

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AGENDA



Friday 17 February 2012

at 10.00 a.m.

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Cook, Fenwick, Griffin, James, Loynes, A Marshall, Preece, Richardson, Rogan, Shaw, Shields, Thomas, Wells and Wilcox.

Resident Representatives: Maureen Braithwaite, Evelyn Leck and John Maxwell.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

3. **MINUTES**

- 3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2012 *(to follow)*
- 3.2 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2012 *(to follow)*

3. **RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO REPORTS OF THE SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

No Items

5. **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS FROM COUNCIL, EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND NON EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

No Items

6. FORWARD PLAN

6.1 The Forward Plan - February 2012 to May 2012 - *Scrutiny Manager*

7. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

No Items

8. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL MONITORING/CORPORATE REPORTS

- 8.1 Draft Departmental Plans 2012/13 – Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees - *Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees*
- 8.2 Corporate Plan 2012-13 – *Assistant Chief Executive*

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 9.1 Request for Funding to Support the Health Scrutiny Forum – *Scrutiny Manager*
- 9.2 Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:-
- (a) Adult & Community Services Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Adult & Community Services Scrutiny Forum*
 - (b) Children's Services Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum*
 - (c) Health Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum*
 - (d) Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum*
 - (e) Regeneration & Planning Services Scrutiny Forum - *Chair of the Regeneration & Planning Services Scrutiny Forum*
 - (f) Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee - *Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee*
- 9.3 Health Reform Working Group – Update – *Chair of the Health Reform Working Group (to follow)*

10. CALL-IN REQUESTS

No Items

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i) **Date of Next Meeting Friday 9 March 2012, commencing at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

13 January 2012

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Marjorie James (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Rob Cook, Mick Fenwick, Sheila Griffin, Brenda Loynes, Ann Marshall, Arthur Preece, Carl Richardson, Linda Shields, Steve Thomas, Ray Wells and Angie Wilcox.

Resident Representatives: Maureen Braithwaite, and John Maxwell.

Also Present: Cabinet Members -

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond
Councillor Jonathan Brash (Housing and Transition Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Pam Hargreaves (Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder),
Councillor Cath Hill (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder),
Councillor Peter Jackson (Regeneration and Economic Development and Skills Portfolio Holder),
Councillor Chris Simmons (Children's Services Portfolio Holder),
Councillor Hilary Thompson (Performance Portfolio Holder),

Councillor Sylvia Tempest.

Officers: Nicola Bailey, Acting Chief Executive
Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive,
Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer
Peter Devlin, Chief Solicitor
Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Caroline O'Neill, Assistant Director, Performance and Achievement
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

180. Apologies for Absence

Councillors S Akers-Belcher, Shaw, and Cabinet Members Councillors Ged Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder) and Robbie Payne (Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder)

181. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

182. Confirmation of the minutes of the meetings held on 11 November, 25 November and 2 December 2012

Confirmed.

183. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Reports of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

No items.

184. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews from Council, Executive Members and Non Executive Members

No items.

185. Forward Plan

No items.

186. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents - Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2012/13 to 2014/15 - Consultation Proposals *(Chief Finance Officer)*

The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the detailed report set out the Executive's finalised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 proposals and to highlighted, in particular, the proposals for the Chief Executive's Department for Scrutiny Coordinating Committee's consideration.

Through questions/discussion on the detailed report, the following points were highlighted in relation to the specific consultation issues put forward by Cabinet: -

- Changes to discretionary rate relief to charity shops in Hartlepool. Following a series of questions the Chief Finance Officer indicated that for registered national and local charities, the local application of the 20% additional rate relief on top of the national 80% relief would still be continued. The specific change related to those shops that were run by

organisations that were not registered as charitable but did receive grant support from the Council. In these cases relief would reduce from 20% to 10% on top of the 80% national relief.

- The withdrawal of the Neighbourhood Forum Minor Works Funds was raised by Councillors. It was suggested that these funds be replaced by directly allocated budgets to each councillor. At the meeting of the Constitution / General Purposes Committees Working Group earlier in the day it had been suggested that a minimum fund of £7,000 for each councillor should be available in the new council to fund those schemes previously supported by Minor Works. Two of the specific issues that Cabinet were seeking scrutiny response to as set out in section 2.10 of the report related to savings of £98,250 from the Acting Chief Executive and joint Head of Human Resources roles (a), and a £50,000 saving arising from the recent industrial action (b). These two amounts would give a budget of nearly £4,500 per Member following the May elections. If this year's budget outturn was positive, then the council should look to utilising some of those savings to fund the remaining element to bring the funding for each councillor to £7,000.
- The Director of Neighbourhood Services suggested that the £39,000 Major Regeneration should be retained and not removed as proposed (2.10, (g)) in order to allow the Council to match fund any potential capital funding projects that may come forward. Any such proposals would require Council approval so would always come before full Council.
- There was concern as to why other Tees Valley authorities were not accepting the government grant to freeze council tax in 2012/13 and proposing a council tax rise when Hartlepool was proposing to accept the grant. The Mayor outlined his mixed views on the issue. Whilst wishing to support Hartlepool families by not increasing their bills, the consequence of accepting the one-year government grant was that additional savings would need to be made in 2013/14 when the loss of the grant was factored in. There was also the serious concern raised in relation to Government's decision that the determination of Council Tax Benefit should become the responsibility of Local Authorities. While the finance would be returned to Hartlepool, it would be top sliced by 10%. Add this reduction to the protection being given to some pensioners and the introduction of the appropriate administration, and cuts to council tax benefit would be in excess of 10% unless the authority met the shortfall. Members highlighted that Council Tax for people in Hartlepool would not remain 'frozen' should the Police and Fire Authorities choose not to take the grant and raise their precepts. The Mayor indicated to Members that Cabinet had explored a wide range of potential ways, some very creative, of not accepting the grant, raise Council Tax yet give the money back to council tax payers. Unfortunately there were no viable legal alternatives to a simple choice of accepting, or not, the government grant.
After some debate, Members reluctantly noted the Cabinet proposal that the authority accept the Council Tax grant from central government.
- Scrutiny noted the proposed strategy for funding the increased costs on the PCP capital schemes set out in the report. (2.10 (d))

- Scrutiny indicated their support for the creation of a capital fund to buy and refurbish existing properties to provide affordable homes. (2.10 (e))
- The allocation of the available Furniture Project reserve of £50,000 to kick start the project was supported as being a previous scrutiny recommendation. (2.10 (f))
- The proposal to demolish the Brierton 'top site' building and ancillary buildings was noted. (2.10 (h))
- The proposed purchase of the Ambulance Station was noted. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods indicated that the 'marriage' of this site with land already in council ownership was in the authority's interest. (2.10 (i))

Scrutiny Members raised concern at what was believed to be a failure to provide full and adequate information on some of the service cuts proposed by the council. This was raised following a meeting with a local learning disabilities support group who referred to what they believed were service cuts being implemented without consultation. The Mayor stated that he was certain that scrutiny Members had received exactly the same information on the budget savings throughout this process as had been presented to Cabinet Members. After clarification of the issues raised through the service users meeting, the Acting Chief Executive assured Members that there were no service cuts in the learning disabilities area though there may be potential relocation of services as building use was rationalised.

Following discussion on the issues raised the Acting Chief Executive undertook to provide Members with a tabular 'snapshot' report setting out brief details of the staffing implications of the budget savings agreed so far for implementation in this and the next financial year. The Mayor assured Members that the numbers of compulsory redundancies had been kept to an absolute minimum with some being implemented through the year to minimise disruption. The numbers of redundancies in Hartlepool was lower than with other authorities.

In determining its recommendations, the Committee noted the report and indicated that the comments set out above in relation to the specific points on which Cabinet had sought Scrutiny comments be referred back to Cabinet for its consideration. In relation to the following appendices –

Appendix 5 – Additional Corporate Issues Identified Since 10 October 2011
 Appendix 6 – Schedule of 2012/13 Budget Pressures - Corporate Items
 Appendix 7 – 2012/13 Revised Planning Assumption
 Appendix 8 – Schedule Of BT Programme Budget Reductions
 Appendix 9 – Hartlepool Borough Council - Reserve Balances as at 31 March 2011

Scrutiny agreed that appendix 8 be noted and agreed and that appendices 5, 6, 7 and 9 be deferred for consideration at the meeting of the Committee on 27 January 2012.

Members also referred to Members Allowances and the fact that the report

from the Independent Remuneration Panel would not be received until May when budgets had already been set. The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the budget for Members allowances would remain at its current level, i.e. for 47 Councillors, and Council would consider the report and any recommendations from the IRP once they came forward and then Cabinet could reconsider the appropriate level for the budget at that time.

Recommended

1. That the report and supporting information be noted.
2. That the comments made by Scrutiny Members in relation to the questions posed by Cabinet as detailed in the report (paragraph 2.10) and set out in the debate and comments set out in the bullet points above be forwarded to Cabinet as the response of this Committee.
3. That the Chief Executive Department's Budget and Policy Framework proposals, as detailed in Appendix 8, be agreed.
4. That the Revised Outturn, Proposed pressures, Revised Planning Assumptions, Proposed Savings and Review of Reserves, as detailed in Appendices 5, 6, 7 and 9 be referred to the meeting of the Committee on 27 January 2012.
5. That the Early Intervention Strategy proposals, as detailed in Appendix 4 of the Report and the minutes of Cabinet of 19 December 2011 (minute no. 187 refers) be agreed.

187. Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports - Quarter 2 – Revenue Financial Management Report 2011/2012 *(Chief Finance Officer)*

The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the report provided details of progress against the Council's overall revenue budget for 2011/2012 and to provide an update on the forecast outturn, including details of the General Fund Outturn (including Key Balance Sheet information and High Risk Budget Areas); Early Intervention Grant Outturn; and Housing Project Outturn. The report had been submitted to Cabinet on 9 December 2011.

Recommended

That the report be noted.

188 Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports - Quarter 2 – Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2011/2012 *(Chief Finance Officer)*

The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the report provided detailed monitoring information of progress against the Council's 2011/12 Capital budget for the period to 30th September, 2011 for each departmental area.

In total there were 346 schemes within the Council's capital programme. The report, submitted to Cabinet on 9 December 2011, showed that the majority of schemes were progressing as planned.

Recommended

That the report be noted.

189. Items for Discussion

No items.

190. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute 191 – Call-in Requests – This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (para 3).

191. Call-in Requests (*Scrutiny Manager*)

The Scrutiny Manager reported that an appropriate call-in notice had been received relating to the decision taken by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011, in relation to the Strategy for Bridging the Budget Deficit 2012/13 - ICT, Revenues and Benefits Services, as per the Authority's Call-In procedure.

As the report considered by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011 contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) full consideration of the call-in notice is set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Recommended

That the call-in notice be accepted and that further discussions on the matter continue once the meeting was reconvened on Friday 20 January at 9.30 a.m.

192. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

No items.

The meeting stood adjourned at 4.35 p.m.

Friday 20 January 2012

The meeting reconvened at 9.30 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Marjorie James (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Rob Cook, Mick Fenwick, Sheila Griffin, Brenda Loynes, Ann Marshall, Arthur Preece, Carl Richardson, Linda Shields, Ray Wells and Angie Wilcox.

Also Present: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2, Councillor Sylvia Tempest as substitute for Councillor Steve Thomas

Cabinet Members - Robbie Payne (Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive,
Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer
Joanne Machers, Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer
Alyson Camen, Legal Services Manager
Graham Frankland, Assistant Director, Resources
John Morton, Assistant Chief Finance Officer
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

193. Apologies for Absence

Councillors S Akers-Belcher, Shaw, Steve Thomas; and Cabinet Members, The Mayor, Stuart Drummond and Councillors Jonathan Brash (Housing and Transition Portfolio Holder), Pam Hargreaves (Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder), Ged Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder), Cath Hill (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder), Peter Jackson (Regeneration and Economic Development and Skills Portfolio Holder), Chris Simmons (Children's Services Portfolio Holder), Hilary Thompson (Performance Portfolio Holder).

194. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

195. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute 191 – Call-in Requests – This item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) (para 3).

196. Call-in Requests (Scrutiny Manager)

The Scrutiny Manager indicated that as had been reported to the meeting prior to its adjournment, an appropriate call-in notice had been received relating to the decision taken by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011, in relation to the Strategy for Bridging the Budget Deficit 2012/13 - ICT, Revenues and Benefits Services, as per the Authority's Call-In procedure.

As the report considered by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011 contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) full consideration of the call-in notice is set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

Recommended

That the recommendations of the Committee, as set out in the exempt section of the minutes, be referred to Cabinet at its meeting on 23 January 2012 for consideration.

The meeting concluded at 3.55 p.m.

CHAIR

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

27 January 2012

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Marjorie James (In the Chair)

Councillors: Rob Cook, Mick Fenwick, Brenda Loynes, Ann Marshall,
Arthur Preece, Carl Richardson, Linda Shields, Stephen Thomas,
Ray Wells and Angie Wilcox.

Resident Representative: Maureen Braithwaite.

Also Present: The Mayor, Stuart Drummond, Councillors Chris Simmons
(Children's Services Portfolio Holder) and Robbie Payne (Finance
and Procurement Portfolio Holder).

Officers: Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Jill Harrison, Assistant Director, Adult Social Care
Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Prevention, Safeguarding and
Specialist Services
Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive
Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

197. Apologies for Absence

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, S Akers-Belcher, Griffin and Shaw and
Resident Representatives Evelyn Leck and John Maxwell.

198. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

199. Confirmation of the minutes of the meetings held on 13 December 2011

Deferred.

200. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Reports of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

No items.

201. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews from Council, Executive Members and Non Executive Members; Unisex Toilets – Dyke House School: Councillor Call for Action *(Scrutiny Manager)*

The Scrutiny Support Manager reported that a Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) had been received from Councillor Wells (Park Ward) in relation to the installation of unisex toilet facilities in the newly re-opened Dyke House School. The report set out the criteria that CCfA's must be assessed against and a copy of the CCfA form submitted by Councillor Wells was submitted as an appendix to the report.

The Chair commented that one of the principle issues that must be considered in relation to CCfA's was did it relate "to a service, event or issue in which the council has direct responsibility for, significant influence over or has the capacity to act as public champion". The Chair considered that in this case those considerations did not exist.

The Children's Services Portfolio Holder indicated that he had visited the school and did not have any concerns in relation to the toilet facilities for children.

Councillor Wells speaking in support of his CCfA acknowledged the comments made in relation to the school but did not feel these justified the use of unisex toilet facilities. While the authority had no direct control over the school but that had not limited it in dealing with other issues of public concern and shouldn't in this situation.

After discussing the issue raised the Chair concluded by indicating that in her view the CCfA did not meet the necessary tests and could not be accepted. However, there were obvious concerns and while these appeared to have generated few complaints to the school, the Chair requested that officers arrange with the school for Committee members to visit the school and view for themselves the whole of the school facilities and the management of the school, not just the toilet facilities, following the Building Schools for the Future investment. The Committee also requested that the school be asked record any problems they might experience with the operation of the toilets over the next six months, and that this information should be fed back to Members for information.

Recommended

1. That the Councillor Call for Action in relation to the unisex toilet facilities at Dyke House School be not accepted.
2. That arrangements be made for the members of the Committee to visit the newly re-opened Dyke House School.
3. That the school be asked record any problems they might experience with the operation of the toilets over the next six months, and that this information be fed back to Members for information.

202. Forward Plan

No items.

203. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents - Medium Term Financial Strategy (Mtf) 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 – Further Consideration of Consultation Proposals *(Scrutiny Manager)*

The Scrutiny Manager submitted details of the proposals for the Chief Executive's Department as part of the MTF. Following consideration of Scrutiny's response to the initial budget proposals the Executive reviewed its budget proposals at the meeting of Cabinet on 19 December 2011. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 13 January 2012, considered a detailed report in relation to the Executive's reviewed budget proposals. The Committee provided detailed responses to a number of questions put forward by Cabinet and these will be incorporated in the response to be submitted to Cabinet on the 6 February 2012.

There were, however, a number of issues which time prevented the formulation of a response to, and some additional information requested in relation to the impact of proposed savings. It was agreed that these issues, would be discussed further to enable completion of the Scrutiny budget response and that to assist in this additional information would be provided in relation to the staffing implications of the proposals being made.

In addition, each of the Scrutiny Forums had again taken the opportunity to comment on each of the Authority's Departmental budget proposals. The Forums had considered the proposals and details of their views / comments were outlined in the report considered later on the agenda.

In relation to the information provided within the appendices to the report, the Chair considered the appendices in turn and the key issues/comments raised by Members in relation to the information contained within the documents submitted to the Committee were as follows: -

- App 1 Pressures – School Catering. The Director indicated that the £140,000 pressure was to be supported.
- App 1 Reserves to be reviewed – City Learning Centre. The Children’s Services Portfolio Holder indicated that it was an issue as to who would fund the centre once the existing funding runs out. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods commented that unless some new partnership arrangement came forward, there was little that could be done and the staff would be made redundant.
- App 1 NSSF comments 9 November – Housing Services. Members expressed concerns with this area of service and commented that any monies brought in to bring empty homes back into use must not impact on core services. The Housing and Transitions Portfolio Holder indicated that a significant restructure had been undertaken in this area and the focus on housing services had been reinvigorated. The Portfolio Holder indicated that he would ensure that ward councillors were kept updated on the services that impacted on their wards. This was welcomed by Members who wished to see meaningful strides made in bringing empty homes back into use in the town.
- App 1 SCC comments – Low cost travel for young people through an extended concessionary fares scheme. The Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum referred to the report of the forum following the referral on this issue which was set out later on the agenda.
- App 1 SCC comments – Re-employment of Redundant Staff. The Chair was extremely concerned that despite the knowledge that there would be people coming forward through redundancy seeking redeployment opportunities in the next weeks and months, there were still full time posts being appointed. The Committee supported, and requested, that Cabinet look to minimise the number of times temporary staff are appointed to permanent positions when existing permanent staff are available for redeployment.
- App 1 SCC comments – Accommodation Strategy. The committee considered that all opportunities available should be taken to reduce the authority’s capital buildings liability. Directing partner organisations to premises the Council wished to vacate should be actively pursued. The potential use of council owned premises for the provision of family homes for children in care needed to be accounted for in the accommodation strategy. Members questioned the capital income from the sale of surplus property and land. The Director indicated that he was confident that the income target would be met in the financial year. The Committee reiterated its concerns in relation to the utilisation of accommodation in the Civic Centre by contractors, on the basis that it prevented the utilisation of office space in the building for the provision of council services, and that this in turn could prevent the effective disposal of other surplus Council buildings.
- App 1 SCC comments – Members Allowances. Members reiterated their concerns in relation to the timing of the annual Independent Remuneration Panel report on members’ allowances and recommended that the budget allocated for Members allowance should remain the same for this year, pending consideration of the issue by

the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the Panel had recently met and he would write to Members on the outcome.

- App 1 SCC comments – Council Tax Funding Arrangements. Members reiterated their concerns regarding the practical impact of the Coalition Government's proposals to protect low income pensioners whilst placing the full burden of the cuts on low income families with children. Concern was expressed that:
 - In addition to developing a local Council Tax Scheme with 10% less funding than in 2012 the Council would also, given the uncertainty of the impact of the proposals, need to retain a contingency to deal with additional costs which may appear during the year if the number of claimants should increase.
 - There would be a need for the development of information / advice detailing the local process for determination of claims, something that had never been needed in the past.
 - The key risk relates to the timescale for the practical implementation of the proposed changes (i.e. April 2013) especially given that secondary legislation is not expected until September / October 2012.
- App 1 SCC comments – New Homes Bonus. The Chair sought regular updates on the income achieved through the government's new homes bonus. The meeting was informed that this would be annually as the bonus was only paid on that basis.
- App 1 SCC comments – Favourable Outturn. The Chair questioned the utilisation the funds gained through a favourable budget outturn as was expected this year. Cabinet Members indicated that such one-off savings were reported to Cabinet for decision on their use. The Chair indicated that she saw this as unacceptable and that such funds should be in the gift of council to determine.
- The Chief Finance Officer provided a verbal update in relation to the current outturn. The Committee noted that as indicated previously further work was needed on the 2011/12 forecast outturn position, including areas which could not be reviewed until December 2011, or January 2012. This work had now been completed and it was anticipated that in overall terms there would be an additional net benefit in the current year of £0.810m. Members noted that this position reflected a number of factors:
 - i) Additional under spend on Departmental budgets. This reflected the continued robust management of budgets and action to achieve 2012/13 savings earlier;
 - ii) Corporate budgets. Detailed work had been completed to assess the impact on pay budgets of a range of factors covering incremental progression for staff in post, Job Evaluation appeal costs, actual staff turnover for 2011/12 and pay award savings from the national decision by the Local Government Employers organisation not to pay the £250 flat rate increase for staff earning £21,000 or below for 2011/12 from April 2011. Where these issues provided an ongoing saving, this had been reflected in the

2012/13 budget as part of strategy to bridge the budget gap. This reduced the budget cuts which need to be made in 2012/13;

iii) Collection Fund deficit. An initial assessment of the Collection Fund surplus available to support the 2012/13 had been completed in January 2011. This position had recently been reviewed and the anticipated surplus had reduced from £200,000 to £14,000. To avoid this reduction increasing the 2012/13 budget gap it was recommended that this shortfall be funded from the 2011/12 outturn. The budget forecasts for 2013/14 and 2014/15 assumed the Collection Fund position was financially neutral on the General Fund.

