REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

DECISION SCHEDULE



24 August 2012

at 10.00 a.m.

in Committee Room C, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond, Cabinet Member responsible for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods will consider the following items.

1. KEY DECISIONS

1.1 Brenda Road Bridge - Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering) (Forward Plan Reference No. 15/12.)

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 Hartlepool Retail Revival Strategy Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)
- 2.2 Stanhope Avenue Residents Only Permit Parking Scheme Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)
- 2.3 Arncliffe Gardens Area Objections to Proposed One-Way System -Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)
- 2.4 Community Pool Category 5a Development and Investment Grant, Red Dreams Application – Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)
- 2.5 Community Pool Category 5b Emergency Contributions Fund: Owton Manor West Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association Application – Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Economic Profile – 12 Month Comparison - Assistant Director (Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)

4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

No items

REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO REPORT

24 August 2012

Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: BRENDA ROAD BRIDGE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key Decision (test i). Forward Plan Reference No. 15/12.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The report is to seek the Portfolio Holders approval
 - to the actions taken and the current position in relation to the structural condition of the Brenda Road Bridge carrying the B1277 over the Network Rail Sunderland to Thornaby Branch Rail Line; and
 - ii) the funding arrangements for these works.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Brenda Road Bridge was constructed around 1926 and comprises concrete abutments supporting a steel girder structure with a reinforced concrete deck overlaid with a bituminous carriageway surface.
- 3.2 A routine visual inspection of the structure in August 2011 revealed evidence of significant corrosion of parts of the steel structure. At that time an initial assessment of the forecast cost of these works was made and £100,000 was set aside from the revenue budget towards these works. This action was taken to avoid this cost impacting on the 2012/13 budget. As this is a capital scheme these resources need to be accounted for as a Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay within the 2011/12 accounts.



- 3.3 Due to access restrictions some key parts of the structure could not be viewed at that time. Arrangements were therefore made with Network Rail and under a "track possession" a more detailed inspection of the structure was carried out in April 2012.
- 3.4 Following the detailed inspection the condition of the bridge has been reviewed and maintenance requirements identified.
- 3.5 A retrospective structural analysis based on the 1926 original drawings is also currently being carried out to confirm the bridge design load capacity carrying.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 It is proposed to carry out the following remedial / maintenance works as soon as reasonably practicable:
 - Restore loss of section to the concrete abutments and wing walls to prevent any further deterioration and restore a durable surface. The remedial works will include repairs to reinforced concrete parapets and erection of a barrier to the front of the parapet walls to prevent accidental wheel loads to the parapet support girders.
 - Repainting of all exposed steel elements.
 - Repair spalled concrete to the bearing plates to the ends of the girders.
 - Repair the corroded stiffener plates between the top and bottom girder flanges to maintain their load capacity and provide additional plating to areas where loss of section has occurred.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The estimated cost of the remedial / maintenance measures identified is of the order of £250k. If the works are not carried out the structure will deteriorate to a point where full replacement may be necessary at a likely cost in the order of £2.5M.
- 5.2 As indicated earlier in the report this is a capital scheme and £100,000 has been earmarked as a Revenue Contribution to Outlay. The remaining funding will come from the 2012/13 Local Transport Plan allocation. The budget report approved by Council on 23rd February 2012 allocated authority to approve individual LTP schemes to this Portfolio. A comprehensive report will be submitted on the whole programme to a future meeting, in the interim, approval of the £150,000 contribution to this scheme is sought.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 Note the report and approve the allocation of £150,000 from the 2012/13 LTP towards the scheme.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the situation and ensure structure is maintained and in a safe condition.

8. SECTION 17

8.1 In relation to this report, there are no Section 17 implications

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

9.1 In relation to this report, there are no equality or diversity implications

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 There are no background papers.

11. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO 24th August 2012



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)

Subject: HARTLEPOOL RETAIL REVIVAL STRATEGY

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval from the Portfolio Holder to develop a retail revival strategy.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As previously reported to the Regeneration, Economic Development and Skills Portfolio Holder on the 18th May 2012, Hartlepool Town Centre has been severely affected by the recent double-dip recession, which can be illustrated by the fact that 21.8% of Commercial units within the town centre are vacant. The Town Centre is also facing challenges such as a lack of consumer spending power, competition from other locations and the growth of internet retailing.
- 3.2 As previously reported to the Portfolio Holder, Hartlepool was awarded £100k through the High Street Innovation Fund to spend on measures aimed at addressing empty shops within the town centre. A working group from the Economic Regeneration Forum was established and is currently developing a range of projects to increase the footfall, diversity and vibrancy of the town centre, which in turn will help to attract new retailers.
- 3.3 A project is being developed within the Market Hall at Middleton Grange Shopping Centre which will provide the opportunity for individuals to start retail businesses with assistance from a package of dedicated support. The feasibility of holding specialist markets and events in the town centre is being investigated which will be aimed at attracting people to the town centre and making the most of underutilised public spaces. Additional town centre directional and location signage is also being developed for the town centre car parks. A range of other projects are also being examined. The costs and

feasibility of the projects are currently being examined and a more detailed report will be presented to the Portfolio Holder in September.

