small shop below full-height curved stair window with close-set mullions and transom at second-floor level. Narrow bands of windows on plain left return. Disused at time of survey. Formerly known as Majestic Cinema.

Planning History

Reference number	Proposed development
HLBC/1994/0026	Listed Building Consent for the installation of floodlights
HLBC/1993/0644	Listed Building Consent to display illuminated fascia, Bass logo and name signs
HADV/1993/0624	Display of illuminated fascia, Bass logo and name signs
HLBC/1993/0585	Listed Building Consent for internal alterations and alterations to provide additional cabaret/VIP seating area on second floor
HFUL/1993/0584	Alterations to and use of second floor (approved as cinema) as additional cabaret/VIP seating area for use in connection with nightclub
HLBC/1991/0642	Listed Building Consent for provision of fans, boiler flue and louvre on external elevations
HLBC/1990/0413	Listed Building Consent for alterations to front elevation
HADV/1990/0412	Display of 2 illuminated name panels
HLBC/1989/0050	Listed Building Consent for alterations to provide ground floor snooker hall, bar and cabaret facilities and lounge area and cinemas on first floor
HFUL/1988/0461	Change of use of vacant cinema to provide snooker hall, bar and cabaret facilities and lounge and cinema facilities on first floor
HLBC/1988/0166	Listed building consent to demolish buildings
H/1982/0094	Change of use of cinema to snooker centre
H/1978/0936	Change of use from Cinema to Bingo Hall
H/1975/0524	Advertisement

Further information on individual applications can be found at www.hartlepool.gov.uk, click on 'Looking for a planning application', then 'Search for a Planning Application'

Appendix 2

Related Documents

The Odeon, Hartlepool, Feasibility Study by Rix Regeneration with IWA Architects Ltd, November 2006.

Former Odeon Cinema, Raby Road, Hartlepool, Planning Development Brief, produced by Hartlepool BC, November 2010.

Appendix 3 Progress Report to date

Date	Action	Outcome
November 2006	Feasibility study produced by Rix Regeneration with IWA Architects Ltd on behalf of Hartlepool New Deal for Communities	
30 th March 2010	Portfolio Holder Report to consider HBC's options and preferred approached.	Authorisation given to seek a development partner for 'back to back' deal.
November 2010	Development brief produced by HBC to attract a development partner	
November / December 2010	Site Marketed for potential developer partner interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New castle Journal • Estates Gazette 20/11/10 • Property Week 3/12/10 • HBC Website • Direct approach to developers • SAVE website 	13 enquiries were received however no expressions of interest were submitted. The feedback suggested that no expressions of interest were submitted due to large development funding gap which was estimated to be between £1.5 – 2m in considering converting the building into another use.
28 th January 2011	Press releases (Ref: PR037483) on current state of the building following the completion of the Development Brief.	Reports in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC local news website 28/2/11 • Hartlepool Mail 28/2/11 • Northern Echo (DATE) • Evening Gazette (DATE)
April 2011	Section 77 Notice served on owners under the Emergency Repair Works Building Act	Local authority carried out works to make the building safe (September / October 2011).

8. Action Plan Progress Report

Action	Objective	Outcome
	TO BE COMPLETED AS WORK PROGRESSES	