- It was noted by the Committee that the Net impact of above factors was an additional under spend of £810,000 and it was to be suggested that Cabinet allocate £83,000 of this amount as a contribution towards providing a 'Ward Fund' of £231,000 (i.e. £7,000 per Councillor), as requested by the Constitution/General Purposes Working Group and supported by Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. The remaining amount to be carried forward to 2013/14 to address the financial challenges in that year, including the loss of the Council Tax freeze grant.
- Members welcomed the outturn update and the proposal for the allocation of a contribution towards the provision of a 'Ward Fund' of £231,000. Whilst the Committee made no other comments in relation to the proposals for the revised outturn, Members took the opportunity to reinforce the view that the allocation / utilisation of under spends should be the responsibility of Full Council. On this basis it was recommended that an amendment needed to be made to the Constitution to allow favourable outturns to be placed in the General Fund for allocation by Full Council, rather than by Cabinet.
- App 1 SCC comments – White Goods Project. Cabinet Members indicated that the view of Cabinet was that if such a project was to be supported then it should be targeted at the most in need through the empty home strategy. The Chair was concerned that such a move did not stop such a worthwhile project which only required kick-start funding. The Committee supported fully the allocation of these funds.
- App 2 Additional Corporate Issues – Provision for Mayoral Referendum. Members questioned the inclusion of £70,000 as it had been indicated that this would be much reduced if the referendum was run alongside another poll. Members discussed the various options and suggested that a reserve of £35,000 should be maintained as an estimate for the referendum costs as it was likely that if it did go ahead it would be run alongside the election of a Police Commissioner. Should the referendum not go ahead then the monies could be allocated to the 2013 Mayoral election.
- App 2 Additional Corporate Issues – Church Square loan repayment. Members questioned why this allocation still remained as the scheme was not going to proceed. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods indicated that he believed the allocation of the funds for prudential borrowing should be retained in case any capital scheme came forward that the council wished to pursue, it would then have the

funds to meet all or some of the prudential borrowing costs. Any capital scheme of this scale would automatically come to Council for approval. Following consideration of evidence from the Director of Neighbourhood Services, the Committee supported the retention of these monies within the budget in order to allow Full Council to match fund any projects that may come along. It was, however, recommended that reference to the funds being for 'Church Square Loan Repayment' should be removed and the allocation renamed.

- App 2 Additional Corporate Issues – Ward Fund. The Chair commented that from the funds previously identified by the committee to contribute to the establishment of a ward fund for each councillor in the new council after May 2012 funding from the forecast departmental underspend could be utilised to make the budget up to the previously agreed £7000 per councillor.
- App 3 Budget Pressure – Corporate Issues – Car Park Income. The Committee expressed concern regarding the continuing pressure in relation to the car park income. Members noted the ongoing nature of this pressure and supported its inclusion as a corporate pressure. No other comments were made in relation to the proposed pressures.
- App 4 2012/13 Revised Planning Assumption. The Committee noted the information provided and made no specific comments in relation to any of the individual planning assumptions..
- App 5 Schedule of Chief Executives Department BT Programme Budget Reductions. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee had during the course of 2011/12 had considered and expressed views in relation to proposed savings through the programme..
- App 6 Reserves to be reviewed – Insurance fund. The reduction in this fund was questioned. The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the new insurance contract had involved the undertaking of a complete review of the council's risks. That had reduced the reserves required. The authority also took a more challenging approach to insurance claims.
- App 6 Reserves to be reviewed – General Fund. The Chair sought clarification on the proposed reduction in the General Fund reserves.. The Chief Finance Officer reported that the reduction was based on sound reasoning reflecting an assessment of risks and the specific reserves earmarked to manage these risks, including the monies allocated as part of the 2011/12 outturn strategy. The Chief Finance Officer stated that the uncommitted General Fund Reserve was appropriate for the Council and remained within recognised levels for an unitary authority. . Members accepted the officer's advice.
- App 6 Reserves to be reviewed – Interest equalisation and BT set up costs. The Chief Finance Officer indicated that the interest equalisation fund was being removed as interest rates were now significantly lower. The Assistant Chief Executive indicated that the figure would be reviewed for carrying forward but much of this year's allocation had been spent in rationalising the property portfolio and releasing buildings for disposal. Members expressed their dissatisfaction at the number of, what they saw as unnecessary, staffing moves around buildings and noted that the figure did not include spend against this budget in the last year which had been

significant.

- App 6 Reserves to be reviewed – Budget Consultation. Members queried the removal of the £60,000 identified to fund budget consultation arrangements. The Mayor indicated that this reserve had been established to meet the costs of the budget consultation exercise should it be needed. The plan was to meet any costs in-house though he believed with the potential for a council tax rise above the level that would trigger a referendum; full budget consultation could significantly assist in getting the council's message across. Members supported the retention of this reserve in order to deal with the potential for future consideration of a Council Tax increase above the threshold, triggering the need for a referendum.
- App 6 Reserves to be reviewed – Financial inclusion. The reduction of the reserve was questioned. The Chief Finance Officer commented that this was proposed as being appropriate following a review.
- App J Proposed Capital funding for 2012/13 (tabled) – Committee supported the capital requirements for the following projects, totalling £582,000:
 - Disability Facilities Grant
 - Stockton Street Underpass
 - Energy Management Controls
 - Access works to meet DDA requirements
 - Improving Schools and other kitchen facilities
 - Civic Centre Concourse
 - Lynn Street Garage Roof
 - CCTV

It was noted that the allocations for West View Cemetery Lodge and Carnegie House may not be required. The Chair suggested that the uncommitted capital funds of £368,000 should be split with an allocation of £68,000 remaining within the gift of cabinet to meet additional / emergency costs as they arose during the year. The remaining £300,000 should be returned to Council for determination. This was supported by the Committee.

Following the debate, the Chair indicated that the Committee's comments would be fed back into cabinet.

Recommended

That the report be noted and that the comments of the Committee detailed above form the basis of the Committee's response to Cabinet.

204. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents Medium Term Financial Strategy (Mtf) 2012/2013 to 2014/2015 – Budget Consultations: Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees (*Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees*)

The Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees indicated that the report set out the feedback and collective responses of the four standing Scrutiny Forums (with the views of the Health Scrutiny Forum included in the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum response), following their recent consideration of the Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Proposals for 2012/13. The Committee noted their views / comments, as detailed below:

- Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum – Supported the finalised budget proposals and reaffirmed their comments/views expressed at the initial budget consultation meeting on 8 November 2011.
- Children's Services Scrutiny Forum – Supported the finalised budget proposals and in relation to the School Catering Pressure, Members were pleased to hear that this pressure had now been resolved at a recent meeting of the Schools Forum and therefore would no-longer be a pressure to the Authority.
- Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum – Agreed the finalised budget proposals, however, Members were concerned that the unavoidable need for savings would leave services very stretched and commented that the need for further cuts in future years would inevitably have a negative impact on the services provided to the people of the town.

Members noted that job losses had been kept to an absolute minimum in this area, despite the very large amount of savings required and commended staff within the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Directorate for continuing to deliver excellent services despite the impact of savings.

- Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum – Supported the finalised budget proposals, but were concerned that the public were not aware of the enormity of the cuts that were coming over the next two years and how these would affect the ability of the Council to provide the current level of services. Members suggested that additional publicity was carried out to ensure that residents are aware of the impact of future budget cuts.

Recommended

That the comments reported be include in the Committee's response to Cabinet agreed in the preceding item.

205. Consideration of financial monitoring/corporate reports - Proposals For Inclusion In Chief Executive's Departmental Plan 2012/13 And Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan 2012/13 (Organisational Development Theme) –
(Assistant Chief Executive, Chief Solicitor, Chief Finance Officer, Chief Workforce and Customer Services Officer and Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department)

The Assistant Chief Executive submitted a report outlining the proposals for inclusion in the 2012/13 Chief Executive's Departmental Plan, and the Organisational Development section of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan 2012/13. The Committee highlighted the inclusion in the report of reference to the Hartlepool Partnership and requested that this be updated where required.

Recommended

That the report be noted and changes made as requested.

206. Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee Referral - Low Cost Travel to Young People through Concessionary Fare Schemes *(Scrutiny Manager)*

The Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, updated the Committee on the outcome of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forums exploration of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee referral in relation to the provision of low cost travel to young people through concessionary fares schemes.

The Committee fully supported the exploration / development of new arrangements for young people's transport; however, it was acknowledged that given the Council's current financial position, and the level of budget cuts being implemented, funding could not be found for a scheme of this type, at this time.

The Committee was, however, of the view that their continued to be real potential for the development of low cost travel arrangements for young people. On this basis, the Committee agreed that the issue should be referred back to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, to enable the continuation of its work, with the aim of:-

- i) Exploring potential ways of providing 'low cost' travel arrangements for young people in Hartlepool (within existing resources);
- ii) Exploring how internal transport services could be made more effective / developed to contribute to the provision of these services.
- iii) Presenting a report back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

in six months time.

Recommended

That the issue be referred back to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, to enable the continuation of its work, with the aim of:-

- iv) Exploring potential ways of providing 'low cost' travel arrangements for young people in Hartlepool (within existing resources);
- v) Exploring how internal transport services could be made more effective / developed to contribute to the provision of these services.
- vi) Presenting a report back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee in six months time.

207. Referral of Decision: Delivery of Support to Members and to the Council, Executive, Non Executive and Scrutiny Functions *(Constitution/General Purposes Working Group)*

The Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 25 November 2011 considered the Call-In of the decision taken by Cabinet on 7 November 2011 in relation to the 'Delivery of Support to Members and to the Council, Executive, Non Executive and Scrutiny Functions'. Cabinet had at the same meeting referred a number of issues in relation to this decision to Scrutiny with a clear timetable for response. In relation to this referral, Cabinet at its meeting on 5 December 2011, considered and approved an extension to the proposed timetable and extended the referral to include all elements of the original decision. As part of the process, the decisions were referred to the Constitution/General Purposes Working Group for further consideration, the outcome of which was now reported to the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee for consideration in the formulation of its response to the Cabinet referral.

Recommended

That the detailed recommendations of the Constitution / General Purposes Working Group as reported be endorsed and forwarded to Cabinet in response to the call-in of the decisions on 'Delivery of Support to Members and to the Council, Executive, Non Executive and Scrutiny Functions' taken on 7 November 2011.

208. Hartlepool Public Health Transition Plan *(Assistant Director of Health Improvement)*

The Chair indicated that there were many issues surrounding the work on the public health transition plan and that of the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board that needed to be fully understood by scrutiny and suggested that a working group including the Chair and Vice-chair of this Committee and the Health Scrutiny Forum and minority group members be established to quickly review these matters. The Chair indicated that this

report should be referred to the working group as a 'starting point' for their deliberations.

Recommended

That a working group comprising the Chair and Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum and Councillors Wells and Preece be established to consider the public health transition plan and the scrutiny arrangements pertinent to the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board.

209. Use of Agency Workers Report *(Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer)*

The Chief Customer and Workforce Services Officer reported that as part of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into the use of agency workers in the council it was recommended that twelve months after the implementation of the new HR/payroll system and the introduction of centralised control measures for the recruitment of agency workers /specialists across the Authority that a monitoring report would be provided to the Committee. The Assistant Chief Executive indicated that, unfortunately, much of the information appended to the report was incorrect and a revised and up-to-date report would be submitted to members as soon as possible.

Recommended

That an updated report be submitted to the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

210. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum *(Chair of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 17 February 2012.

211. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Children's Services Scrutiny Forum *(Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on

17 February 2012.

212. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Health Scrutiny Forum *(Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 17 February 2012.

213. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum *(Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 17 February 2012.

214. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum *(Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 17 February 2012.

215. Scrutiny Forum's Progress Reports:- Scrutiny Coordinating Committee *(Chair of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee)*

In light of the duration of the meeting the Chair suggested that the report be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Recommended

That the report be deferred to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 17 February 2012.

216. Call-In Requests

No items.

217. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

No items.

The meeting concluded at 5.40 p.m.

CHAIR

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: THE FORWARD PLAN – FEBRUARY 2012 TO MAY 2012

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to consider whether any item within the attached Executive's Forward Plan should be considered by this Committee or referred to a particular Scrutiny Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 As you are aware, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has delegated powers to manage the work of Scrutiny, as it thinks fit, and if appropriate can exercise or delegate to individual Scrutiny Forums.
- 2.2 One of the main duties of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is to hold the Executive to account by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive and to decide whether value can be added to the decision by the Scrutiny process in advance of the decision being made.
- 2.3 This would not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made. As such, the most recent copy of the Executive's Forward Plan is attached as **Appendix 1** for the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's information.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considers the content of the Executive's Forward Plan.

Contact Officer:- Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 28 4142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report



FORWARD PLAN

FEBRUARY 2012 – MAY 2012

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The law requires the executive of the local authority to publish in advance, a programme of its work in the coming four months including information about key decisions that it expects to make. It is updated monthly.

1.2 The executive means the Mayor and those Councillors the Mayor has appointed to the Cabinet.

1.3 Key decisions are those which significantly modify the agreed annual budget of the Council or its main framework of policies, those which initiate new spending proposals in excess of £100,000 and those which can be judged to have a significant impact on communities within the town. A full definition is contained in Article 13 of the Council's Constitution.

1.4 Key decisions may be made by the Mayor, the Cabinet as a whole, individual Cabinet members or nominated officers. The approach to decision making is set out in the scheme of delegation which is agreed by the Mayor and set out in full in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

2. **FORMAT OF THE FORWARD PLAN**

2.1 The plan is arranged in sections according to the Department of the Council which has the responsibility for advising the executive on the relevant topic:

Part 1	Chief Executive's Department
Part 2	Child and Adult Services Department
Part 3	Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department

2.2 Each section includes information on the development of the main policy framework and the budget of the Council where any of this work is expected to be undertaken during the period in question.

2.3 It sets out in as much detail as is known at the time of its preparation, the programme of key decisions. This includes information about the nature of the decision, who will make the decisions, who will be consulted and by what means and the way in which any interested party can make representations to the decision-maker.

3. **DECISIONS MADE IN PRIVATE**

3.1 Most key decisions will be made in public at a specified date and time.

3.2 A small number of key decisions, for reasons of commercial or personal confidentiality, will be made in private and the public will be excluded from any sessions while such decisions are made. Notice will still be given about the

intention to make such decisions, but wherever possible the Forward Plan will show that the decision will be made in private session.

3.3 Some sessions will include decisions made in public and decisions made in private. In such cases the public decisions will be made at the beginning of the meeting to minimise inconvenience to members of the public and the press.

4. **URGENT DECISIONS**

4.1 Although every effort will be made to include all key decisions in the Forward Programme, it is inevitable for a range of reasons that some decisions will need to be taken at short notice so as to prevent their inclusion in the Forward Plan. In such cases a minimum of 5 days public notice will be given before the decision is taken.

4.2 In rare cases it may be necessary to take a key decision without being able to give 5 days notice. The Executive is only able to do this with the agreement of the Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee or the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the local authority. (Scrutiny committees have the role of overseeing the work of the Executive).

5. **PUBLICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**

5.1 All decisions which have been notified in the Forward Plan and any other key decisions made by the Executive, will be recorded and published as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision is taken.

5.2 The Council's constitution provides that key decisions will not be implemented until a period of four days has elapsed after the decision has been published. This allows for the exceptional cases when a scrutiny committee may 'call in' a decision of the Executive to consider whether it should be reviewed before it is implemented. 'Call in' may arise exceptionally when a Scrutiny Committee believes that the Executive has failed to make a decision in accordance with the principles set out in the Council's constitution (Article 13); or that the decision falls outside the Council's Policy Framework; or is not wholly in accordance within the Council's budget.

6. **DETAILS OF DECISION MAKERS**

6.1 Names and titles of those people who make key decisions either individually or collectively will be set out in Appendix 1 once they are determined.

7. **TIMETABLE OF KEY DECISIONS**

7.1 The timetable as expected at the time of preparation of the forward plan is set out in Appendix 2. Confirmation of the timing in respect of individual decisions can be obtained from the relevant contact officer closer to the time of the relevant meeting. Agenda papers are available for inspection at the Civic Centre five days before the relevant meeting.

PART ONE – CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S DEPARTMENT

A. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

CORPORATE PLAN 2012/13

The Corporate Plan is part of the Budget and Policy Framework of the Council and therefore requires approval from a full Council meeting.

The purpose of the Plan is to describe the Council's priority outcomes for improvement and sets out how the Council will undertake performance and risk management over the next 12 months. The draft timetable is described below.

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and Cabinet commented on initial proposals on 11 November 2011 and 19 December 2011 respectively.

As in previous years the Service Scrutiny Forums will consider more detailed proposals in late January and early February 2012 and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee will be given a further opportunity to discuss the draft Corporate Plan in mid February.

Cabinet will then consider the draft Corporate Plan and recommendations from Scrutiny Coordinating Committee in March 2012, and the final Corporate Plan will be presented to the full Council meeting on 12 April 2012 for final approval.

The full timetable is set out below.

Who	What	When
Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Agreement of the outcome framework and timetable	11 th Nov 2011
Cabinet	Agreement of the outcome framework	19 th Dec 2011
i) Adult & Community Services Scrutiny Forum ii) Children's Services Scrutiny Forum iii) Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum iv) Regeneration & Planning Services Scrutiny Forum v) Health Scrutiny Forum vi) Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Consideration of the Departmental and Corporate plans including actions, performance indicators and risks that underpin each outcome	i) 1 Feb 2012 ii) 31 Jan 2012 iii) 30 Jan 2012 iv) 2 Feb 2012 v) 26 Jan 2012 vi) 27 Jan 2012

Who	What	When
Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Feedback from Forums and consideration of the proposed Corporate Plan and Hartlepool Partnership Plan	17 th Feb 2012
Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee	Agreement of the Corporate Plan, Departmental Plans and Hartlepool Partnership Plan	9 th March 2012
Cabinet	Agreement of the Corporate Plan, Departmental Plans and Hartlepool Partnership Plan	19 th March 2012
Council	Agreement of the Corporate Plan and Hartlepool Partnership Plan	12 th April 2012

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) 2012/13 TO 2014/15 – INITIAL CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

Cabinet (10th October 2011) reviewed the existing MTFS Cabinet and determined initial proposals for managing the cuts in Government grants which will be made from April 2012. This included reviewing the current years forecast outturn. These details were referred to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. A second report on the 2012/13 budget process was submitted to Cabinet on 19 December 2011, together with feedback from Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the initial budget proposals identified in October. This December Cabinet report will then be referred to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. A further report will be submitted to Cabinet on 6th February 2012. Cabinet's final proposals will be referred to full Council in 9th February 2012.

Commencing January 2012, there will be a sound phase of consultation on the MTFS with Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, Trade Unions and Business Sector representatives.

Further information can be sought by contacting Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer.

B. SCHEDULE OF KEY DECISIONS

DECISION REFERENCE: CE 44/11 – Workforce Arrangements

Nature of the decision

The cost of employing each employee comprises basic pay plus a range of other payments such as overtime and unsocial hours payments. As part of the budget strategy, Cabinet will be asked to consider a range of options which may be considered to reduce the costs of employment which does not necessarily reduce the number of employees.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

Ward(s) are not directly affected

Timing of the decision

The decision will be made in March 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Non Executive members, Headteachers, Hartlepool Joint Trade Union Committee and employees will be consulted via standard consultation arrangements.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The information to be considered by the decision makers is likely to include the nature of the proposed changes to staff terms and conditions, the potential cost savings, equality impact assessments and risks associated with a variety of options for reducing employment costs which do not reduce the number of employees.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Joanne Machers, Chief Customer & Workforce Services Officer, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523002, e-mail: joanne.machers@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Joanne Machers as detailed above.

DECISION REFERENCE: CE46/11 – Review of Community Involvement & Engagement (Including LSP Review): Update on decisions taken ‘in principle’

Nature of the decision

Key Decision - Test (ii) applies

Background

Following a review Cabinet has agreed the future approach of the Local Authority to community and stakeholder involvement and engagement and the Local Strategic Partnership, including theme partnerships at their meeting on 18th July 2011. This was previously in the Forward Plan as decision reference CE43/11.