3.4 The Economic Regeneration Forum Working Group have agreed that it is important for the town centre to diversify and offer something unique such as being known as a destination that supports and develops independent traders.

4. RETAIL REVIVAL STRATEGY

- 4.1 As part of a comprehensive approach to improve the town centre a longer term vision is also required to improve the retail opportunities in the town. This could be achieved through the development of a Retail Revival Strategy which would set out an action plan to improve the town centre, attract additional retailers and create a retail offer that attracts people to the town centre. The strategy would primarily be focussed on improving retail opportunities and would fit alongside the recommendations of the Central Area Investment Framework regeneration strategy which aims to improve the economic performance of the Central Area of Hartlepool.
- 4.2 The Retail Revival Strategy will identify the main issues within the town centre using research from retailers and consumers. Specialist retail market analysis will be undertaken to identify the key gaps in the town centre offer and how these can be addressed.
- 4.3 The majority of the work could be completed in-house using existing resources, however specialist external input may be required which would have a cost implication. There are a number of existing pieces of research which could be updated and used to form the basis of the study such as the Viewpoint 1000 town centre survey results from 2010.
- 4.4 It is proposed to develop a brief to outline the scope of the study. Costs will be obtained for the specialist elements of the work. The brief and costs will be reported to the Portfolio Holder for consideration in September 2012.
- 4.5 Unfortunately Hartlepool's "Grow your own retailers" application to the second round of the Portas Pilot scheme was unsuccessful. The project involved a package of support for new and early stage retail businesses.
- 4.6 MP's from the 392 towns that were not chosen to become Portas Pilots have been invited to sign a national pledge to become a town team partner. Signing the pledge will enable access to a package of support worth £5.5m nationwide.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND RISK

5.1 This report has no financial implications or risks as the development of the initial brief will be carried out in house using existing resources. The

specialist elements of the retail revival strategy may require funding. Further detail and costs will be reported to the Portfolio Holder in September.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

7. SECTION 17

7.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 There are no background papers

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder is requested to:
 - Endorse the preparation of a brief for a Retail Revival Strategy.

10. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO 24th August 2012



2.2

Report of: Assistant Director – Transportation and Engineering

Subject: STANHOPE AVENUE – RESIDENTS ONLY PERMIT PARKING SCHEME

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To report the outcome of a consultation with residents of Stanhope Avenue regarding the reintroduction of residents only permit parking controls.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Stanhope Avenue is located on the fringe of the current town centre parking area between Osborne Road and Eltringham Road.
- 3.2 This location was previously included within the Hartlepool Residents Zone A, but was removed from the scheme following consultation with residents over proposed charge increases in 2008.
- 3.3 Following this decision a number of residents towards the eastern end of Stanhope Avenue (closest to Osborne Road), noticed an increase in vehicular activity and made a number of complaints regarding congestion, lack of parking availability and instances of driveway obstruction, predominantly by drivers parking "all day" to a void town centre parking charges.
- 3.4 A further consultation took place with residents which was reported to the Portfolio holder in November 2010 regarding reinstating this location back into a permit controlled parking zone. At the time the majority of residents preferred to remain outside of the controlled zone and the request to reinstate Stanhope Avenue was therefore rejected.
- 3.5 A number of restrictive / prohibitive parking controls were introduced in late 2011 in Osborne Road. Many residents of Stanhope Avenue consider that

the new parking restrictions in Osbome Road have displaced traffic into Stanhope Avenue, further exacerbating parking availability. As a result a subsequent request was received from residents and the local residents association and a further consultation has been carried out to determine the level of support for the reintroduction of resident only permit parking controls.

4. **PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 The residents consultation included detailed information in relation to how the permit scheme would work, hours enforcement cost etc.
- 4.2 Stanhope Avenue would be reintroduced into Zone A of the Hartlepool Residents Permit Zone. Permits in this zone are due for renewal in October 2012. Should Stanhope Avenue be reintroduced into the permit controlled zone, it is proposed that this would coincide with the annual renewal of the remainder of Zone A permit renewals.
- 4.3 The results of the consultation are shown in the table below:

Location	Number	number	% of returned	% of retuned
	of	of	forms in favour	forms opposed
	properties	returned	of permit	to permit
	consulted	forms	scheme	parking
Stanhope Avenue	30	19	53%(10)	47% (9)

- 4.4 The majority of returned responses indicated that residents would prefer that Stanhope Avenue be reinstated into the permit controlled parking zone. The responses did show predominant support from those properties closest to Osbome Road, where problematic parking was perceived to be more frequent.
- 4.5 A plan identifying the properties involved in the consultation and the subsequent responses / preferred options will be made available at the Portfolio Meeting.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Resident permit costs are reviewed and set by Cabinet. The charge, should Stanhope Avenue be reintroduced into the permit controlled scheme, would

be £20 per annum. This charge is consistent with the charge for non central residential parking zones within the town centre.