At the end of June the Government responded to the NHS Future Forum report. In their response they outlined that as the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board “discharges executive functions of local authorities” it should operate as equivalent executive bodies do in local government. At the time of Cabinet agreeing the future approach it was unclear exactly what this meant and the implications that this would have on the structure proposed. In response some decisions were requested to be made ‘in principle’ and that these would be confirmed once guidance was issued on the implementation of the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board.

At their meeting on 15th August 2011 Cabinet agreed for a shadow Health and Wellbeing Board to be established by the end of September 2011. This shadow Board will develop into the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board which is expected to be established by April 2013.

The Health and Social Care Bill, which sets out the statutory requirement to introduce a Health and Wellbeing Board, had its third reading in the House of Commons on 7th September 2011. The Bill has now been passed to the House of Lords for consideration. The first reading took place on 8th September and the second reading took place on 11th and 12th October. The Committee stage, where the Bill was subject to detailed line by line examination, this stage is expected to run until 21st December 2011. The Bill will now enter the Report Stage where there will be further line by line examination. The date for this Stage to start is yet to be scheduled. Once the House of Commons and the House of Lords agree the final Bill it can then receive Royal Assent and become an Act of Parliament i.e. the proposals of the Bill will become law. The Statutory Guidance on Health and Wellbeing Boards will not be published until after the Bill becomes law and this is not expected until Spring 2012.

The ‘in principle’ decisions related to the structure of community involvement and engagement and the development of a Strategic Partners Group and its membership. It is these decisions that are the subject of this Forward Plan entry. They will be confirmed or reviewed dependent upon the guidance issued for the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet however some elements may require Council agreement for changes to the Constitution.

Ward(s) affected

The proposals will affect all wards within the Borough.

Timing of the decision

At the Cabinet meeting on 18th July 2011 it was agreed that a further report would be brought to Cabinet once the statutory Health & Wellbeing Board guidance had been issued. If the 'in principle' decisions that Cabinet have taken are unaffected then they will be agreed for implementation. If those 'in principle' decisions are affected then Cabinet will be asked to consider alternative proposals which reflect the new position. It is expected that the guidance will be published in early 2012 and a report will be taken to Cabinet following the publication date which is currently anticipated to be May 2012. The detailed timescales for this are currently unclear and may be subject to change.

Who will be consulted and how?

Cabinet will be asked to consider the implications of guidance on the development of the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board on the 'in principle' decisions relating to the structure of community involvement and engagement and the development of a Strategic Partners Group and its membership.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet will be presented with detail from the guidance on the development of the statutory Health and Wellbeing Board and how this will impact, if at all, on the 'in principle' decisions that they made on 18th July 2011.

How to make representation

Representation should be made to:

Andrew Atkin, Assistant Chief Executive, Civic Centre, Hartlepool TS24 8AY.
Telephone: (01429) 523003.
Email: Andrew.atkin@hartlepool.gov.uk

Catherine Frank, Local Strategic Partnership Manager, Civic Centre, Hartlepool TS24 8AY.
Telephone: (01429) 284322.
Email: catherine.frank@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from Catherine Frank, as above.

**PART TWO – CHILD AND ADULT SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

A. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

No items

B. SCHEDULE OF KEY DECISIONS

DECISION REFERENCE CAS105/11 : HARTLEPOOL SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2013/14

Nature of the decision

To approve Admission Arrangements for Hartlepool Schools 2013/14.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Timing of the decision

The decision will be made in February 2012.

The decision is required by March 2012 to allow the arrangements to be finalised and set before the Secretary of State by 15 April 2012.

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Who will be consulted and how?

All HBC schools will have been consulted via their governing body meetings, neighbouring local authorities, the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle has been sent copies of the proposed arrangements via e-mail and the public consultation documents have been published on the HBC website. Responses from consultation will be considered by the School Admissions Forum in February 2012 prior to seeking Portfolio Holder approval.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

Statutory requirement to consult on and publish Admission Arrangements.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to Sue Beevers, Admissions, School Place Planning and Support Services Manager, Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone (01429) 523672, e-mail sue.beevers@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from Sue Beevers as above or the Admissions Team on 01429 523765

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS106/11 – PRIORITY SCHOOLS BUILDING PROGRAMME

The Council has an opportunity to make an application for funding from the Government's recently announced Priority Schools Building Programme initiative. Whilst an expression of interest has been registered the Council will need to decide, in conjunction with key stakeholders and particularly school governing bodies, whether to progress an application if invited to.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Potential for several depending upon the schools involved should any submission be progressed.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Schools Governing Bodies and Dioceses (as appropriate).
Elected Members

Information to be considered by the decision makers

On 19 July 2011, Michael Gove (Secretary of State for Education) set out how the Government proposes to ensure that education funding is better targeted in the future. One key announcement was that a new school rebuilding programme will be launched, targeted at those schools in the worst condition.

This will be a privately financed programme intended to address those schools in the worst condition. It is anticipated that the programme will cover the equivalent of building or rebuilding approximately 100 secondary schools. Whilst the full scale of the programme is still to be finalised, it is likely to include a mix of primary schools, secondary schools, special schools, sixth form colleges and alternative provision, and therefore could cover between 100-300 schools in total. It is expected that 20% of the total programme will be delivered each year, with the first schools scheduled to open in the academic year of 2014-15. Those schools included in the initial group for procurement are expected to commence procurement during the second quarter of 2012.

In order to be considered for the programme an expression of interest has been registered with Partnerships for Schools in line with the required procedure.

An application for Manor College of Technology, Barnard Grove Primary, West View Primary and Holy Trinity Church of England Primary, Seaton in

conjunction with the Diocese to be considered as part of the programme, was submitted by 14 October 2011 in line with the procedures and deadlines. Cabinet noted progress at its meeting with 24th October 2011.

The decision on whether to progress an application, and for which schools, will be made by Cabinet in January 2012 depending on feedback from Partnership for Schools in December 2011.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Peter McIntosh, Head of Planning and Development, Child and Adult Services, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 284103. E-Mail: peter.mcintosh@hartlepool.gov.uk and Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523211. E-Mail: Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Peter McIntosh, Head of Planning and Development, Child and Adult Services, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 284103. E-Mail: peter.mcintosh@hartlepool.gov.uk and Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523211. E-Mail: Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS112/11 Adult Substance Misuse Plans 2012/13

Nature of the decision

To support the activity and performance management framework for adult drug and alcohol treatment and support in Hartlepool

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet

Timing of the decision

The decision will be considered by Cabinet in March 2012

Ward(s) affected

All wards will be affected

Who will be consulted and how?

Safer Hartlepool Partnership Substance Misuse Group and Alcohol Strategy Group will lead on the development of the Plans utilizing associated sub groups that have a membership of front line practitioners, service providers and the voluntary sector. Local stakeholders such as NHS Hartlepool, Police, the Probation service and service users will be key consultees. In acknowledgement of the proposed NHS changes the local GP Consortia will also participate. Views will be encouraged through questionnaires, workshops, briefings and focus groups who will inform the annual needs assessment as prescribed by the national Treatment Agency and the planning of activity will be guided by the Governments national drug and alcohol strategies and best practice.

The substance misuse needs assessment is due for completion by the end of January 2012. Questionnaires, focus groups and workshops have been held with service users, families and stakeholders and confirm that although there have been marked improvements within the treatment services there is still need for increased responses for non opiate addiction, increased capacity within the alcohol services and more engagement and participation for families and partners within the formal and recovery treatment process. Analysis of performance data confirms a reduction in numbers of opiate users entering treatment (which is in line with the national trend) and a slight increase of those achieving abstinence. As this outcome is likely to become a performance indicator from 2012 there is need to increase the numbers leaving treatment successfully and ensure effective reintegration into the community to halt any representations back to treatment within 12 months. There continues to be concern about substance misusers securing employment and sustainable housing.

The financial allocation and performance framework for drugs and alcohol were expected before Christmas but are still outstanding so planning continues on the basis of current arrangements.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

The plans will illustrate the findings and priorities from the needs assessment and detail the activity for the coming year across a number of treatment domains for both drug and alcohol treatment and support. In addition targets or performance indicators will be confirmed, and financial information on allocations and grants will be presented.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to Louise Wallace, Assistant Director Health Improvement, NHS Hartlepool and Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 284030, e-mail Louise.Wallace@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from Chris Hart, Drug and Alcohol Manager, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 284301, e-mail chris.hart@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS116/11 DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN'S RESIDENTIAL CARE PROVISION IN HARTLEPOOL

Nature of the decision

To seek approval for the Child and Adult Services Department to enter into a joint tender with Middlesbrough Borough Council for a provider to operate and manage residential care for children and young people within both Boroughs.

Who will make the decision?

This decision will be made by Cabinet.

Timing of the decision

It is expected that the decision will be made in March/April 2012.

Ward(s) affected

All wards

Who will be consulted and how?

Children and Young People; Parents and Carers; Portfolio Holder for Children's Services; Elected Members; local residents through meetings and focus groups, staff and other stakeholders.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

There is a need to develop and deliver residential care for Looked After Children in Hartlepool for those children and young people whose needs will best be met within the Borough. There is currently no provision delivered or commissioned by Hartlepool Borough Council in the town and the Council makes provision through spot purchase arrangements which most often is outside of the local authority boundaries. There is an opportunity to enter into a joint tender with Middlesbrough Borough Council during 2012 for a provider to operate and manage a residential home for up to three children and young people. Collaboration with Middlesbrough will enable the Council to achieve value for money.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to Ian Merritt, Strategic Commissioner – Children's Services, Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523774, e-mail ian.merritt@hartlepool.gov.uk or Jane Young, Business Unit Manager – Looked After Services, 85 Station Lane, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool TS25 1DX. Telephone 01429 287180, e-mail jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from:

Ian Merritt, Strategic Commissioner (Children's Services), Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre. Telephone 01429 523774. E-mail ian.merritt@hartlepool.gov.uk

Jane Young, Business Unit Manager, Child and Adult Services, Station Lane. Telephone 01429 287180. E-mail jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre. Telephone: 01429 523732. E-mail sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS117/11 HOUSING, CARE AND SUPPORT STRATEGY 2012

Nature of the decision

Cabinet to approve the Housing, Care, and Support Strategy 2012 which will replace the previous Older Person's Housing, Care and Support Strategy. The proposed strategy for 2012 has been expanded to include a number of vulnerable groups; learning and physical disabilities, older people, young people, mental health, and substance misuse.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be considered by Cabinet in March 2012

Ward(s) affected

a) All

Who will be consulted and how?

The draft strategy will be taken for consultation to the all the relevant partnership boards and groups that cover learning and physical disabilities, mental health, older people, young people, and substance misuse. It will also be taken to the Housing Partnership and Housing, Care, and Support Steering Group.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

The Housing, Care, and Support Strategy will provide a holistic vision to ensure that all people, including vulnerable groups, have access to suitable housing and the appropriate support to enable them to live as independently as possible. The strategy sets out the key achievements and current service gaps. The strategy sets out our next steps and a 2012/13 action plan has been developed which is monitored through the Housing, Care and Support Steering Group.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to Phil Hornsby, Head of Service, Child and Adult Services, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone 01429 523944, email phil.hornsby@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from Hannah Gill, Modernisation Lead- Housing Care and Support, Child and Adult Services, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone 01429 284300, email Hannah.gill@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: CAS118/12 DEVELOPMENT OF SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION FOR CARE LEAVERS AND HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE

Nature of the decision

To seek approval for the Child and Adult Services Department to tender for a provider to operate and manage supported accommodation for care leavers and homeless young people.

Key Decision. Grounds (i) and (ii) apply as expenditure will be over £100,000 and there may be a significant impact on communities living or working in an area comprising one or more wards.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

Timing of the decision

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services on 27th February 2012.

Ward(s) affected

b) Specific ward: Burn Valley

Who will be consulted and how?

Children and young people; parents and carers; Elected Members; local residents; staff and other stakeholders through meetings and focus groups.

Information to be considered by the decision-makers

There is an identified need for supported accommodation for young people leaving the care of the local authority. Some care leavers will require further support before they are able to live independently. The Council currently uses supported accommodation in St Pauls Road provided by the Fabrick Group. The building has limitations in that it has some shared facilities.

The Council owns property in Blakelock Gardens which until recently was leased to Endeavour Housing was used as a hostel for homeless adults. It is proposed that Child and Adult Services bring this property back into use for care leavers and homeless young people and issues a tender for a provider to support young people in developing independence skills in their own flats and to manage the property.

How to make representations

Representations should be made to:

Ian Merritt, Strategic Commissioner (Children's Services), Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523774, e-mail ian.merritt@hartlepool.gov.uk

or

Jane Young, Business Unit Manager – Looked After Services, 85 Station Lane, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool TS25 1DX. Telephone 01429 287180, e-mail jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information on this matter can be sought from:

Ian Merritt, Strategic Commissioner (Children's Services), Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523774, e-mail ian.merritt@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Jane Young, Business Unit Manager (Looked After Services), 85 Station Lane, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool TS25 1DX. Telephone 01429 287180, e-mail jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk

Sally Robinson, Assistant Director, Child and Adult Services, Level 4, Civic Centre. Telephone: 01429 523732 e-mail sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

PART THREE - REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

A. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK THE PLANS AND STRATEGIES WHICH TOGETHER COMPRISE THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a new two tier system of planning involving regional and local plans. At a regional level the Regional Spatial Strategy provided the regional planning framework. The Localism Act 2011, however, revokes the Regional Spatial Strategy leaving the local plan or Local Development Framework to set the planning framework for the Borough. The local plan should be in compliance with national policy and there is a duty on local authorities to cooperate with neighbouring Councils in plan preparation.

The Hartlepool Local Development Framework will ultimately comprise a 'portfolio' of local development documents which will provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for the borough. Until this is fully in place, policies which are in the Local Plan and which have been "saved" will continue to form the basis of the planning policy for the town. Local development documents will comprise:

- a) Development plan documents – (DPDs) – these are part of the development plan and must include:-
 - A core strategy setting out the long term spatial vision for the area and the strategic policies and proposals to deliver the vision
 - DPDs on Site specific allocations and policies
 - Generic development control policies relating to the vision and strategy set out in the core strategy, and
 - Proposals Map

Preparatory work relating to the Core Strategy has been ongoing for some time involving the gathering of essential evidence which will be required to support and justify the policies included in the Document. Various studies have been produced including the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, the Housing Needs Assessment, an Executive Housing Need Strategy, a Housing Implementation Strategy, an Employment Land Review, a PPG17 Open Space Assessment, a Sport and Recreation Audit and an indoor Sports Facilities Study. Some of these documents require updating before the Core Strategy is published (see below) as the evidence needs to be as up to date as possible. A revised Strategic Housing Market Assessment is being prepared, as is the Local Infrastructure Plan which sets out details of infrastructure which will need to be provided in support of proposals contained within the Core Strategy. The draft Local Infrastructure Plan has been consulted on and will be submitted to Cabinet for approval in January 2012. Work is continuing to be progressed on

preparing the Core Strategy. Following the initial Issues and Options stage, a Preferred Options Document was produced and consulted on in early 2010. Following a significant number of responses from the consultees which included statutory and non-statutory bodies, local groups and organisations and residents, and taking account of planning policy changes introduced or proposed at national level by the new government, Cabinet decided to revise and re-consult on the Preferred Options. The revised Preferred Options document was published in November 2010 and a 6 weeks consultation period concluded in February 2011.

The second Preferred Options document also generated a significant number of responses and these were reported to Cabinet in September as part of a detailed report which highlight officer recommendations on key policy issues such as proposed housing sites, industrial allocations and affordable housing policies. Cabinet's views will be fed into the Core Strategy: Publication Document which will be presented to Cabinet in January for approval prior to a final consultation before being sent to the Secretary of State who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector to hold an Examination in Public (EiP). This is likely to take place in spring / summer 2012. The Publication Document is intended to represent the Councils definitive position in relation to Core Strategy and at this stage it would not be expected to make significant changes prior to the Examination in Public. If the Core Strategy passes the tests of 'soundness' it may be amended to take account of the Inspectors recommendations and then adopted, probably in late summer 2012.

The Local Development Framework also includes Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents. The Minerals and Waste DPD Publication documents which were produced at a Tees Valley level were published in August 2009 and were subject to public examination in February 2011. The Inspectors findings were recently published which suggested only minor amendments. These have been reported to Cabinet and the DPD's were approved for adoption by the –full Council on the 4th August 2011. The DPDs were jointly adopted by the Tees Valley Authorities on the 15th September 2011.

b) Supplementary Planning Documents

A Transport Assessments and Travel Plans SPD was adopted in January 2009 This SPD sets out guidance and standards on the use of Travel Plans and Transport assessment planning agreements, including the circumstances when an agreement will be sought and on what basis.

Several other SPD's are in the process of or are proposed to be prepared which will provide additional planning policy guidance. Details of the timing of these documents are set out in a supplement to the Local Development Scheme (LDS), which has been approved by Cabinet and –Council and which is reviewed on a regular basis. The following SPD's are included in the current LDS.

Planning Obligations SPD – This document will set out guidance and standards on the use of commuted sums negotiated from developers through planning agreements. A draft of this SPD was initially presented to Cabinet for approval

for public consultation purposes in October 2009, with the consultation beginning on the 31 October 2009 for a period until 8 January 2010. Responses to this are being considered alongside changes to the Planning Obligations Regulations which were introduced in 2010. The revised Planning Obligations SPD will go to Cabinet for approval later in 2011.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – a new planning charge came into force in April 2010 which allows local authorities to raise funds from developers undertaking new building projects towards the cost of a wide range of infrastructure that is needed as a result of development. Although local authorities are not obliged to introduce CIL, restrictions on the use of Planning Obligations through Section 106 Agreements which will come into effect in 2014 would reduce local authorities' ability to secure infrastructure improvements without CIL. The scope for introducing CIL in Hartlepool is currently being investigated and subject to agreement to proceed a charging schedule will be prepared and submitted to Cabinet for approval later in early 2012.

Green Infrastructure SPD - Cabinet agreed on 2 November 2009 that an SPD be prepared to give a more focused direction to the provision of green infrastructure in Hartlepool. Work on this is progressing.

Central Area SPD - Cabinet agreed on 20 April 2010 that an SPD be prepared for the Central Area of the town to provide a strategy for investment within Hartlepool town centre and to identify specific development proposals. The SPD will assist in preparation of bids for funding. Work on this is progressing.

Seaton Carew SPD – Cabinet agreed on 27th September 2010 to the preparation of an SPD for Seaton Carew to provide guidance and support for the regeneration of the sea front area . Work on this SPD will progress throughout 2011.

Design SPD – Cabinet agreed on 27th September 2010 to the preparation of a Design SPD to provide guidance and support towards the raising of design standards for future development. Work on this SPD will also progress in 2011.

(c) Local Development Orders

Local Development Orders (LDOs) are a tool which can be used to simplify planning controls for designated areas of land. Whilst LDO's must be in general compliance with the key policies contained in the Development Plan (Local Plan/Core Strategy) an LDO will provide the planning policy framework within these areas, providing development meets the criteria established in the LDO. The government is currently encouraging the use of LDO's as a means of promoting development and supporting community led planning and sees these as a mechanism to support the delivery of their Enterprise Zone initiative. The Tees Valley has recently been successful in securing Enterprise Zone status under this initiative and the successful bid includes sites in Hartlepool at Queens Meadow and the port estate and Oakesway

Cabinet in October endorsed the preparation of draft LDOs for the Enterprise Zones, and undertake public consultation on these including submission of the LDOs to the Secretary of State prior to adoption by Council in March 2012. Government regulations mean that the LDOs for Enterprise Zones have to be adopted and in place by 1st April 2012.

The other documents within the Local Development Framework which must be prepared but which do not form part of the development plan are:

- a) Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) setting out how and when the Council will consult on planning policies and planning applications;
- b) Local Development Scheme (LDS) setting out a rolling programme for the preparation of local development documents, and
- c) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) assessing the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which current planning policies are being implemented.

The Statement of Community Involvement was adopted by the Council on 26 October 2006. A review was undertaken during 2009 with public consultation being held April – June 2009. A report was made to Cabinet on 7 September 2009 and it was reported to Council on 10 December 2009 with formal adoption in January 2010.

The first Local Development Scheme (LDS) as approved by Cabinet came into effect on 15 April 2005. The Scheme has been updated annually and the most recent scheme was approved by Cabinet in October 2011.

Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) have been produced each year since 2004 / 5. The most recent AMR was completed in 2011 relating to the year 2010 / 11. This reviews progress against the RSS and generally assesses the effectiveness of planning policies and the extent to which they are being implemented.

Further Information:

Derek Gouldburn, Urban and Planning Policy Manager, Regeneration and Planning Services Department, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT Tel. 01429 523280
e-mail derek.gouldburn@hatlepool.gov.uk

B. SCHEDULE OF KEY DECISIONS

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 13/09 – DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS ASSETS

Nature of the decisions

To consider and agree the disposal of key land and property assets identified in the Business Transformation Programme and Medium Term Financial Strategy. As there are a number of identified and as yet unidentified assets, the timing of individual disposals will vary and it is therefore anticipated that a series of decisions will be required to take advantage of opportunities as and when they arise.

Who will make the decision?

The decisions will be made by Cabinet or the Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder, following negotiations by Hartlepool Borough Council's Estates Manager who was authorised to progress a disposals strategy at the Cabinet meeting of 26 January 2009 as part of the Business Transformation Programme.

Ward(s) affected

Various wards depending upon location of property asset.

Timing of the decisions

Decisions are expected to be made from February 2012 in line with a programme of disposals.

Who will be consulted and how?

Consultation will depend upon the circumstances of disposal, location and occupancy of the particular property to be disposed of. This shall include service departments, service users, relevant voluntary and community groups residents and will include Ward Councillors. Consultation will be in the form of presentations and meetings as appropriate including the Council's Strategic Capital and Asset Programme Team that encapsulates departmental representatives.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet on 26 January 2009 approved the disposals strategy as part of the Business Transformation Programme.

A number of properties have been identified as potential priorities for disposal depending upon the Council's future accommodation strategy. Opportunities for disposal, valuations, market conditions, stakeholder views and service users will be considered as part of the decision making process.

In March 2010 Cabinet considered the sale of the Municipal, Archive and Leadbitter Buildings to the Cleveland College of Art and Design. In June 2010 the Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder considered land at Throston

Grange and Clavering in terms of sale for residential accommodation including affordable housing.

Disposals being progressed include: the former Somersby Close Offices, the current Jesmond Road School site, Foggy Furze Library and associated land, Brooklyn Offices (Grange Road) and premises at 85 Station Lane, Lealholme Road, Morrison Hall and the former Market Hotel.

The most recent potential sites/premises for consideration are part of the Tanfield Road, Nursery site (south side) Briarfields, Ward Jackson Park Lodge and Blakelock Hostel.

As a result of Council decisions in respect of agreed Service Delivery Option Reviews and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2011 / 12 to 2014 / 15 Cabinet has approved the asset transfer to the third sector of West View Community Centre and Library, and Jutland Road Community Centre. Approval was also given to the marketing of the Throston Community Centre.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523211.

E Mail: Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Graham Frankland, as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 29/10 HARTLEPOOL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STRATEGY

Nature of the decision

To seek approval and support for the Hartlepool Domestic Violence Strategy.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

All wards will be affected.

Timing of the decision

The decision will be considered by Cabinet in March 2011

Who will be consulted and how?

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership Reducing Violence group and its sub-group, the domestic violence forum will assist with development and consultation. The Children's Trust Board and Local Safeguarding Children's Board will also be invited to comment during the consultation period. Local stakeholders and service users will be the key consultees. A seminar will be held to consult Elected Members.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The first Hartlepool Domestic Violence Strategy was published in 2007. The revised and updated strategy will utilise local statistical evidence gathered from a range of partner organisations such as Police, Harbour, Children's Services, Courts, Housing Hartlepool, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust and Probation.

The strategy will focus on support for victims, perpetrators and children and young people; awareness raising of the extent and impact of domestic violence and greater emphasis on high risk cases.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Denise Ogden Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523201 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Sally Forth, Community Safety Manager, Police Office, Avenue Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BB, Tel: 01642 302589. sally.forth@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN58/11 ALLOTMENTS

Nature of the decision

To implement priority actions highlighted through a consultation exercise with allotment holders, key stakeholders and the wider community aimed at identifying key issues on allotment sites throughout Hartlepool.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio Holder.

Ward(s) affected

Various wards throughout the town where allotment sites are located.

Timing of the decision

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

It is proposed that consultations are carried out over a twelve week period and will involve the following individuals/groups and key stakeholders:

- Allotment Holders;
- Allotment Associations;
- The Allotment Holders Association;
- Members of the Public/Residents;
- Elected Members of the Council;
- Resident Representatives;
- Neighbourhood Managers;
- Police;
- Fire Brigade;
- HBC Estates & Asset Management;
- HBC Environmental Enforcement;
- RSPCA;
- Dogs Trust.

The following mechanisms will be used in carrying out the proposed consultations:

- Allotment Holders/Associations meetings/forums;
- Allotment Holders Newsletters;
- Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forums;
- Residents Association meetings;
- Questionnaires (inc. on-line);
- Police Forums;
- Hartbeat/Hartlepool Mail/Local Media;
- Executive Council Meetings (Reports);
- Hartlepool Borough Council website;
- Letter/e-mail/etc

The consultation process will aim to identify those issues, which cause disruption to allotment holders and the allotment service as a whole; it will also seek to identify issues that impact upon the environment and those that affect the quality of life for people in neighbouring communities. Though not exhaustive, the following provides a list of examples:

- Allotments infrastructure e.g. water pipes, fencing, roads/tracks;
- allotment abuse e.g. storing of waste/other materials, keeping of animals;
- environmental crime e.g. fly tipping, illegal burning, noise;
- anti-social behaviour.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Concern exist for the condition of allotment sites throughout Hartlepool and recent surveys have highlighted the need for essential repairs to prevent serious deterioration to the fabric of the service; this includes roads, fencing, water pipes and general grounds maintenance.

A condition survey on individual plots has also revealed a number of issues, some more serious than others:

- Fly tipping;
- Illegal waste disposal;
- Illegal burning of waste;
- Illegal use of plots for commercial reasons;
- The keeping of animals.

Key stakeholders including the Police, Fire Brigade and the Safer Hartlepool Partnership report incidents of theft/burglary, arson and anti-social behaviour. These issues not only impact upon the activities of the genuine allotment gardener, but they also have implications for the wider community.

The decline of allotment sites has resulted from decades of under-investment, misdirection of resources and a failure to address key issues at an early stage. It is now vital that Hartlepool Borough Council implements a realistic and achievable plan of action, which not only addresses those elements responsible for the decline of allotment sites, but one that provides for a sustainable allotment service.

Whilst there is both hard and anecdotal evidence of the issues that exist on allotment sites, it is correct and necessary to formally gauge the opinions of allotment holders, key stakeholders and local residents in order to prioritise remedial actions and implement a realistic timetable for improvement.

Further to this, if current allotment rents are deemed to be disproportionate to the level of investment required to carry out remedial works, or they are considered inadequate to maintain the standards required of the allotment service, then it will be necessary to carry out a review of the same. In this respect, allotment holders will need to be consulted before any proposals are placed before the council.

Consultations with allotment holders, key stakeholders and residents are therefore fundamental to any realistic and achievable action plan and it is necessary to embark upon this process at the earliest opportunity to halt the further decline of allotment sites.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Denise Ogden, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523201 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Craig Thelwell, Waste & Environmental Services Manager, 1 Church St, Hartlepool, TS24 1DS. Tel: 01429 523370 Email: craig.thelwell@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 61/11 SELECTION OF PREFERRED DEVELOPER FOR SITES IN SEATON CAREW

Nature of the decision

Given the reduction in government regeneration funding and reduction in future opportunities to regenerate areas such as Seaton Carew, alternative ways to deliver investment need to be explored. One option is to utilise existing Council assets to generate funding to secure improvements which encourage tourism, support business investment and deliver community benefits.

Expressions of interest have therefore been sought from developers regarding Council owned sites in Seaton Carew. Developers have been asked to respond to a development brief with their initial proposals for the identified sites. It is envisaged that the development of these sites will enable the wider regeneration of Seaton Carew, releasing funding to deliver improvements to The Front, community facilities and contribute toward renewed sea defences. As part of the next phase of the procurement process shortlisted developers will be interviewed during June 2011 and asked to provide more detailed information to support their proposals. A report will be brought to Cabinet in August 2011 to seek endorsement for the appointment of a preferred development partner. The appointed partner would then work with the Council to develop, refine and deliver the proposals in accordance with an agreed masterplan for the area.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

Seaton Ward will be directly affected by the proposals.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

A number of consultation exercises have been carried out already in Seaton Carew in relation to the regeneration of the area. Further consultation is expected as part of the selection process.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Within the report, Cabinet will be requested to consider information submitted by the shortlisted developers, regarding their proposals for development on the sites identified. The developers will be asked for more detailed information regarding their proposals for both residential and commercial development, in line with the development brief. They will also be asked for a valuation of the

identified sites and an estimated sum that will be available through the development of sites, in order to deliver the regeneration priorities in Seaton Carew. This information along with draft plans and layouts for the suggested sites will form the basis upon which Cabinet will be asked to confirm the selection of a development partner.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523400. E Mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson, as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 68 / 11 - COMMUNITY COHESION FRAMEWORK

Nature of the decision

The Portfolio Holder is asked to approve the adoption of a Community Cohesion Framework.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Planning

Ward(s) affected

The Community Cohesion Framework covers all Wards of the Town

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Views in relation to the Community Cohesion Framework will be sort from the following:

- SHP Executive
- Community Safety and Housing Portfolio
- Both the Statutory and Voluntary Organisations: including – HVDA, Salaam Centre, Hart Gables, Access Group, Places of Worship, Police Adult and Child Services, Fire Brigade, Health and Social Housing Providers
- Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

In line with the existing Hartlepool Compact, under section (B) Consultation and Policy Code, those involved in the consultation process will be give 8 weeks to feed back their comments, information will include details of the time scale, any decision already made, and arrangements for expressing views.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The issue of Community Cohesion has risen up the national political agenda in recent years. Equality and diversity are key concepts for all of us as they aim to

ensure a fair society where everyone has the same opportunities, and their different needs and aspirations are recognised and respected. The framework will be a resource which keeps developing and whose elements are constantly renewed as our knowledge and understanding continues to develop in relation to building well integrated and cohesive communities.

There are already lots of strategies and plans, locally and nationally, which talk about how the Council and others will work to promote Community Cohesion. To strengthen the overall approach it will be essential that this framework and the issues involving community cohesion must be specifically addressed by drawing on the strategies already in place, such as Neighbourhood Management and Community Empowerment, SHP Crime and Disorder Strategy and Volunteering etc. 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. Nationally it also will reflect the Coalition's recent initiatives around 'Big Society' and the Localism Bill.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Denise Ogden Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429523201 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Karen Oliver, Neighbourhood Management (North), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool. TS24 7BT. Telephone 01429 523680. E-mail: karen.oliver@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 69/11 - FLEXIBLE SUPPORT FUND

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to deliver pre Work Programme employability programmes for unemployed active clients of all working age.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Potentially all wards but particularly impacting on the most deprived wards in the Town.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Key stakeholders and partners , one workshop has already been held involving Council Departments and the voluntary/community sector, which was held on the 13th July 2011.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Job Centre Plus have announced £1.8m of Flexible Support Funds for Tees Valley and Durham to implement employability programmes to support unemployed clients of all working age who are not eligible for the DWP Work Programme. Essentially the scheme is aimed at pre Work Programme Job Centre Plus clients to deliver employment outcomes to avoid significant flows onto the Work Programme.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Antony Steinberg , Economic Development Manager, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool, TS247BT, telephone 01429 523503, email antony.steinberg@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Antony Steinberg, contact details noted above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 70/11 - INNOVATION FUND

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to deliver a programme to support young people 14 years plus to improve employability prospects and in addition deliver employment outcomes for young people aged over 18. This will be subject to a successful bidding process via DWP.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Potentially all wards but particularly focusing on the most deprived wards.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

Key stakeholders and partners, one workshop has already been held involving Council Departments and the voluntary/community sector, which was held on the 13th July 2011.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The Government has announced £30m of support to assist the most disadvantaged young people from 14 years plus to improve employability and in addition deliver employment outcomes for young people over 18 years old. DWP is inviting bids for organisations to deliver appropriate programmes and is based on an outcome payment model.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Antony Steinberg, Economic Development Manager, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool, TS247BT, telephone 01429 523503, email antony.steinberg@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Antony Steinberg, contact details noted above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 71/11 - FAMILIES WITH MULTIPLE PROBLEMS

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to enter into partnership or sub contracting arrangements with a DWP Prime Provider to deliver the ESF funded Families With Multiple Problems. This is subject to negotiations with the successful Prime Provider to be appointed by DWP.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Potentially all wards but particularly impacting on the most deprived wards in the Town.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Key stakeholders and partners , one workshop has already been held involving Council Departments and the voluntary/community sector, which was held on the 13th July 2011.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

To negotiate and implement subcontracting arrangements with a DWP Prime Provider to deliver an ESF funded programme, Families with multiple problems.

The focus of the programme is to deliver employment outcomes and the programme operate over two years to support families with multiple barriers to employment including intergenerational worklessness.

The guidance from DWP stipulates that the Work Programme Prime Providers will be eligible to apply for the funding and that the successful Prime Provider must work closely with local authorities and all referrals of clients must be made via local authorities who will be responsible for identifying appropriate families.

An update report was provided to Cabinet at its meeting on 19th December 2011 regarding developments where permission was requested to continue negotiations prior to the final report for decision in January 2012.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Antony Steinberg , Economic Development Manager, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool, TS247BT,telephone 01429 523503,email antony.steinberg@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Antony Steinberg, contact details noted above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 74/11 – FORMER LEATHERS CHEMICAL SITE

Nature of the decision

To consider a report containing the outcome and recommendations of the Environment Agency following a Contaminated Land Special Site investigation into the former Leathers Chemicals site situated off Zinc Works Road and how this may impact on the Council.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

The former Leathers Chemicals site is situated in the Seaton Ward.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Statutory consultees including land owner, leasee, land occupier, adjacent land owners and other public bodies will be consulted as part of the process following consideration of the report and these will be consulted in writing.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Following a site investigation including sampling and testing of soils, the Environment Agency will advise the Council of their recommendations following the Contaminated Land Special Site investigation into the former Leathers Chemicals Site and adjacent sand dunes. The Cabinet report will present these recommendations and discuss how the Council must then proceed in terms of the legislation (Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990) and the potential options available. Information is awaited from the Environment Agency which is expected in January prior to the report being submitted to Cabinet.

How to make representation

Formal representations can be made to Alastair Smith (Assistant Director Transportation and Engineering), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Tel 01429 523802 or e-mail alastair.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Stephen Telford (Senior Engineer – Environmental Issues) on 01429 523245 or stephen.telford@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 77/11 - WYNYARD MASTER PLAN

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to progress a master plan study for the Wynyard area to help guide the development of this key location

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

Elwick Ward

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

The intention is to carry out the master plan study in partnership with Stockton Borough Council and to include relevant land owners. The study is likely to involve consultation with major infrastructure providers and statutory consultees such as Natural England and the highways Agency. On completion and subject to agreement by Cabinet the master plan would be subject to public consultation.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The emerging Core Strategy allocates Wynyard Business Park as a Prestige Employment Location but also identifies land both within the Business Park and to the south of the A689 for executive housing, whilst also recognising the aspiration for the development of a new hospital within the area.

The Business Park straddles the boundary with Stockton BC who are also looking at sites within their area with the potential for housing development. In order to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of the Wynyard area, to consider development options, ensure that the development proposals are compatible with other development and regeneration priorities and to maximise sustainability, it is considered that the development of a master plan for the wider Wynyard area would be an appropriate way forward.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523400. E Mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Derek Gouldburn, Urban and Planning Policy Manager, Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523276. Email Derek.gouldburn@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN89 / 11 FORMER BRIERTON SCHOOL SITE

Nature of the decisions

To consider a range of potential development and operational proposals for the site subsequent to Dyke House School vacating the site in December 2011. There will be a number of decisions to be made over the forthcoming months.

Who will make the decision?

The decisions will be made by Cabinet and Council as appropriate to the subject matter of each decision.

Ward(s) affected

Rift House, Owton Manor and Rossmere Wards specifically.

Timing of the decision

There will be a range of decisions required ranging from the future operation and management of the Sports Centre to subsequent decisions in connection with the overall site from February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

A number of stakeholders will need to be consulted depending on the particular aspect of the proposals and decisions required:-

Local residents

Ward Members

Dyke House School (in relation to transfer of Sports Centre Management)

Sport England

Council Working Group

Cabinet

Council

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Dyke House School departed the site on 23rd December and the management of the site has reverted back to the Council. Initially this was to take place in Spring 2012, however the refurbishment of the existing Dyke House School was completed early via the BSF Contract.

Initially the Council has considered the future management operation and funding of the Brierton Sports Centre which has been transferred back to the Council from Dyke House School. This is linked to the future use and development of the site for which options are being formulated for consultation and subsequent agreement.

Cabinet has given consideration to the early demolition of surplus buildings on the site is part of the current budget process which is being consulted upon.

Options are being considered for the use and occupation of existing buildings and potential demolition of any that may become surplus.

The future determination of the whole site will be considered including those areas to be retained for sport and those where a master plan for future use / development will be required.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY. Tel 01429 523211. E Mail graham.frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk, or John Mennear, Assistant Director (Community Services), Child and Adults Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523417. E Mail: john.mennear@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Graham Frankland or John Mennear, as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 90/11 MILL HOUSE SITE DEVELOPMENT AND VICTORIA PARK

Nature of the decision

To consider proposals for the master planning for the Mill House site including potential land transactions with Hartlepool United Football Club in connection with Victoria Park.

Who will make the decision?

There will be a range of decisions to be made around the future development of the Mill House site in addition to the potential sale of Victoria Park. Decisions may be made by Cabinet or an Executive Committee of Cabinet as appropriate.

Wards affected

The wards affected are in the Central area and Stranton Ward in particular, but there is town wide interest in the provision of recreational facilities generally and the Football Club itself.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

Hartlepool Indoor Bowls Club
Hartlepool United Football Club
Local Residents
Ward Members
All Council Members
Scrutiny Coordinating Committee
Council Working Group

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Options for the future development of the Mill House site are being considered as part of a master planning exercise which will aim to regenerate the area as well as promote community and recreational facilities. The Football Club are still interested in the purchase of Victoria Park and are willing to be involved in the master planning exercise which will also consider the potential sale and development of Victoria Park.

Any potential sale of the football club will need to be considered against the following:

- Regeneration opportunities
- Recreation and sports strategies

- Economic impact of the Football Club
- The Council's asset management planning and medium term financial strategy
- Local community needs and views.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), or Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523211.

E Mail: Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk

E mail Damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Graham Frankland or Damien Wilson, as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN94 /11 - REVIEW OF CONCESSIONARY FARE PAYMENTS TO BUS OPERATORS FOR 2012-2013

Nature of the decision

To agree a revised payment structure for the provision of free concessionary travel for the over 60's and disabled for the 2012-2013 period with the bus operators.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Timing of the decision

The decision will be made in February 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

Consultation will take place with the bus operators and will be coordinated on a Tees Valley level in the first instance with a local agreement determined from this dialogue.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The statutory minimum travel concessions for all local residents aged 60 and over and disabled people to travel free of charge on registered off-peak local bus services throughout England (off-peak travel is from 9.30am to 11pm on weekdays and all day at weekends and bank holidays)

Authorities are able to operate an enhanced scheme based on a judgement of local needs and circumstances.

Such enhancements that have previously been approved by Cabinet include allowing travel at all times of the day, and from last year, the payment of a fixed fare of 30p prior to 9:30am

The Government has recognised that the concession imposes a significant funding burden on local authorities because they will be obliged to reimburse operators for journeys and pay costs for issuing new passes.

Bus operators must be 'no better and no worse off' as a consequence of carrying eligible pass holders.

The Government stated, when free national travel was introduced in 2008, that the net additional costs of new burdens placed on local authorities will be fully funded.

The cost to the Council for the national bus concession from the 1st April 2012 will be determined following negotiation with all bus operators operating services in Hartlepool.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Mike Blair, Highways, Traffic and Transport Manager, 1 Church Street, Hartlepool, TS24 7DS. Telephone: 01429 523252. Email: mike.blair@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Mike Blair as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN96/11 – HARTLEPOOL VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR STRATEGY AND COMPACT

Nature of the decision

Key Decision - Test (ii) applied

Background

Hartlepool currently has a Voluntary Sector Strategy (VSS) and a separate Voluntary Sector Compact. The VSS was developed through extensive consultation with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and other partners in the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). The Strategy was endorsed by Cabinet on 21st September 2009 and as part of the work undertaken by the consultants, an action plan was prepared to accompany the strategy and focus work going forward. The delivery of the Voluntary Sector Strategy is currently overseen by an Implementation Group.