5.2 The inclusion of Stanhope Avenue into the controlled zone would require the advertising of an amendment to the existing Legal Order. This cost together with any carriageway markings and signage would be met from the Parking Services operational budget.

6.0 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The traffic regulations would require amendments being made to the existing Legal Orders and would be enforceable under powers and jurisdiction of the Traffic Management Act 2004.

7.0 STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 The traffic regulations orders would be enforced by Civil Enforcement Officers from the Parking Services Team.

8.0 EQUALIY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

9.0 SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

10.0 CONSULTATION

10.1 Consultation has taken place with the residents of Stanhope Avenue. The local ward councilors have also been consulted as part of the consultation process.

11. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

11.1 That the request to reintroduce Stanhope Avenue into the resident only permit controlled parking scheme with affect from 1st October 2012 be approved.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 To reflect the views of the majority of residents who completed and returned the consultation responses.

13. APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE

13.1 A plan identifying the properties involved in the consultation and the subsequent resident response / preferred options will be made available at the Portfolio meeting.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 Transport and Neighborhoods Portfolio Report – 2nd November 2010.

15. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO

Report to Portfolio Holder 24th August 2012



Report of:Assistant Director (Transportation and
Engineering)Subject:ARNCLIFFE GARDENS AREA – OBJECTIONS
TO PROPOSED ONE WAY SYSTEM

1. TYPE OF DECISION/ APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the subsequent objections which have been submitted to the Council, following the placing of the legal order/ notice in the appropriate areas. The proposed scheme had been given approval to advertise the orders at the Portfolio meeting of 18th May 2012.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A report was submitted to the Portfolio meeting of 18th May 2012, seeking approval of the proposed one waysystem for the four streets in question (Arncliffe Gdns, Wansbeck Gdns, Eamont Gdns and Belmont Gdns). This was subsequently approved by the Portfolio Holder.
- 3.2 The proposals arose due to the number of parked vehicles along both sides of these streets, which creates problems with oncoming traffic flows (drivers unwilling to give way to others who are travelling towards them). This has led to "stand offs" between drivers, abusive language and threatening behaviour, along with damage to residents vehicles due to motorists getting too close to parked cars, etc.

HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

- 3.3 The volume of parked vehicles makes it virtually impossible at times for drivers to pull in and allow others to pass through. Residents have raised safety concerns with the current situation, and also with the abusive language from arguing motorists in the street.
- 3.4 The potential for vehicle speeds to increase with one way streets was recognised. However, in a lot of cases, the access difficulties caused by parked vehicles appear to have led to motorists speeding along the road, in order to avoid the possibility of meeting other vehicles travelling towards them.
- 3.5 The consultation exercise for the proposals had shown that there is clear support from residents, for both the overall scheme and each individual street, with the results shown at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.6 In February 2012, the then Portfolio Holder asked that a letter be sent to residents of the streets either side of the proposed one way area Eldon Grove and Lansdowne Road, as a small number of residents had expressed concerns over the scheme. These related to a potential increase in traffic volumes along those two streets if the other roads near to them became one way. It was not intended that Eldon Grove & Lansdowne Road would become one way streets. The response from this consultation showed that from 114 letters sent out, only 5 residents responded to express concerns.

4. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 Copies of the legal order/notice, were placed on site, which provided a further opportunity for any formal objections to be raised by local residents and members of the general public. A total of 2 written objections have been received (see Appendices 2 & 3).
- 4.2 The reasons given in the objection letters are as follows, along with a response to each point raised:-
 - Arncliffe Gardens shouldn't be one way This is raised by a resident of a different street, and the consultation results show that there is strong support from residents of Arncliffe Gardens for the proposals.
 - **Traffic on adjacent streets may increase** The four streets included in the scheme will see a removal of traffic in one direction. The streets adjacent to the proposed one way area may actually see a reduction in traffic, as introducing the one way system should make these streets easier to use.