The Hartlepool Compact was endorsed by Cabinet on 27th October 2008 following an extensive consultation and development period. The Hartlepool Compact is a written agreement containing a series of codes that are designed to improve the relationships between the VCS and other organisations in Hartlepool. Since the Compact was approved an action plan has been prepared annually setting out how partner organisations will take forward the codes outlined in the Compact. Monitoring of the Compact and the review of disputes was the responsibility of Hartlepool Community Network. Since the end of the Community Network in March 2011 an alternative body has not been identified to take on this responsibility.

This forward plan entry replaces a previous entry reference RN55/11 Hartlepool Compact/Voluntary Sector Strategy Action Plans which planned to refresh the action plans for both documents. In light of reduced resources and developing national government policy including the Big Society and the Localism Bill it is now felt timely for a more fundamental review of the two documents. In order to ensure clarity at the local level it is proposed to bring the Strategy and Compact together into one document that will clearly set out the relationship between the Local Authority and its public sector partners and the VCS. The new VCS Strategy and Compact will build upon the previous documents but will reflect the changing landscape both locally and nationally. A report detailing the proposed review will be brought to Cabinet in November.

The review will result in a new VCS Strategy and Compact for Hartlepool and in order to drive it forward new governance arrangements will need to be agreed. These new arrangements will aim to strengthen the role of the VCS in overseeing the implementation of the Strategy and Compact.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

The proposals will affect all wards within the Borough.

Timing of the decision

It is anticipated that in February 2012 Cabinet will be presented with a draft Strategy and Compact which they will be asked to agree as a draft for consultation. There will then follow an 8 week consultation period and following that a final draft will be presented to Cabinet for approval and adoption.

Who will be consulted and how?

There will be wide consultation throughout the development of the new Strategy & Compact and this will include Cabinet, Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, public sector partners and the Voluntary and Community Sector. There will also be an 8 week consultation period on the draft Strategy and Compact during which a number of consultation events will be held.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The Voluntary & Community Sector Strategy and Compact.

How to make representation

Representation should be made to:

Denise Ogden, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Civic Centre,
Hartlepool, TS24 8AY.

Telephone: (01429) 523201.

Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from Denise Ogden, as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 98/11 – ACQUISITION OF ASSETS

Nature of the decisions

To consider and agree the acquisition of land and property assets as part of the strategic approach to property in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Over time there will be an opportunity for a number of identified and as yet unidentified assets, the timing of individual acquisitions will vary and it is therefore anticipated that a series of decisions will be required to take advantage of opportunities as and when they arise.

Who will make the decision?

The decisions will be made by Cabinet or the Finance and Procurement Portfolio Holder and Council as appropriate.

Ward(s) affected

Various wards depending upon location of property asset.

Timing of the decisions

Decisions are expected to be made from February 2012 in line with the potential of strategic acquisitions.

Who will be consulted and how?

Consultation will depend upon the circumstances of acquisition, location and occupancy of the particular property to be disposed of. This shall include service departments, service users, relevant voluntary and community groups residents and will include Ward Councillors. Consultation will be in the form of presentations and meetings as appropriate including the Council's Capital Fund Team that encapsulates departmental representatives.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

There may be occasions when it could be in the Council's longer term financial position when the acquisition of land or property may be a prudent action. The capital receipts strategy will include the purchase of assets for resale within the next three years. Opportunities for disposal, valuations, market conditions, stakeholder views and service users will be considered as part of the decision making process.

A robust business case will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure that any acquisition is both a strategic priority and in line with the medium term financial strategy and does not increase financial risk. The acquisition and disposal strategy is part of the strategy to fund one off costs identified in the medium term financial strategy. The purchase and resale of assets will need to

be managed carefully to ensure annual capital receipts match annual expenditure commitments and avoid unbudgeted revenue costs from using prudential borrowing to fund any shortfall wherever possible.

Acquisitions currently being considered includes the Ambulance station at Elwick Road adjacent to land at Briarfields which is a key development site for the Council.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523211.

E Mail: Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk or Chris Little, Chief Finance Officer Chief Finance Officer, Chief Executives Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523003.

E Mail: chris.little@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Graham Frankland, or Chris Little as above.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 99/11 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Nature of the decision

Cabinet will be asked to consider the implications of undertaking work to produce a draft charging schedule for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). This levy will be charged on all new development in the Borough in the future. The money raised through CIL will be used to deliver Borough wide infrastructure requirements set out in the Local Infrastructure Plan.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

The Community Infrastructure Levy would impact across the Borough.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made by Cabinet in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

As the CIL is developed consultation will take place with stakeholders to ensure the approach taken is the right approach for Hartlepool. People will be able to comment on the draft charging schedule and the levels and types of infrastructure covered. Comments will be asked for during a formal consultation period which is likely to last for a period of 6 weeks.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet will be asked for permission to undertake preparatory work and evidence gathering which will inform the development of the draft CIL charging Schedule. This will need to be worked up so that it can be brought into use when the Core Strategy/Local Plan is adopted next year.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to the Urban and Planning Policy Team at Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Lynn Street.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523400. E Mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 100/11 RABY ROAD CORRIDOR DEVELOPER AGREEMENT

Nature of the decision

Key decision which will seek approval of the financial viability arrangements with Keepmoat Homes to satisfy the viability clause of the developer agreement for the delivery of new homes on the Raby Road Corridor housing regeneration scheme.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Dyke House Ward, Central Hartlepool.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

The development and implementation of the housing market renewal programme in central Hartlepool to date has been informed by extensive rounds of community consultation and resident/stakeholder engagement in a range of forms. The scheme is led by a resident steering group and consultation in relation to the proposed plans for the redevelopment of the Raby Road Corridor scheme took place in April 2011.

Ongoing community consultation and engagement with local residents will remain a key feature of the implementation of the wider regeneration and housing programme moving forward.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet will consider the viability clause within the developer agreement between Keepmoat Homes and Hartlepool Borough Council for the redevelopment of the Raby Road Corridor housing regeneration site following demolition of the existing terraced properties. Community Safety and Housing Portfolio holder on the 10th December 2010 provided approval to appoint Keepmoat Homes as preferred developer and to progress with a developer agreement. The report will provide further details of the final developer agreement and specifically the viability condition and revised viability assessment if necessary. The risk and financial implications of this agreement will be considered.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523301. e-mail: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson (Assistant Director Regeneration and Planning) 01429 523400 damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk or Nigel Johnson (Housing Services Manager) 01429 284339 nigel.johnson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 101/11 SUB REGIONAL STRATEGIC TENANCY POLICY

Nature of the decision

Key decision to endorse working towards the implementation of the Sub Regional Strategic Tenancy Policy

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

There has been early engagement in the development of the Sub Regional Strategic Tenancy Policy with all Registered Providers operating in Tees Valley, all 5 Local Authorities, Northern Housing Consortium and Homes and Communities Agency.

Ongoing consultation will take place with Registered Providers and other persons as the Secretary of State may prescribe once the Localism Bill has been enacted.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The Localism Bill introduces a duty on all local housing authorities to produce a Strategic Tenancy Policy. This is a policy on how tenancies will be let and managed. This must be in place within 12 months of the Bill being enacted. The Tees Valley local authorities, following initial consultation with Registered Providers, have decided to adopt a Sub Regional Strategic Tenancy Policy.

Cabinet will consider how the Sub Regional Strategic Tenancy Policy will complement Hartlepool's Housing Strategy and Homelessness Strategy; the Tees Valley Common Allocations Policy and meet current and future housing priorities for Hartlepool.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523301 e-mail: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Damien Wilson (Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning) 01429 523400.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 102/11 PARTNERING ARRANGEMENT FOR CCTV

Nature of the decision

To agree to enter into a Partnering Arrangement with Housing Hartlepool for the provision of Telecare, emergency planning, out of hours, and CCTV monitoring services.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet, as this is a town-wide service and impacts on a number of portfolio holder areas, and because this is required by the Council's Contract Procurement Rules.

Ward(s) affected

All wards are covered by the services under consideration.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

As this is a procurement issue it is not subject to external consultation. Services to residents will not alter as a result of the proposed arrangement.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Decision makers will need to consider the fact that the existing arrangements for monitoring CCTV were market tested in 2008, and found to deliver excellent value for money.

Legal opinion has been sought and has confirmed that a partnering arrangement may be entered into.

The arrangements in Hartlepool are complex with HBC equipment installed in buildings owned by Housing Hartlepool.

A partnership approach seems to make sense for the integrated services provided at the Community Monitoring Centre. There would be risks and costs to both parties, if the package was broken up. This approach was agreed in principle by cabinet on 26th January 2009

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Denise Ogden Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523201 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Sally Forth, Community Safety Manager, Police Office, Avenue Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BB, Tel: 01642 302589. sally.forth@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 103/11–HARTLEPOOL ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY

Nature of the decision

The development of the Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy is at the draft consultation stage. The strategy incorporates housing market renewal, physical regeneration and economic development priorities in a single combined strategy document. The strategy will help to ensure the delivery of the Council's key priority regeneration schemes in a joined up approach. Portfolio will be asked to endorse the final draft strategy document.

Who will make the decision?

The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Economic Development and Skills will make the decision.

Ward(s) affected

Wards in Central Hartlepool Housing Market Renewal Area, the town centre and across the Borough including Seaton Carew will be affected.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

The development and implementation of the housing market renewal programme in Central Hartlepool has been informed by extensive rounds of community consultations and resident/stakeholder engagement.

Various consultation and reporting exercises have already been carried out regarding a range of economic development priorities and regeneration schemes including those associated with the Central Area Investment Framework and consultation workshops have been carried that have been facilitated by Durham University Business School.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Within the final draft strategy document Portfolio will consider the current housing renewal, regeneration and economic development priorities and an action plan to ensure the implementation of those priorities. The report will consider the current national housing, regeneration and economic development policy agenda and funding context and how this is going to impact on the delivery programme in Hartlepool. The implications of changes to organisational arrangements at the sub regional and regional level that will affect the regeneration agenda in Hartlepool will also be considered.

Against this background Portfolio will also consider how the Council can continue to deliver the key priorities within the strategy with reduced opportunities for attracting external funding. The need to explore alternative methods of delivery will therefore be highlighted including for example the strategic use of Council land and assets to assist delivery.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523301 e-mail: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Derek Gouldburn (Urban and Planning Policy Team Manager) 01429 523276 or Nigel Johnson (Housing Regeneration and Policy Manager) 01429 284339 or Antony Steinberg (Economic Development Manager) 01429 523503

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 1/12 ALLOCATIONS OUTSIDE OF CHOICE BASED LETTINGS

Nature of the decision

Key decision to endorse the specific instances in which a social housing allocation will be made outside of the Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Common Allocations Policy

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Portfolio Holder

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in February 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

Housing Hartlepool's Management Transfers Policy has been developed in consultation with the Council and it will be raised with their Tenants' Panel in due course.

The Team around the Household re-housing policy has been consulted with the Tees Valley CBL Steering Group.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

A Tees Valley Common Allocations Policy under the Compass Choice Based Lettings Scheme (CBL) has been operating since 2009. CBL is a system which makes housing allocations open and transparent where applicants are able to 'bid' for properties and can see the feedback after each letting cycle.

The Portfolio Holder will be presented with a report which details how, in certain cases, it is sometimes necessary to make allocations outside of the system. Specifically, Housing Hartlepool Management Transfers and households involved in the Team around the Household initiative. With the support of Housing Hartlepool this will ensure that all information about lettings is kept open and transparent.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson, Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523400 e-mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Nigel Johnson (Housing Services Manager) 01429 284339.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 2/12 LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS: A HOUSING STRATEGY FOR ENGLAND (HM GOVERNMENT)

Nature of the decision

Item for information. The Government Housing Strategy published on 21 November 2011 influences the Hartlepool Housing Strategy that was approved and adopted by Cabinet on 7 November 2011.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

Engagement will take place with the Housing Partnership during the lifetime of the Hartlepool Housing Strategy 2011 – 2015 and the Council and its partners will respond flexibly to Government Housing Policy that is created from the Housing Strategy for England.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

A new Government Housing Strategy was launched on 21 November 2011 by the Prime Minister. It aims to tackle the national housing shortage, boost the economy, create jobs and give people the opportunity to get on the housing ladder.

The Housing Strategy sets out a package of reforms to:

- get the housing market moving again;
- lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future;
- support choice and quality for tenants;
- improve environmental standards and design quality.

The new strategy will address concerns across the housing market making it easier to secure mortgages on new homes, improving fairness in social housing and ensuring homes that have been left empty for years are lived in once again.

Cabinet will consider how the Housing Strategy for England will influence the Hartlepool Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2011 – 2015 in meeting current and future housing priorities for Hartlepool.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523301 e-mail: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Damien Wilson (Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning) 01429 523400.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 3/12 - HARTLEPOOL CCTV STRATEGY 2012 - 2015

Nature of the decision

To seek approval and support for the Hartlepool CCTV Strategy 2012-2015.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

All wards will be affected.

Timing of the decision

The decision will be considered by Cabinet in April 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

Residents will be consulted through the online survey monkey and the Neighbourhood Forums.

Members will be consulted via a member's seminar.

The police will be invited to make representations on the strategy.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The first Hartlepool CCTV Strategy was published in 2008. The revised and updated strategy will reflect on learning from that strategy, and from an evaluation carried out in 2011 on the effectiveness of the existing strategy.

The decision makers will need to bear in mind the reducing budgets available to run the town's CCTV and the need to make most effective use of the finance available.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Denise Ogden Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523201 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Sally Forth, Community Safety Manager, Police Office, Avenue Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8BB, Tel: 01642 302589. sally.forth@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 4/12 HOUSING MARKET RENEWAL TRANSITION FUNDING PLAN

Nature of the decision

Key decision to endorse the completion of the Housing Market Renewal Programme in the Carr/Hopps Street area including financial implications, timescales, risk following the announcement of Hartlepool BC award of an allocation of Housing Market Renewal Exit funding.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Grange ward in Central Hartlepool.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March - April 2012.

Who will be consulted and how?

The development and implementation of the housing market renewal programme in central Hartlepool to date has been informed by extensive rounds of community consultations and resident/stakeholder engagement in a range of forms. Previously led by Hartlepool Revival and a resident led board the scheme is now led by Hartlepool Borough Council with on the ground consultation and implementation carried out by Housing Hartlepool.

Ongoing community consultation and engagement with local residents will remain a key feature of the implementation of the wider regeneration and housing programme moving forward.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet will consider the proposals for the delivery and completion of the Carr/Hopps housing regeneration area through the award of HMR transition funding of £2m recently announced exit fund. The grant requires the Council to match fund to the equivalent level. The financial implications and proposals for match funding will be demonstrated by financial modelling and a detailed project plan/proposal, including legal consideration, analysis of risk and phasing.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Dave Stubbs, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY.
Telephone 01429 523301 e-mail: dave.stubbs@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Nigel Johnson (Housing Services Manager) 01429 284339 nigel.johnson@hartlepool.gov.uk or Amy Waller (Principal Housing and Regeneration Officer) 01429 523539 amy.waller@hartlepool.gov.uk.

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 5/12 SEATON CAREW DEVELOPMENT SITES – RESULTS OF JOINT WORKING ARRANGEMENT WITH PREFERRED DEVELOPER

Nature of the decision

Previously Cabinet has endorsed the selection of Esh Group as preferred developer to take forward development sites in Seaton Carew (December 2011). As part of that endorsement it was agreed that officers would work jointly with the developer to confirm the draft development proposals and layouts for the sites, carry out a programme of public consultation, undertake an assessment of the commercial market in Seaton Carew and draft a development agreement. Cabinet therefore will consider this further development work once completed and be asked to agree the proposed way forward.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Seaton Ward will be directly affected by the proposals.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2012

Who will be consulted and how?

As part of the period of joint working the developer and the council will consult widely on the regeneration and development proposals for Seaton Carew.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Within the report, Cabinet will be requested to consider the suggested development proposals and the feedback from the public consultation exercise on those proposals.

Cabinet will also be asked to consider the key elements of the draft development agreement which will form the terms of reference for taking forward the development of the sites. This will include details on the timetable for development, land disposal, the value and timing of key payments and the roles, responsibilities and obligations of the council and the developer within the overall programme of development.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department,

Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 523400. E Mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk.

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson as above

APPENDIX 1

DETAILS OF DECISION MAKERS

THE CABINET

Many decisions will be taken collectively by the Cabinet.

- The Mayor, Stuart Drummond
- Councillors Brash, Hall, Hargreaves, Hill, Jackson, Payne, Simmons and H Thompson

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Members of the Cabinet have individual decision making powers according to their identified responsibilities.

Community Safety and Planning Portfolio	The Mayor, Stuart Drummond
Finance and Procurement Portfolio	Robbie Payne
Housing and Transition Portfolio	Jonathan Brash
Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio	Ged Hall
Transport and Neighbourhoods Portfolio	Pamela Hargreaves
Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio	Cath Hill
Regeneration, Economic Development and Skills Portfolio	Peter Jackson
Children's Services Portfolio	Chris Simmons
Performance Portfolio	Hilary Thompson

APPENDIX 2

TIMETABLE OF KEY DECISIONS

Decisions are shown on the timetable at the earliest date at which they may be expected to be made.

1. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN FEBRUARY 2012

CAS 105/11 (page 11)	Hartlepool School admission Arrangements for 2013/14	Portfolio Holder
CAS 106/11 (page 12)	Priority Schools Building Programme	Cabinet
CAS 118/11 (page 20)	Development of Supported Accommodation for Care Leavers and Homeless Young People	Portfolio Holder
RN 13/09 (page 26)	Disposal of Surplus Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder
RN 58/11 (page 29)	Allotments	Portfolio Holder
RN 69/11 (page 36)	Flexible Support Fund	Cabinet
RN 70/11 (page 37)	Innovation Fund	Cabinet
RN 71/11 (page 38)	Families With Multiple Problems	Cabinet
RN 74/11 (page 40)	Former Leathers Chemical Site	Cabinet
RN 89/11 (page 44)	Former Brierton School Site	Cabinet
RN 94/11 (page 48)	Review of Concessionary Fare Payments to Bus Operators for 2012-2013	Cabinet
RN 96/11 (page 50)	Hartlepool Voluntary & Community Sector Strategy and Compact	Cabinet
RN 98/11 (page 52)	Acquisition of Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder
RN 99/11 (page 54)	Community Infrastructure Levy	Cabinet
RN 101/11 (page 57)	Sub Regional Strategic Tenancy Policy	Cabinet
RN 103/11 (page 61)	Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy	Portfolio Holder
RN 1/12 (page 63)	Allocations Outside of Choice Based Lettings	Portfolio Holder

2. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN MARCH 2012

CE 44/11 (page 7)	Workforce Arrangements	Cabinet
CAS 112/11 (page 14)	Adult Substance Misuse Plans 2012/13	Cabinet
CAS 116/11 (page 16)	Development of Children's Residential Care Provision in Hartlepool	Cabinet
CAS 117/11 (page 18)	Housing, Care and Support Strategy 2012	Cabinet
RN 29/10 (page 28)	Hartlepool Domestic Violence Strategy	Cabinet
RN 68/11 (page 34)	Community Cohesion Framework	Portfolio Holder
RN 90/11 (page 46)	Mill House Site Development and Victoria Park	Cabinet
RN 102/11 (page 59)	Partnering Arrangement for CCTV	Cabinet
RN 2/12 (page 65)	Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England (HM Government)	Cabinet
RN 4/12 (page 68)	Housing Market Renewal Transition Funding Plan	Cabinet

3. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN APRIL 2012

RN 61/11 (page 32)	Selection of Preferred Developer for Sites in Seaton Carew	Cabinet
RN 77/11 (page 42)	Wynyard Master Plan	Cabinet
RN 100/11 (page 55)	Raby Road Corridor Developer Agreement	Cabinet
RN 3/12 (page 67)	Hartlepool CCTV Strategy 2012 - 2015	Cabinet

RN 5/12 (page 70)

Seaton Carew Development Sites – Results of Joint Cabinet Working Arrangement with Preferred Developer

4. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN MAY 2012

CE 46/11 (page 8)

Review of Community Involvement & Engagement Cabinet (Including LSP Review): Update on decisions taken 'in principle'

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Subject: DRAFT DEPARTMENTAL PLANS 2012/13 –
FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To feedback the collective responses of the four standing Scrutiny Forums following their recent consideration of the Authority's Draft Departmental Plans for 2012/13.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on the 11 November 2011, approval was obtained for the process, and timetable, for Scrutiny involvement in the Authority's service planning process for 2012/13.
- 2.2 As in previous years it was agreed that proposals for inclusion in each of the Authority's 2012/13 Departmental Plans would be considered by the relevant Scrutiny Forums and this occurred in January / February 2012. In considering the Draft Departmental Plans, each of the Forums was asked to consider the actions, indicators and risks that underpin each outcome, for inclusion in the 2012/13 Departmental and Corporate Plans.
- 2.3 The comments / observations of each of the Scrutiny Forums and views expressed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 27 January 2012, in relation to the proposed actions and indicators relating to the Chief Executives Department, are detailed in Section 3 of this report. These comments and observations are to be used to inform a collective response from the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to Cabinet on the 19 March 2012.
- 2.4 In addition to this, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee will at today's meeting be given a further opportunity to consider the working draft of the Corporate Plan 2012/13. The finalised plan will then be brought back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 9 March, prior to its consideration by Cabinet on the 19 May 2012 and Full Council 12 April 2012.

3. COLLECTIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

3.1 Members of the five standing Scrutiny Forums have considered in detail the proposals for inclusion in each of the Authority's 2012/13 Departmental Plans between 26 January 2012 and 2 February 2012 and their comments are as outlined below:-

(a) **Health Scrutiny Forum** – 26 January 2012

Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum welcomed the opportunity to comment on the Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2012/13 and although the Forum agreed with many of the actions, there was a concern linked to the following outcome and associated action:-

Outcome 9 – Improve health by reducing inequalities and improving access to services.

ACTION: Draft the Health & Wellbeing strategy through the Health & Wellbeing board.

Members highlighted concerns about the development of the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board, surrounding the lack of non-Executive Member involvement and no emerging structure of scrutiny's role in scrutinising the work of the Board.

(b) **Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee** – 27 January 2012

Members welcomed the opportunity to comment and highlighted the need to update the document to remove all references to the Hartlepool Partnership.

(c) **Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum** – 30 January 2012

Members felt that where national standards or guidelines are available these should be included for Members reference and going forward Members should be consulted where significant indicators are not included.

Outcome 9 – Improving health by reducing inequalities and improving access to services

Indicator NI 184 - Percentage of food establishments in the areas which are broadly compliant with food hygiene law

Members questioned why the target was not increasing year on year. Members raised concerns that the national guidelines were not included to assist with Members consideration of whether the targets set were appropriate.

Outcome 10 – Be healthy – children enjoy good physical and emotional health and live a healthy lifestyle

Indicator NI 52a & b Percentage uptake of school meals (primary and secondary)

Members questioned whether the uptake of school meals included free school meals. Members would like this broken down into free school meals and other going forward.

Members felt that an increase of 1% in the take up of free school meals for both primary and secondary were low.

Members raised concerns that there was no feedback from schools to parents regarding the meals their children were selecting.

Outcome 18 – Quality local environments where public and community open spaces are clean green and safe

Indicator RND P050 Percentage of streets that fall below an acceptable level of cleanliness

Members requested the accurate ward level data be made available to ward members regarding RND P050

Members queried the lack of targets

Indicator RND P070 No of volunteer days spent working on local green space management initiatives

Members suggested that HBC link in with groups that are already active in relation to encouraging volunteering and community input into local green space management.

Outcome 19 – Provide a sustainable, safe, efficient, effective and accessible transport service

Indicator NI 168 The percentage of principal roads where maintenance should be considered

Indicator NI 169 The percentage of non-classified roads where maintenance should be considered

Members felt that to provide some context the funds available to repair roads to should be made available, as the percentages seemed low.

Outcome 20 – Hartlepool is prepared for the impacts of climate change and takes action to mitigate the effects

Indicator NI185 Percentage CO2 reduction from local authority operations
Members queried the target for NI185 remaining the same, but were advised that a 1% reduction was very difficult to achieve.

Members questioned the centrally controlled heating in buildings such as the Central Library as the buildings were too hot and therefore all the windows were open, going against the council's drive to drive to save energy.

Indicator NI 186 Percentage per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area

Members requested clarification as to why this was monitored but has a target in of 3.8

(d) **Children's Services Scrutiny Forum** – 31 January 2012

Outcome 3 – Hartlepool has increased employment and skills levels with a competitive workforce that meets the demands of employers and the economy

ACTION: Provide support for vulnerable young people to enable them to be economically active

Members questioned the definition of 'economically active' and suggested that it should be clearly defined and that examples should be included.

ACTION: Increase the take up of Apprenticeships by liaising with local employers to increase opportunities

The Forum supported this action. However, Members raised concerns about the lack of accountability of local colleges and employers. Members were strongly of the opinion that colleges and employers need to communicate with each other and work together in the interests of the young person. The Forum requested that accountability and follow-up processes needed to be developed / implemented and referenced in this action.

Outcome 6 – Fewer children experiencing the effects of poverty

ACTION: Implement Child Poverty Action Plan

Members questioned whether the target for the eradication of child poverty was still 2020 and requested clarification on the definition of child poverty used in Hartlepool. Members requested that the due date of March 2013 be changed to the review date, as the implementation of the plan needed to be before March 2013.

ACTION: Develop pathways within Early Intervention Strategy to improve parent's access to support re: Financial Inclusion

The Forum was of the view that financial inclusion was only one of the pathways within the Early Intervention Strategy to improve parent's access to support. Therefore, Members requested that the reference to financial inclusion be removed from this action to make its interpretation broader.

ACTION: Develop training package for family workforce to identify poverty issues and support parents in poverty

Members questioned the definition of 'family workforce' and suggested that it should be clearly defined.

Outcome 10 – Be healthy – children enjoy good physical and emotional health and live a healthy lifestyle

ACTION: Develop a robust action plan

Members requested that this action specifically refer to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

(e) **Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum** – 1 February 2012

Outcome 12 – vulnerable adults are supported and safeguarded and people are able to maintain maximum independence while exercising choice and control about how their outcomes are achieved

ACTION: Review day services using the Working Together for Change methodology to ensure that people using services, carers, providers and commissioners are partners in the process

In relation to the review of day services, Members raised concerns about a potential decrease in the number of day services which may reduce the choices available for people.

ACTION: Increase the number of people accessing personal budgets through focused work with mental health services, development of personal budgets for carers, work with health partners on personal health budgets and health direct payments and the development of personal budgets for children and young people

There was a query about the use of personal budgets and an example was referred to where a person was not fully aware of how their budget could be spent.

Outcome 24 – People enjoy equal access to leisure, culture, sport and libraries which enrich their lives, improve the places where they live, and strengthen communities

ACTION: Deliver a number of major cultural events, including Queen's Diamond Jubilee festival and Olympic torch relay

The Forum queried whether the Council would be working collaboratively with stagecoach to provide services throughout major cultural events. Members suggested that this should be an area that is explored.

ACTION: Work closely with key partners and groups to deliver programmes of activity to meet the sport and physical activity needs of the Hartlepool community increasing participation by 1%

Members suggested exploring the possibility of increasing the sport and activity provision currently on offer to provide a wider choice.

ACTION: Develop cultural trust or other management arrangements for community services

Members questioned how you ensure quality and a smooth transition when services are transferred from Council provision to an alternate provision. Members requested a copy of the different quality models that are used.

Indicator NI 9: Use of public libraries and Indicator NI 10: Visits to museums and galleries

Members requested that the previous and current targets be expressed in figures rather than percentages. Members were advised that these two indicators were National Indicators and therefore percentages were required. However, the actual visitation levels to Hartlepool Art Gallery and Museum, the individual libraries and also the Maritime Experience would be circulated to Members of the Forum for information.

(f) **Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum** – 2 February 2012

Members raised concerns regarding the number of plans and strategies that were required in relation to the departmental plans and the impact producing these would have on already stretched resources.

Outcome 2 Hartlepool has attracted new investment and developed major programmes to regenerate the area and improve connectivity

Action: Undertake examination of the Core Strategy in Public

Members raised concerns regarding the impact the introduction of the ability to request specific Neighbourhood Plans for small areas would have on Council departments, due to the requirement to assist and facilitate the plans, in addition to normal workloads.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee:-

- (a) considers the written feedback of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in relation to the Draft Departmental Plans for 2012/13; and
- (b) based on the written feedback received during this meeting, formulate a formal response for inclusion in the report to Cabinet on the 19 March 2012.

Contact :- Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive’s Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Date: 17 February 2012



Report of: Assistant Chief Executive

Subject: Corporate Plan 2012/13

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To enable the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to consider and comment on the proposed Corporate Plan for 2012/13.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Prior to 2011/12 Service Planning in Hartlepool was based on a common set of outcomes shared by the Council in the Departmental and Corporate Plans and the Hartlepool Partnership in its Local Area Agreement (LAA). As reported to Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 10 December 2010 Central Government removed the requirement to prepare a new LAA and the 2011/12 Departmental Plans and Corporate Plan were based on a more targeted and slimmed down version of the Outcome Framework.
- 2.2 The Outcome Framework has been reviewed to take account of emerging strategies, such as the Housing Strategy and Economic Regeneration Strategy, to ensure it accurately reflects the key outcomes that the Council and Partners have identified as being important for the future of the Town.
- 2.3 As in previous years the Departmental and Corporate Plans have included a small number of additional outcomes under the Organisational Development theme. These additional 'Council' outcomes were included in the reports to Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and Cabinet in November/December 2011.
- 2.4 As in previous years detailed Departmental Plan proposals have been considered by each of the Scrutiny Forums in January/February, and their feedback will be reported separately to this committee at this meeting.

3. 2012/13 CORPORATE PLAN

- 3.1 The proposed draft Corporate Plan action plan, attached at **Appendix A**, sets out how the Council propose to deliver the priority outcomes. The plan contains the Key Performance Indicators and targets, where available, which will be used to monitor progress throughout 2012/13.

3.2 All of the actions and key performance indicators included in the Corporate Plan have been drawn from the relevant Departmental Plan, which the Scrutiny Forums and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee have had the opportunity to comment. Officers from across the Council have identified the key actions and indicators that should be included in the Corporate Plan and progress on these will be reported throughout the year to both Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and Cabinet.

3.3 The timetable for producing the Corporate Plan remains broadly the same as last year, which means that some target information for the Performance Indicators can not be included at this stage as the information is not yet available. However, a detailed year end performance report will be produced for Scrutiny Coordinating Committee and Cabinet later in the year which will include this information.

4. TIMETABLE FOR APPROVING THE PLAN

4.1 The full Corporate Plan forms part of the Budget and Policy Framework and final approval rests with full Council.

4.2 Following this meeting the proposed Corporate Plan and the three Council Departmental Plans, will be considered again by Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 9 March 2012 and Cabinet on 19 March 2012.

4.3 Final approval of the Corporate Plan will be by Council at their meeting on 12 April 2012.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee: -

- considers and comments on the proposed outcome templates for inclusion in the 2012/13 Corporate Plan.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.

Contact Officer: - Andrew Atkin
Assistant Chief Executive
Tel: 01429 523040
E-mail: Andrew.Atkin@Hartlepool.gov.uk

Corporate Plan 2012//13 – Actions, Performance Indicators and Targets

1 Jobs and the Economy

Develop a more enterprising, vigorous and diverse local economy that will attract new investment, enable local enterprises and entrepreneurs to be globally competitive and create more employment opportunities for local people.

Outcome No.	Description
1	Hartlepool has improved business growth and business infrastructure and an enhanced culture of entrepreneurship
2	Hartlepool has attracted new investment and developed major programmes to regenerate the area and improve connectivity
3	Hartlepool has increased employment and skills levels with a competitive workforce that meets the demands of employers and the economy
4	Hartlepool has increased economic inclusion of adults and is tackling financial exclusion
5	Hartlepool has a boosted visitor economy
6	Fewer Hartlepool children experience the effects of poverty

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
1	Undertake audit of existing commercial premises and business infrastructure in context of growth sectors and produce report for commercial premises and business parks.	Sept 2012	Mick Emerson
1	Undertake study of existing vacant properties / sites to identify potential end use for businesses and implement marketing campaign to promote sites.	Sept 2012	Mick Emerson
2	Adopt the Core Strategy	October 2012	Derek Gouldburn
2	Establish Local Development Orders covering identified Enterprise Zones to facilitate regeneration through the simplification of the planning process.	April 2012	Derek Gouldburn
3	Develop partnership agreements with work programme prime providers	March 2013	Antony Steinberg
3	Submit bid for the new 'Innovation Fund' to help address youth unemployment	Sept 2012	Antony Steinberg
3	Reduce the level of young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) by implementing NEET Strategy.	March 2013	James Sindair
3	Implement the Hartlepool 14-19 Strategy.	March 2013	Tom Argument
4	Support Big Lottery Financial Inclusion bid submission	Jun 2012	John Morton
4	Develop referral channels for adults to access financial advice services	Mar 2013	John Morton
4	Deliver Money Matters engagement programme	Mar 2013	John Morton
5	Develop the tourism infrastructure and visitor offer through the delivery of the Seaton Carew Master Plan.	March 2013	Andrew Golightly
6	Implement Child Poverty Action Plan	March 2013	Danielle Swainston

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
3	NI 151	Overall employment rate (proportion of people of working age population who are in employment)	Monitor Only
3	RPD P054	Youth unemployment rate (Hartlepool) the proportion of economically active 18 to 24 year olds who are unemployed.	Monitor Only
3	NI 117	Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	6.6%
3	NI 79	Percentage of young people achieving a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	76.5%
3	NI 80	Percentage of young people achieving a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	47.0%
6	New	Proportion of children in poverty	30%

2 Lifelong Learning and Skills

All children, young people, individuals, groups and organisations are enabled to achieve their full potential through equal access to the highest quality education, lifelong learning and training opportunities.

Outcome No.	Description
7	To promote opportunities for all children and young people to reach their full potential by accessing good quality teaching and curriculum provision which fully meets their needs and enables them to participate in and enjoy their learning
8	Provision of high quality community learning and skills opportunities that widen participation and build social justice

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
7	Analyse Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) data and challenge schools with anomalies. Provide support and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) to identified schools. Monitor impact through Foundation Stage Profile software.	September 2013	Danielle Swainston
7	Analyse Key Stage 2 data in English and mathematics. Identify schools below 60% floor target in combined English and mathematics and with below average progress in English and mathematics separately and report to Portfolio Holder under Council's schools causing concern.	March 2013	Caroline O'Neill
7	Analyse Key Stage 4 data. Identify schools below 35% for 5A*-C (including English and mathematics) threshold and report to Portfolio Holder under Council's schools causing concern.	March 2013	Tom Argument

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2011/12 Target
7	NI 73	Percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	78%
7	NI 75	Percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more A*- C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	58%
7	NI 93	Percentage of pupils progressing by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	88%
7	NI 94	Percentage of pupils progressing by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	86%
8	ACS P053	Number of learners participating in Adult Education Programmes	Not Required

3 Health and Well-Being

Work in partnership with the people of Hartlepool to promote and ensure the best possible health and well-being.

Outcome No.	Description
9	Improve health by reducing inequalities and improving access to services
10	Be healthy – children enjoy good physical and emotional health and live a healthy lifestyle
11	Children & young people are safe
12	Vulnerable adults are supported and safeguarded and people are able to maintain maximum independence while exercising choice and control about how their outcomes are achieved

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
9	Ensure implementation of the Cardiovascular Primary Preparation programme across all practices in Hartlepool	March 2013	Louise Wallace
9	Ensure all eligible people particularly in high risk groups take up the opportunity to be vaccinated especially in relation to flu	March 2013	Louise Wallace
9	Draft the Health & Wellbeing strategy through shadow Health & Wellbeing board	March 2013	Louise Wallace
9	Review Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) in the context of the local authority responsibilities as described in the NHS White Paper	July 2012	Louise Wallace
10	Implement Child Measurement Programme	March 2013	Louise Wallace
10	Implement Smoking in Pregnancy Action Plan	March 2013	Carole Hohnson
10	Implement Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and action plan	March 2013	Deborah Gibbin
10	Develop a robust action plan	March 2013	Louise Wallace
11	Implement the Youth Justice strategic plan	March 2013	Mark Smith
11	Implement the strategic priorities from the Looked After Children strategy	March 2013	Jane Young
11	Implement the Early Intervention strategy	March 2013	Sally Robinson
12	Maximise use of preventative approaches such as assistive technology to support people to maintain their independence.	March 2013	Phil Hornsby / John Lovatt

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
9	NI 39	Alcohol related hospital admissions	TBC
9	NI 123	Stopping smoking	
9	NI 123 (NRA)	Stopping smoking (Neighbourhood Renewal Area narrowing the gap indicator)	
10	LAA HW P001	Percentage of women smoking at time of delivery	22
11	CSD	Children who became the subject of a Child Protection	40

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
	P035	(CP) plan, or were registered per 10,000 population under 18	
11	NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves	10%
12	NI 132	Timeliness of social care assessment (all adults)	85%
12	NI 135	Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	25%
12	NI 136	People supported to live independently through social services (all adults)	4700
12	ACS P051	Access to equipment and telecare: users with telecare equipment	850

4 Community Safety

Make Hartlepool a safer place by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and tackling drugs and alcohol misuse.

Outcome No.	Description
13	Hartlepool has reduced crime and repeat victimisation
14	There is reduced harm caused by drugs and alcohol misuse
15	Communities have improved confidence and feel more cohesive and safe
16	Offending and re-offending has reduced

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
13	Deliver in conjunction with partners a strategic assessment which is monitored through the Safer Hartlepool Partnership executive.	Dec 2012	Sally Forth
14	Integrate drug and alcohol treatment and recovery programmes in line with new Drug Strategy	Dec 2012	Chris Hart
14	Strengthen safeguarding and address Hidden Harm issues within substance misuse services	March 2013	Karen Clark
15	Deliver the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy action plan	March 2013	Nicholas Stone
15	Develop and implement troubled families approach incorporating the team around the households initiative to 'break the cycle' of households having a detrimental affect on communities'	July 2012	Denise Ogden

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
13	RPD P028a	Number of reported crimes in Hartlepool	Monitor Only
13	RND P065	Number of repeat victims of crime	Monitor Only
14	NI 30	Reoffending rate of prolific and other priority offenders	TBC

5 Environment

Secure and enhance an attractive and sustainable environment that is clean, green, safe and valued by the community.

Outcome No.	Description
17	Hartlepool has an improved natural and built environment
18	Quality local environments where public and community open spaces are clean, green and safe
19	Provide a sustainable, safe, efficient, effective and accessible transport system
20	Hartlepool is prepared for the impacts of climate change and takes action to mitigate the effects

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
17	Complete the Hartlepool Managed workspace feasibility study for former Crown House site and selection of preferred business model	August 2012	Rob Smith
19	Deliver year 2 schemes as identified in the Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2015.	March 2013	Peter Frost
20	Progress changes to Waste Management Service including changes to kerbside collections; suspension of green waste winter collections; route optimisation and provision of 4 day working week for refuse operatives.	March 2013	Craig Thelwell

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
17	RND P069	Crown House site business model produced	Yes
18	RND P050	Percentage of streets that fall below an acceptable level of cleanliness.	To be set
19	NI 168	The percentage of principal roads where maintenance should be considered	4%
19	NI 169	The percentage of non-classified roads where maintenance should be considered	12%
20	NI 191	Number of kilograms of residual household waste collected per household	710
20	NI 192	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting	46%
20	NI 193	Percentage of municipal waste land filled	6%

6 Housing

Ensure that there is access to good quality and affordable housing in sustainable neighbourhoods and communities where people want to live.

Outcome No.	Description
21	Hartlepool has an improved and more balanced housing offer that meets the needs of residents and is of high quality design
22	Hartlepool has improved housing stock where all homes across tenures offer a decent living environment
23	Housing Services and housing options respond to the specific needs of all communities within Hartlepool

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
21	Implement Baden Street Improvement Scheme	Sept 2012	Gemma Day
21	Produce an annual assessment and evidence based housing need document using information obtained from Registered Providers.	Dec 2012	Nigel Johnson
22	Produce a new strategic housing market assessment that will identify housing need, including affordable housing need, across the borough for now and the future.	June 2012	Derek Gouldburn
23	Review the performance of the current selective licensing scheme by obtaining baseline data and use this review to inform a decision to expand the scheme	March 2013	Nigel Johnson

Actions

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
21	NI 155	Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)	80
21	LAA H P001	Number of long term (over 6 months) empty homes brought back into use.	To be set
22	RND P071	Number of properties improved through grants or loans schemes.	Monitor Only
23	RND P051	Number of households where homelessness has been prevented through Local Authority action	To be set

7 Culture and Leisure

Create a cultural identity for Hartlepool which attracts people to Hartlepool and makes us proud to live and work here.

Outcome No.	Description
24	People enjoy equal access to leisure, culture, sport, libraries which enrich their lives, improve the places where they live, and strengthen communities.

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
24	Achieve Service Accreditation as required across community services.	March 2013	John Mennear
24	Work closely with key partners and groups to deliver programmes of activity to meet the sport and physical activity needs of the Hartlepool community increasing participation by 1%	March 2013	Pat Usher
24	Deliver New Renaissance Programme to improve access to Museum Services and develop new audiences	March 2013	David Worthington

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
24	LAA CL P001	Number of people from vulnerable groups engaged in culture, leisure activities and sport	1115
24	P059 (LAA CL 003)	Overall average attendance at Mill House, Biierton and Headland Leisure Centres	410,000

8 Strengthening Communities

Empower individuals, groups and communities, and increase the involvement of citizens in all decisions that affect their lives.

Outcome No.	Description
25	Local people have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services
26	Make a positive contribution – people are involved with the community and society

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
25	Refresh the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) Strategy and combine with the Compact	March 2013	Karen Oliver
25	Implement revised Neighbourhood Management arrangements including revisions to Neighbourhood Action Plans and ward boundary changes	June 2012	Denise Ogden
25	Develop a Neighbourhood plan for the rural area of Hartlepool in line with new neighbourhood planning policy under the localism act.	April 2013	Adele Wilson
25	Develop and implement response to the Assets of Community Value within the Localism Act	March 2013	Dale Clarke
26	Develop parents forums within Early Intervention Localities that inform service design and planning	March 2013	Tracy Liveras
26	Support children and young people(0-19) to participate in service design and democratic processes	March 2013	Mark Smith

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2010/11 Target
SC24	NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17	To be agreed

9 Organisational Development

Outcome No.	Description
27	Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation
28	Deliver effective customer focussed services, meeting the needs of diverse groups and maintaining customer satisfaction
29	Maintain effective governance arrangements for core business and key partnerships
30	Maintain effective Performance, Finance and Risk Management Arrangements
31	Maintain the profile and reputation of the Council
32	Deliver effective Member and Workforce arrangements, maximising the efficiency of the Council's Democratic function

Actions

Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
27	Assess the impact of the e-quotation procurement system to ensure the aims are being met and compliance achieved.	March 2013	David Hart
27	Review and update Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)	Mar 2013	Chris Little
27	Determine and implement a revised programme to deliver the savings required in light of MTFS and budget settlement for 2012/13 and 2013/14 incorporating options for service delivery including collaboration.	Mar 2013	Andrew Atkin / Chris Little
27	Review of Corporate ICT Strategy to ensure it continues to support Corporate Objectives including opportunities to use ICT to generate efficiency savings across the Authority	Mar 2013	Joan Chapman
27	Delivery of key projects identified in ICT Strategy	Mar 2013	Joan Chapman
28	Continue to Model Impacts of Dept for Work and Pension changes to Housing Benefits system	Mar 2013	John Morton
28	Develop framework for new Local Council Tax Rebate Scheme	Feb 2013	John Morton
28	Ensure that the Council has procedures in place to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 by co-ordinating activities across departments to meet the items included in the Equality & Diversity Action Plan	Mar 2013	Christine Armstrong
28	Implement Customer Service and Channel Strategy Action Plan	Mar 2013	Christine Armstrong
29	Ensure lawfulness and fairness of decisions	Mar 2013	Peter Devlin
29	Promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members and co-opted members.	Mar 2013	Peter Devlin
29	Review governance arrangements for the Partnership working arrangements in the town including Strategic Partners Group and Theme Groups	Mar 2013	Catherine Frank
30	Produce statement of accounts	June 2013	Chris Little
30	Review 2012/13 service planning approach and make recommendations to improve service planning for 2013/14	Oct 2012	Catherine Frank
31	Implement the Corporate Communications Strategy Action Plan	Mar 2013	Alastair Rae

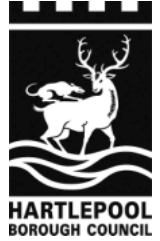
Outcome No.	Actions	Date to be completed	Responsible officer
31	Continue to Promote Healthy Working	Mar 2013	Stuart Langston
31	Continue to support how employees are recognised, engaged and rewarded	Mar 2013	Joanne Machers
31	Continue to apply and develop the Single Status Agreement and other equality in employment arrangements	Mar 2013	Wally Stagg
31	Compile and deliver the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2012/13	Mar 2013	Joan Stevens

Performance Indicators

Outcome No.	PI Ref. No.	Performance Indicator	2012/13 Target
27	CEDCS P042	Actual savings from efficiency programme to support the MTFS	£3.2m (initial planning assumptions)
27	CEDFI P002	Percentage of Council Tax collected	97%
27	CEDFI P003	Percentage of non-domestic rating collected	98.4%
28	CEDFI P004	Average time to process new Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit claims	20 days
28	CEDFI P005	Average time to process Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit changes of circumstances	9 days

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: REQUEST FOR FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval from the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee for a request for funding for the Health Scrutiny Forum, from within the Overview and Scrutiny Function's dedicated scrutiny budget.

2. FUNDING PROPOSAL

- 2.1 In line with Council procedures, the agreed pro-forma has been completed and is attached as **Appendix A**. The purpose of the completed pro-forma is to assist this Committee in determining whether retrospective approval should be given to fund the additional support requested by the Health Scrutiny Forum.

3. THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES

- 3.1 The Financial Procedure Rules are those rules that the Council must have to govern its financial affairs. These rules are required by law to ensure that large sums of public money are spent properly and wisely.
- 3.2 The Financial Procedure Rules together with Standing Orders apply to all parts of the Council, to Elected Members and employees and form an integral part of the Council's Constitution.
- 3.3 Consequently, whilst this Committee is requested to make a decision on the merits of the request for funding, the Committee must also adhere to the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee:-

- (a) determines whether the proposal is justified on the basis of information provided in **Appendix A**; and
- (b) agrees in principal that any funding allocated, is in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

Contact :-

Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

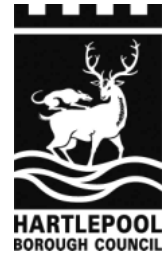
No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

**PRO-FORMA TO REQUEST FUNDING TO SUPPORT
CURRENT SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION**

<p>Title of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Health Scrutiny Forum</p>
<p>Title of the scrutiny process for which funding is requested: Consideration of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust's (NTHFT) Proposed Service Changes at the University of Hospital of Hartlepool.</p>
<p>To clearly identify the purpose for which additional support is required: Due to the use of the Civic Suite for the 'Environment Roundabout', the additional support is requested for the hire of Conference Room 3 at the Hartlepool College of Further Education (HCFE).</p>
<p>To outline indicative costs to be incurred as a result of the additional support: £225</p>
<p>To outline any associated timescale implications: n/a</p>
<p>To outline the 'added value' that may be achieved by utilising the additional support as part of the undertaking of the Scrutiny Investigation: Issues relating to service changes at the University Hospital of Hartlepool have a very high public profile. To ensure that consideration of the planned service changes does not impact or detract from the Forum's current investigation into Cancer Awareness & Early Diagnosis, it was considered necessary by the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum to hold an additional meeting. Due to the use of the Civic Suite for the Environment Roundabout it was not possible to hold the meeting in the Civic Centre. The most appropriate, available and publically accessible venue for the anticipated level of public interest in the meeting was Conference Room at the HCFE.</p>
<p>To outline any requirements / processes to be adhered to in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules / Standing Orders: N/A</p>
<p>To outline the possible disadvantages of not utilising the additional support during the undertaking of the Scrutiny Investigation: Unable to consider the service changes planned by NTHFT in a timely fashion and before the impact of the purdah period.</p>
<p>To outline any possible alternative means of additional support outside of this proposal: None identified.</p>

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 23 September 2011, the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-

2.2 The Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Consultation Proposals for 2012/13 to 2014/15: At the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 23 September 2011 it was agreed that, as in previous years, consideration of the budget proposals would be split to enable each standing Scrutiny Forum to look in detail at the service areas that fall within their remit.

2.3 The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum considered the initial budget proposals on 8 November 2011. The comments/observations of the Forum were fed back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011, for inclusion in the formal Scrutiny response to Cabinet. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's formal response was received by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011 and the comments/observations expressed were taken into consideration during the finalisation of its Budget and Policy Framework Proposals for 2012/13.

2.4 Cabinet's finalised budget proposals were submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 January 2012, with the process for consideration of proposals by individual Forums to be repeated in January 2012. As part of this process, on the 16 January 2012 the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum considered the finalised budget proposals relating to the Adult and Community Services areas of service

provision within the Child and Adult Services Department. The Forum reported its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 27 January 2012, to enable the submission of a formal Scrutiny response to Cabinet on 6 February 2012.

- 2.5 Consideration of Budget Items: Throughout this Municipal Year the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum has considered budget items in relation to Cultural and Community Services Efficiencies and Adult Social Care Savings (including Working Together for Change). The comments / observations of the Forum were fed back to Cabinet on 5 December 2011.
- 2.6 Proposals for Inclusion in the Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2012/13: The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum on 1 February 2012 considered proposals for inclusion in the 2012/13 Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan. The Forum will report its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 17 February 2012 which will subsequently be considered by Cabinet in March 2012.
- 2.7 Investigation into Early Intervention and Reablement Services: The Forum at its meeting on the 12 September 2011 continued its investigation into Early Intervention and Reablement Services. During the meeting the Forum received evidence from officers from the Child and Adult Services Department and partner organisations involved in the delivery of early intervention and reablement services.
- 2.8 The Forum at its meeting of 16 January 2012 received evidence from the Professor of Social Policy at York University. The Professor provided details of the research carried out by York University and how the research might influence the delivery of reablement services in Hartlepool in the future.
- 2.9 The Forum is on track to complete this investigation by the 19 March 2012 in order for the Final Report to be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 13 April 2012, for submission to Cabinet in May 2012.
- 2.10 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations: The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum are due to consider an update on the progress made against the recommendations resulting from scrutiny inquiries undertaken by the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum since the 2005/06 Municipal year at its meeting of 20 February 2012.
- 2.11 Forward Plan: The Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, no specific items have been identified.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum.

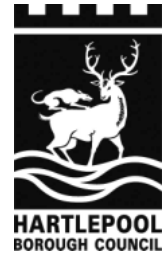
**COUNCILLOR JANE SHAW
CHAIR OF THE ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM –
PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum was presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 23 September 2011, the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-

2.2 The Executive's Budget and Policy Framework Consultation Proposals for 2012/13 to 2014/15: At the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 23 September 2011 it was agreed that, as in previous years, consideration of the budget proposals would be split to enable each standing Scrutiny Forum to look in detail at the service areas that fall within their remit.

2.3 The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum considered the initial budget proposals on 1 November 2011. The comments/observations of the Forum were fed back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011, for inclusion in the formal Scrutiny response to Cabinet. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's formal response was received by Cabinet on the 19 December 2011 and the comments/observations expressed were taken into consideration during the finalisation of its Budget and Policy Framework Proposals for 2012/13.

2.4 Cabinet's finalised budget proposals were submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 January 2012, with the process for

consideration of proposals by individual Forums to be repeated in January 2012. As part of this process, on the 17 January 2012 the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum considered the finalised budget proposals relating to the Children's Services areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Services Department. The Forum reported its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 27 January 2012, to enable the submission of a formal Scrutiny response to Cabinet on 6 February 2012.

- 2.5 Consideration of Budget Items: Throughout this Municipal Year the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum has considered budget items in relation to Home to School Transport; Play Opportunities Pool; Youth Service Headland Futures; Prevention Safeguarding and Specialist Services (including CAMHS, Reduce the Number of Looked After Children, Children's Social Care Commissioning, Review of Allowances and Review of Youth Offending Service Admin and Support Services). The comments / observations of the Forum were fed back to Cabinet on 5 December 2011.
- 2.6 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Children's Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations: The Forum at their meeting of 17 January 2012 was delighted to receive an update on the progress made against the recommendations resulting from scrutiny inquiries undertaken by the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum since the 2005/06 Municipal Year. Members noted that 79% of recommendations were completed, 1% assigned, 8% in progress, 8% cancelled and 4% overdue.
- 2.7 Investigation into 'Young People's Access to Transport': The young people's representatives, at the meeting of 1 November 2011, as part of the current investigation into Young People's Access to Transport provided Members with a verbal update on progress to date which included:-
- (a) A questionnaire had been developed and circulated across the town to assist with information gathering in terms of the impact of withdrawal of certain bus routes, which transport services were required, popular routes, how often young people required transport as well as the types of youth organisations young people attended;
 - (b) Upon receipt of feedback from the questionnaires, it was intended that focus groups would be held to explore the issues raised;
 - (c) Current bus timetables had been examined and would be looked at in further detail. It was noted that bus timetables available on the internet were not up to date; and
 - (d) The Young People had arranged to attend a transport meeting on 23 November, feedback from which would be provided at a future meeting of the Forum.
- 2.8 'The Provision of Support and Services to Looked After Children': The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum started their investigation into 'The Provision of Support and Services to Looked After Children' at the meeting

of 18 October 2011, where Members agreed the scope of their investigation and received a setting the scene presentation and verbal evidence from the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services.

- 2.9 The Forum at its meeting of 23 November 2011, split into small groups to gather views from looked after children, foster carers, partner organisations and officers from the Child and Adult Services Department including social workers on how looked after children / young people are supported across all aspects of their lives. The groups discussed their views and experiences in relation to the support and services available for looked after children.
- 2.10 As part of this investigation, Members of the Forum attended a site visit to The Star Centre, a former children's home located on Flint Walk and also visited an independent providers residential home in Hartlepool and a Council run children's home in Stockton.
- 2.11 The Forum at its meeting of 17 January 2012 considered the feedback from the group exercises held on 23 November 2011; the site visit to the Star Centre and also received evidence from the Head of Children and Families Social Care at South Tyneside Council.
- 2.12 At the meeting of the 31 January 2012, Members considered feedback from the site visits and also received a presentation from Looked After Children about their views on being looked after.
- 2.13 Throughout the investigation, Members have raised concerns about the future of Catcote School and have indicated that they wish to be involved in the future planning of the site.
- 2.14 The Forum is on track to complete its investigation by 27 March 2012 and present it to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee in April 2012 and Cabinet in May 2012.
- 2.15 Primary School Councils' Forum: First Annual Conference: Representatives from the Primary School Council attended the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 17 January 2012 to inform the Forum of the findings of their first Annual Conference, which focused on how safe children feel in Hartlepool and what they would like to see to make the town safer.
- 2.16 Proposals for Inclusion in the 2012/13 Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan: The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on the 31 January 2012 considered the proposals for inclusion in the 2012/13 Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan. The Forum will report its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 17 February 2012 which will subsequently be considered by Cabinet in March 2012.
- 2.17 Membership of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum: The Roman Catholic Diocese has nominated a new representative for the Roman Catholic co-opted position on the Forum. The nomination is due to go to Full Council for Approval in February 2012.

- 2.18 A nomination was received for the co-opted position of primary school governor. Sacha Paul Bedding, Chair of Governors of the Federated Governing Body of St Peter's Elwick and Hart Primary School was approved by Full Council to this position on 27th October 2011.
- 2.19 No nominations to date have been received for a representative from the Church of England diocese; or for School Council representatives.
- 2.20 Forward Plan: The Children's Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, Members have requested additional information in relation to School Admission Arrangements. The Forum raised concerns about the changes to the School Admission Arrangements and that the new proposal / process could disadvantage children who live within the current school boundaries. The proposal is that where siblings live outside of the admission zone they take priority over children living in the zone. The Forum requested that this concern be reported to the Portfolio Holder when considering the School Admission Arrangements.
- 2.21 Members received an update on the Former Brierton School site and requested that the blue print for the development comes back to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum for discussion.
- 2.22 In addition to this, at the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Forum held on 6 October 2011, Members identified an issue with the 'Early Intervention Strategy' and a joint meeting was held with the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum (to which Members of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum were invited) on 3 November 2011. Details of the recommendations made by Members at the joint meeting were presented to the Cabinet meeting of 19 December 2011.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER AKERS-BELCHER
CHAIR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum

Subject: HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Health Scrutiny Forum, since the last progress report to this Committee on 23 September 2011.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

2.1 Since the last progress report to this Committee on 23 September 2011, the Health Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-

2.2 Connected Care:

The Forum met on 6 October 2011, where the Portfolio Holder for Adult's and Public Health presented Members with Cabinet's response to the recommendations made by the Forum following their investigation into 'Connected Care'.

2.3 Members were pleased to hear that all of the recommendations identified by the Forum had been accepted by Cabinet and the Forum will continue to monitor progress in respect to the actions over the coming year.

2.4 Cancer Awareness and Early Diagnosis:

The Forum formally began gathering evidence in relation to their investigation into 'Cancer Awareness and Early Diagnosis' at their meeting of 6 October 2011, where Members were delighted to hear from our MP for Hartlepool along with the Portfolio Holder for Adult's and Public Health.

- 2.5 In addition to the evidence from the MP and Portfolio Holder, Members at their meeting of 6 October 2011 also received detailed baseline evidence on cancer in Hartlepool from the Speciality Registrar in Public Health, with supporting setting the scene evidence from the Assistant Director for Health Improvement and colleagues from NHS Tees.
- 2.6 The Clinical Director for Health Improvement along with colleagues from NHS Tees were present at the Health Scrutiny Forum meeting on 17 November, to provide detailed information of the delivery of Cancer Screening Services and why certain cancers were not part of a screening process. Further evidence will be sought from North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust (NTHFT) as well as evidence on smoking cessation services in the Town.
- 2.7 When the Forum met on 26 January 2012, Members greatly appreciated the evidence provided by key cancer consultants and nursing staff from North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust. I am sure the detailed evidence from the representatives from the Trust will prove invaluable when the Forum formulates its final report.
- 2.8 The Forum is on track to complete its investigation by the 5 April 2012 so that its Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee meeting of 13 April 2012, before submission to Cabinet, as planned.
- 2.9 North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust's Governors:
Following a request for details to be provided in relation to Governors at NTHFT, Members at their meeting of 6 October 2011 received an extract from NTHFT's Annual Report which detailed who the Governors were; a copy of the Information Pack for Governors; and extracts from Anthem magazine which detailed examples of the work that Governors undertook as part of their role.
- 2.10 'Our £40m Challenge':
Following the announcement of £40million savings over the next three years required from the NTHFT budget, the Chairman and Assistant Chief Executive from NTHFT were present at the Forum meeting of 17 November 2011. Members were concerned about the level of savings required and how this might impact on the services provided by NTHFT, however, reassurances were given that any changes affecting service delivery would be consulted with Members of the Health Scrutiny Forum. Members of the Forum will continue dialogue with NTHFT as details become clearer about how the savings will be made.
- 2.11 Visit to Minister of State for Health:
When the Forum met on 17 November 2011, I provided an update in terms of the visit to the Minister of State for Health that was undertaken by myself, the Chairman and other Members of the Council. Despite a number of concerns about the A&E Closure at the University Hospital of Hartlepool and

other issues relating to health provision in Hartlepool being raised during the visit, the Minister reiterated that the matter was a local one and as such the changes should be lead by the clinicians at NTHFT, with both clinicians and Councillors being responsible in taking the message forward.

2.12 Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2012/13

During the meeting of the Forum held on 26 January 2012, Members received detailed of proposals to be included in the Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan 2012/13. This was the first time the Forum had considered the Child and Adult Services Departmental Plan, but due to the increasing role of Local Authorities in the issue of Public Health, the consideration of the Plan was welcomed by Members. Members did, however, highlight concerns about the development of the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board, surrounding the lack of non-Executive Member involvement and no emerging structure of scrutiny's role in scrutinising the work of the Board.

2.13 Forward Plan:

The Health Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. At the meeting of the Forum held on 6 October 2011, Members identified an issue with the 'Early Intervention Strategy' and a joint meeting was held with the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum (to which Members of the Adult & Community Services Scrutiny Forum were invited) on 3 November 2011. Details of the recommendations made by Members at the joint meeting were presented to the Cabinet meeting of 19 December 2011.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR STEPHEN AKERS-BELCHER
CHAIR OF HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM
– PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY FORUM

- 2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum was presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 23 September 2011, the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-

- 2.2 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department: Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTF) 2012/13 to 2014/15: The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting of 23 September 2011 agreed that, as in previous years, consideration of the budget proposals would be split to enable each standing Scrutiny Forum to look in detail at the service areas that fall within their remit. The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum met on 9 November 2011 to consider initial budget proposals in relation to the neighbourhood services areas of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department. Members views on these initial proposals were discussed and agreed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011 and were subsequently considered by Cabinet on 19 December 2011 in the formulation of its budget proposals.

- 2.3 Cabinet's finalised budget proposals were submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 January 2012, with the process for consideration of proposals by individual Forums to be repeated in January 2012. As part of this process, at the meeting of the Neighbourhood Services

Scrutiny Forum of 18 January 2012, Members considered the response from Cabinet to these proposals. Further views of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum were discussed by Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 27 January 2012 and by Cabinet on 6 February 2012.

- 2.4 Proposals for Inclusion in the 2012/13 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan: The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum considered the proposals for inclusion in the 2012/13 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan at the meeting of 30 January 2012. The Forum will report its views back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at today's meeting, which will subsequently be considered by Cabinet in March 2012.
- 2.5 '20's Plenty – Traffic Calming Measures': The Portfolio Holder for Transport and Neighbourhoods, at the Portfolio meeting on 6 October 2011, considered the recommendations made by the Forum that were not considered by Cabinet on 15 August 2011.
- 2.6 The Portfolio holder noted the updated action plan submitted and agreed that where requests for 20mph speed limits were received a local public consultation would be carried out prior to implementation and detailed proposals be brought back to portfolio if there is wider public support. The Forum accepted this additional recommendation.
- 2.7 The Portfolio Holder agreed that 20mph limits around schools should be widened and that the press office continues to promote 20's plenty.
- 2.8 'Private Sector Housing Schemes': The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum has continued their investigation into 'Private Sector Housing Schemes'. At the meeting of the Forum on 26 October 2011, Members considered evidence from Middlesbrough, Durham and Stockton Councils in relation to the work they undertake with Private Sector Landlords and tenants and the schemes they operate. The Forum also considered evidence from the Neighbourhood Services Team in relation to their work in this area.
- 2.9 At the meeting of 9 November 2011, the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Performance shared his views with the Forum; Members also received evidence from the Health Improvement Team regarding the links between housing conditions and ill health.
- 2.10 In addition to this, Members have also discussed the feedback received from two Focus Groups held for tenants, Landlords and members of the public who live in areas where there is a high proportion of private rented property. Members have also received and discussed the results of questionnaires issued in relation to the issue.
- 2.10 The Forum is on track to complete its investigation by the 28 March 2012 so that the Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 13 April 2012, for submission to Cabinet in April 2012.

- 2.11 Referrals from Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee: The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, considers requests for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, an item relating to the potential to subsidise bus passes for young people in Hartlepool has been referred from Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum. The Forum considered the referral on 18 January 2012 and the outcome was presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at the meeting on 27 January 2012. The Forums recommendations were noted by Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.12 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations: The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum are due to consider an update on the progress made against the recommendations resulting from scrutiny inquiries undertaken by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum since the 2005/06 Municipal year at its meeting of 29 February 2012.
- 2.13 Forward Plan: The Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum, at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, the following items have been identified:-

RN 68/11 Community Cohesion

Members identified that the following groups were not listed as being included in the consultation process:-

Neighbourhood Watch

Parish Councils

Asylum Seeker and Refugee Groups

RN74/11 Former Leathers Chemical Site

Concerns were raised regarding the suitability of companies who may be employed to clean up the site.

RN94/11 Review of Concessionary Fares Payments to Bus Operators for 2012/13

Members questioned whether this should be a Council decision as part of the budget process rather than a Cabinet decision.

Members also requested clarification as to whether residents had been consulted on this issue.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum.

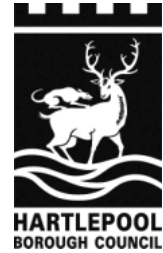
**COUNCILLOR STEPHEN THOMAS
CHAIR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services
Scrutiny Forum

Subject: REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
SCRUTINY FORUM - PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made to date by the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum, since the last progress report to this Committee.

2. PROGRESS OF THE FORUM

2.1 Since the last progress report from this Forum, which was presented to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 23 September 2011, the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum has undertaken the following work:-

2.2 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department: Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTF) 2012/13 to 2014/15: The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting of 23 September 2011 agreed that, as in previous years, consideration of the budget proposals would be split to enable each standing Scrutiny Forum to look in detail at the service areas that fall within their remit. The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum met on 3 November 2011 to consider initial budget proposals in relation to the regeneration and planning services areas of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department. Members views on these initial proposals were discussed and agreed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011 and were subsequently considered by Cabinet on 19 December 2011 in the formulation of its budget proposals.

2.3 Cabinet's finalised budget proposals were submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 January 2012, with the process for consideration of proposals by individual Forums to be repeated in January 2012. As part of this process, at the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum held on the 19 January 2012, Members considered the response from Cabinet to these proposals. Further views of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum were discussed by Scrutiny Co-

ordinating Committee at the meeting of 27 January 2012 and by Cabinet on 6 February 2012.

- 2.4 Proposals for Inclusion in Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan 2011/12: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum considered proposals for inclusion in the 2012/13 Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Departmental Plan at their meeting of 2 February 2012. The Forum's views on these proposals will be reported to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at today's meeting and are due to be considered by Cabinet in March 2012.
- 2.5 Employment and Training Services for Young People Aged 19-25: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum has continued their investigation into 'Employment and Training Services for Young People Aged 19-25'. At the meeting of the Forum on 29 September 2011, Members considered evidence from Jobcentre Plus in relation to services provided to this age group, links with other organisations and any new work programmes that may be emerging. Members also heard from officers from the Integrated Youth Support Service in relation to the Connexions Service.
- 2.6 At the meeting of the Forum on 8 December 2011, Members were very interested to receive evidence from Avanta, a prime provider of the DWP work programme for the long term unemployed. The Forum also held a group discussion with representatives of local service providers and employers to determine what was working well in relation the services provided and potential areas for improvement going forward. In addition, Members also discussed the feedback received from questionnaires distributed to local employers, service providers and young people.
- 2.7 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum Members had determined that a focus group should be set up to investigate the 'Social Return on Investment' of the Connexions Service for 19 -25 year olds. This group met on 17 October 2011 to consider who the stakeholders for the service were and how to involve them in the process. The focus group met again on 16 December 2011 to receive feedback from questionnaires and site visits undertaken and to determine the financial values to be associated with service. The focus group completed its SROI analysis by the end of January with the final report being submitted to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 2 February 2012 for inclusion in the Forums Final Report.
- 2.8 The Forum is on track to complete its investigation into 'Employment and Training Opportunities for Young People Aged 19-25' by the 22 February 2012 so that the Final Report can be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 9 March 2012, for submission to Cabinet in April 2012.
- 2.9 Referrals from Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum at each of its meetings considers requests for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. Since the

Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, no specific items have been raised.

- 2.10 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum are due to receive an update on the progress made against the recommendations resulting from scrutiny inquiries undertaken by the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum since the 2005/06 Municipal year at its meeting of 22 February 2012.
- 2.11 Forward Plan: The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum at each of its meetings, continues to consider possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Since the Forum's last progress report, in September 2011, no specific items have been raised.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the progress of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum.

**COUNCILLOR TREVOR ROGAN
CHAIR OF REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Subject: SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE –
PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Members of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee of the progress made by this Committee, since my last progress report on 23 September 2011.

2. PROGRESS OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

- 2.1 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTF) 2012/13 to 2014/15: The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting of 23 September 2011 agreed that, as in previous years, consideration of the budget proposals would be split to enable each standing Scrutiny Forum to look in detail at the service areas that fall within their remit. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating met on 10 October 2011 to consider initial budget proposals (with specific reference to the proposals for the Chief Executives Department. Members views on these initial proposals (including feedback from each of the standing Scrutiny Forums) were discussed and agreed by the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011 and were subsequently considered by Cabinet on 19 December 2011 in the formulation of its finalised budget proposals.
- 2.2 Cabinet's finalised budget proposals were submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 13 January 2012, with the process for consideration of proposals by individual Forums to be repeated in January 2011. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at today's meeting finalise its budget response for consideration by Cabinet on 6 February 2012.
- 2.3 Proposals for Business Rates Retention – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 14 October 2011, received a detailed report in relation to this issue and highlighted concerns in relation to the effect the proposals for business rates collection would have on the authority should local business close and unemployment increase be included within the response to the consultation. These views have been fed back to Cabinet as part of the budget consultation process.
- 2.4 Localising Support for Council Tax in England – Government Consultation Proposals - The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 14 October 2011, received a detailed report in relation to this issue and

supported the submission of a letter from the Mayor challenging the proposals and endorsed its contents. The Committee also agreed that:

- As and when required, a Working Group of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee be established to examine the different impacts of localised support for council tax benefit.
- The Working Group comprises six members: 1 liberal democrat, 1 conservative and 4 labour member.
- Benefits Advice Workers and Revenues and Benefits Managers are invited to contribute.
- A selection of anonymous family scenarios is provided for the Working Group to examine the different impacts of localised support for council tax.

- 2.5 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations: The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee was pleased to receive the scrutiny recommendations monitoring report at its meeting of 23 September 2011. Members noted the high number of recommendations achieved and is eagerly anticipating the next monitoring report which will be considered at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee meeting on the 9 March 2012.
- 2.6 Forward Plan – November 2011 to February 2012 – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, considered the identification of possible issues from the Council's Forward Plan for inclusion within its Work Programme. Whilst no specific items were identified, the Committee raised a number of questions, the answers to which have since been circulated by the relevant officers.
- 2.7 Workforce Services Working Group - Update – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, confirmed that there was at the current time for the group to meet and indicated that the membership of the group would be reconsidered at a time when it was considered appropriate.
- 2.8 Dedicated Overview and Scrutiny Budget – Funding Request - The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has since the last progress report received one request for funding from the 2011/12 dedicated overview and scrutiny budget. This related to £110.00 to cover the costs of a venue, refreshments and printing / postage in the promotion and provision of two tenant focus groups, as part of the investigation into private sector housing schemes. These Focus Groups were held on the 4 and 12 October 2011.
- 2.9 Acclaim Street Petition Review and Holdforth Road Petition Reviews – Under the Councils Petition Scheme, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 17 October 2011 considered two petition reviews in relation to the Acclaim Street and Hold forth Road petitions, both of which were received and considered by the Regeneration and Neighbourhood Services Department. Following detailed consideration of the review request, the Committee agreed that the petition had been dealt with adequately and no further action be taken.

- 2.10 Review of Community Pool Grant – Consultation Proposals - The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 2 September 2011, took part in the first stage of the consultation process for the review of the Community Pool Grants process. Following consideration of the information provided, the Committee supported in principle the outline draft recommendations for the future development of the grant and the view expressed by this Committee were considered by Cabinet in the formulation of its finalised proposals.
- 2.11 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee, at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, considered Cabinet's final proposals for the future use of the Community Pool. The report was noted and Members comments forwarded to Cabinet for consideration on the 21 November 2011, at which time the review was concluded.
- 2.12 The Council Museum and Art Gallery Collection Working Group – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee. At its meeting on the 2 September 2011, approved the creation of the above Working Group. The aim of the group being to 'better understand the nature of the Museum and Art Gallery collections held within the possession of the Council', aiding in the exploration of potential options for the future of the collection (taking in to consideration the legal status, ethical considerations and challenging budget situation that the Authority faces).
- 2.13 The membership of the Working Group was agreed as Councillors James, Preece, Loynes, Wilcox, Griffin and Fleet. A final meeting of the Working Group is to be held in due course with a final report to be presented back to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on the 17 February 2012.
- 2.14 Consideration of 2012/13 Budget Items – Penalty Charges (Income) – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 25 July 2011, considered proposals for income generation through the introduction of penalty charges. The Committee endorsed the proposed introduction of penalty charges and its views / comments were to be taken into consideration during consideration of the proposals by the Performance Portfolio Holder.
- 2.15 Consideration of 2012/13 Budget Items – Review of Service Provision and Potential Divisional Restructure in Corporate Strategy – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, considered proposals for the review of service provision and potential divisional restructure in corporate strategy. The Committee noted the report and highlighted a number of proposals for/suggestions in relation to the generation of the required savings which were fed back to Cabinet on the 5 December 2011. Cabinet at its meeting on the 5 December went on to approve the savings proposed within the report in order to meet the target of £220,000 for the corporate strategy division.
- 2.16 Consideration of 2012/13 Budget Items – Extended Customer and Support Services – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, considered proposals for the provision of savings for 2012/13 from the Customer and Support Services Section of Chief Executive's

Department . The Committee noted the report and highlighted a number of proposals for/suggestions in relation to the proposals which were fed back to Cabinet on the 5 December 2011. Cabinet at its meeting on the 5 December went on to approve the savings proposed within the report.

2.17 Consideration of 2012/13 Budget Items – Bailiff Car Parking Enforcement – Income Generation – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 11 November 2011, considered proposals for income generation through Bailiff Car Parking Enforcement. The Committee:-

- (i) Supported the use of local authority bailiffs in principle to recoup unpaid parking fines.
- (ii) Did not support the use of external bailiff companies if internal bailiffs did not have the capacity to undertake this work.
- (iii) Felt that if this scheme be extended, a full and meaningful business case be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee as detailed above.

2.18 The Committee's views and suggestions were fed back to Cabinet on the 19 December 2011. Cabinet at its meeting on the 19 December went on to approve the savings proposed within the report.

2.19 Consideration of 2012/13 Budget Items – Council Tax Class A Exemption Removal – Income Generation – The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 23 September 2011, considered proposals for income generation through the removal of the Council Tax Class A Exemption. The Committee noted the report and highlighted a number of proposals for/suggestions in relation to the proposal which were fed back to Cabinet on the 19 December 2011. Cabinet at its meeting on the 19 December went on to approve the savings proposed within the report.

2.20 Call-In's:-

i) Temporary Cover Arrangements – Child and Adult Services Department – Update - The Call-in request had been dealt with and enacted and was subsequently withdrawn at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee meeting on the 11 November 2011.

ii) Delivery of Support to Members and to the Council, Executive, Non-Executive and Scrutiny Functions - This Call-in was accepted, and given full consideration, by the Committee on the 25 November 2011, resulting in a recommendation to Cabinet that:

- A number of the decisions made by Cabinet be referred to Council for further consideration taking into account Members' comments.
- A number of decisions be referred to Council Working Group for further consideration taking into account Members' comments.
- A number of decisions be referred to Constitution/General Purposes Working Group for further consideration taking into account Members' comments.

- The Chair of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to invite the Assistant Director, Resources to a meeting with the Chair of Council, Cabinet Members and the Leaders of political groups to discuss a number of issues.
- An outline timetable be devised and, subject to the approval of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 2 December 2011, included in the referral response (requesting an extension to the referral deadline) to be forwarded to Cabinet on 5 December 2011.

The amended timetable and the referral of all recommendations to the Constitution/General Purposes Working Group and Council Working Group, was approved by Cabinet on the 5 December 2011. A further report on the outcome of work undertaken by each of these groups in relation to the referral will be considered at today's meeting. Following this a formal Scrutiny response to referral will be presented to Cabinet on the 6 February 2012.

- iii) Strategy for Bridging the Budget Deficit 2012/13 ICT, Revenues and Benefits Services - This Call-in was accepted on the 13 January 2012. In order to give full and complete consideration to the Call-in, the meeting was adjourned and reconvened on the 20 January 2012. As the outcome of the meeting on the 20 January 2012 was not known at the time of production of this report, a verbal update will be provided at today's meeting.

2.21 Referrals:-

- i) Low Cost Travel to Young People Through Concessionary Fare Schemes (Referral from the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum) – At its meeting of 14 October 2011, during consideration of the initial consultation proposals for the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2012/13 to 2014/15, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee referred the consideration of the provision of low cost travel to young people through a concessionary fare scheme, to the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum to consider as part of its budget consultation process.

The referral was considered by the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum at its meeting on the 18 January 2012 and a report on the outcome of the Forum's exploration of the issue will be presented to today's meeting.

- ii) Delivery of Support to Members and to the Council, Executive, Non Executive and Scrutiny Functions (Referral from Cabinet) – At its meeting on the 7 November 2012 Cabinet agreed that the following Cabinet recommendations be forwarded to scrutiny for its views, with a report to be brought back to Cabinet:-

- (i) That the constitution be reviewed annually through the Monitoring officer and that the Constitution Committee be abolished, following the 2012 elections.
- (ii) That the functions of the Standards Committee be extended to include monitoring attendance of Members at induction and training sessions.
- (iii) That the General Purposes (Appeals and Staffing) become a standalone committee with a fixed membership.
- (iv) That the remaining General Purposes Committee functions be combined with the functions of the Audit Committee to form one expanded “Operations Committee”, with exclusively backbench membership.
- (v) That the Contract Scrutiny Committee be abolished and the functions relating to contracts/tenders be undertaken by the executive.
- (vi) That the number of Scrutiny forums be reduced from six to four through the merging of neighbourhood services and regeneration and planning forums and Health to be combined with Adult Services to reflect the council's new public health role.

The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee received the referral at its meeting on the 2 December 2011 and it was agreed that:-

- (i) The referral from Cabinet of the decisions taken on 7 November 2011 was received.
- (ii) The outcome of the discussions at the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 25 November 2011 were approved for inclusion in the report to Cabinet as follows:
 - (a) A delay in the deadline for consideration of the referral be requested.
 - (b) The amended process be agreed.
 - (c) The proposed timetable for consideration of the referral be agreed as suggested.

The amended timetable and the referral of all recommendations to the Constitution/General Purposes Working Group and Council Working Group, was approved by Cabinet on the 5 December 2011. A further report on the outcome of work undertaken by each of these groups in relation to the referral will be considered at today's meeting. Following this a formal Scrutiny response to referral will be presented to Cabinet on the 6 February 2012.

2.22 Furniture Solutions - Council Assisted Scheme for the Provision of Household White Goods/Furniture – As part of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee's investigation into Child Poverty and Financial Inclusion, reference was made to the potential benefits of the scheme in the generation of a revenue income

stream from the provision of furniture and white goods mainly but not exclusively to families in receipt of benefits and those setting up home for the first time. The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has met on multiple occasions to explore the introduction of such a scheme (23 July 2010, 15 October, 7 April 2011 and 19 August 2011). A report on the issue was considered by Cabinet on the 10 October 2011, at which point it was decided to include the consideration this issue within the budget consultation proposals.

2.23 Informal Meetings of the Scrutiny Chairs – I am pleased to report that informal meetings with the Scrutiny Chairs continue to be held on a regular basis (11 November 2011 and 13 January 2012). To ensure openness and transparency is maintained, I am pleased to inform Members that the following issues were discussed during the course of these meetings:-

- i) Update on the Face to Face Advice and Guidance Investigation
- ii) How to deal with pink papers at Scrutiny meetings
- iii) North East Joint Scrutiny Member/Officer Network – Verbal Update from meeting on the 21 October 2011 (*Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee*)
- iv) Local Government Association - Ageing Well, the Health Reforms in Scrutiny Programme – Verbal Update (*Chair of the Adult and Community Services Scrutiny Forum*)
- v) Feedback in relation to budget process so far:-
 - i) Formal Budget Meetings
 - ii) Chairs Budget Briefing
- vi) The Future Structure of the Scrutiny Function (*Chair of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee*)

The next informal meeting of the Scrutiny Chairs will be held on the 9 March 2012.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee notes the content of this report.

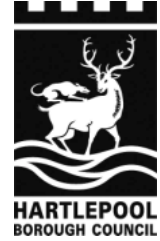
**COUNCILLOR MARJORIE JAMES
CHAIR OF THE SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

17 February 2012



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: HEALTH REFORM WORKING GROUP UPDATE –
DRAFT PUBLIC HEALTH TRANSITION PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the outcome of discussions at the first meeting of the Health Reform Working Group, in relation to the Draft Public Health Transition Plan and the process for Scrutiny involvement in the consultation process.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee at its meeting on the 27 January 2012 considered a request for consideration by Scrutiny of the Draft Hartlepool Public Health Transition Plan, prior to its final approval by Cabinet on 5 March 2012.
- 2.2 In considering this request, the Committee approved the creation of a Working Group (now called the Health Reform Working Group) to participate in the consultation process and also, to look at the development of the role of scrutiny in relation to the operation of Hartlepool's Health and Wellbeing board. The Membership of the Group being Councillors James (Chair), C Akers-Belcher, S Akers Belcher, S Griffin, A Preece and R Wells
- 2.3 The first meeting of the Working Group took place on the 9 February 2012 and in discussing the Draft Hartlepool Public Health Transition Plan, it was agreed that the views of the Health Scrutiny Forum should be sought and fed back to Cabinet on the 5 March 2012. In order to facilitate this, the Draft Plan has been included on the agenda for the Health Scrutiny Forum meeting on the 23 February 2012.
- 2.4 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee is asked to approve the process proposed by the Working Group for Scrutiny consideration of the Draft Plan and delegate authority to the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum for the formulation of a response to Cabinet, following consideration of the Draft Plan at the Health Scrutiny Forum meeting on the 23 February 2012.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee:-

- i) Approves the process proposed by the Working Group for consideration of the Draft Public Health Plan by the Health Scrutiny Forum; and
- ii) Delegate's authority to the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Forum for the formulation of a response to Cabinet, following consideration of the Draft Plan at the Health Scrutiny Forum meeting on the 23 February 2012.

Contact :- Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.