- **Possible increase in speed** This is dealt with at 3.4 in the report - Motorists appear to be speeding along the road at present, in order to avoid the possibility of meeting other vehicles travelling towards them.
- Why were four streets included These streets all have terraced houses, and no opportunity for vehicle to pull in and allow others to pass. The streets to the west are wider and have driveways, significantly reducing on-street parking, while the streets to the east have a junction in the middle which provides a passing place. There was also support for all four streets in the consultation exercise.
- **Only Arncliffe Gardens want the one way system** Again, the consultation shows that all four streets support the scheme.
- **Difficulty exiting onto Park Road** Around 15 years ago, double yellow lines were implemented around the Park Road junctions, for a distance of 10 metres, to improve visibility. A couple of years later the build outs were introduced, and for some reason the yellow lines were not put back to their full extent. If problems are encountered, then the possibility of re-instating these lines could be investigated.
- Eamont Terrace is not included in the legal description A small number of properties at the Elwick Road end of the street are dassed as Eamont Terrace, however the road itself remains as Eamont Gardens for its full length, so this has no effect on the order.
- 4.3 It should be noted that only2 formal objections were received, compared with 154 responses in favour from the consultation process.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The scheme will utilise illuminated signage to identify each of the 4 streets as having a one way access, plus no entry signage at the opposite ends of each road. It is anticipated that this should cost no more than £5,000 in total, which will be met from the Council's Local Transport Plan.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

6.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

7. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no implications under Section 17.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That, the proposed one way scheme is implemented, as per the recommendations of the 18th May 2012 report. A copy of the planned direction of traffic flow is shown in **Appendix 4**.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To improve traffic management in the area, following a positive consultation exercise.

10. APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE

- i. Appendix 1 One Way Traffic System Arncliffe Gds, Belmont Gds, Eamont Gds & Wansbeck Gds
- ii. Appendix 2 One Way Traffic System Letter
- iii. Appendix 3 One Way Traffic System Letter (2)
- iv. Appendix 4 One Way Traffic System Map

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 There are no background papers.

12. CONTACT OFFICER

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2.3

One Way Traffic System - Arncliffe Gds, Belmont Gds, Eamont Gds & Wansbe	k Gds
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<u>Street</u>	<u>Responses</u> <u>In Favour</u>	<u>Response</u> <u>% In Favour</u>	<u>Responses</u> <u>NOT in favour</u>	<u>Response %</u> NOT In Favour	<u>Responses</u> <u>No Pref Indicated</u>	Response % No Pref Indicated	<u>Total</u> <u>Responses</u>	<u>Total Letters</u> <u>Sent</u>	<u>% Responses</u> <u>Returned</u>
Arncliffe Gardens	* 59	76%	6	7%	13	17%	78	84	92.9%
Belmont Gardens	29	73%	11	27%	0	0%	40	88	45.5%
Eamont Gds / Tce	24	69%	11	31%	0	0%	35	90	38.9%
Wansbeck Gardens	29	73%	10	25%	1	2%	40	92	43.5%
Elwick Rd/ Park Rd	13	93%	1	7%	0	0%	14	47	29.8%
TOTALS	154	= 74%	39	= 19%	14	= 7%	207	401	51.60%

* Arncliffe Gardens data includes responses from the HBC consultation AND the "Resident led" petition (for those who did not respond via the HBC consultation).

71% of those who responded were in favour of the proposed scheme.

2.3 Appendix 2 Councillor Gerard Hall Burn Valley Ward 11 Eamont Gardens, Hartlepool TS26 9JD Tel: 01429 260557 Mr P Devlin 26th June 2012 CHIEF SOLICITOR Dear Peter ONE WAY TRAFFIC SYSTEM -Wansbeck, Arncliffe, Eamont, Belmont Gardens Following the publication of the Mayor's portfolio decision from the meeting on 18th May 2012, I am writing to lodge a formal objection to the implementation of the above-mentioned scheme. This follows my own concerns sent in November 2011 and representations from various residents more recently. One issue that has been raised on a technicality is the omission of Eamont Terrace from the 2 plans, although I appreciate this may not affect the specifications. I am anxious that this objection is formally recorded prior to 7th July 2012 and trust that it may lead to a re-consideration of the original decision. Yours sincerely Servit Hall Note: Earnant Terrace is in Germant Gols !! attached 1-9 Earnant Tee is located at the south reastern and of Earnant Gols, and the escidents were carsulted (x9 addresses) at the same time as the rest of Germant Gols!!



Appendix 3

Mr P. Devlin Chief Solicitor Hartlepool Civic Centre Victoria Road Hartlepool TS24 8AY

Mr T. Leighton 45 Wansbeck Gardens Hartlepool TS26 9JH

27th June 2012

Re: Proposed One-Way system to Wansbeck, Arncliffe, Eamont & Belmont Gardens

Dear Sir,

Please find below my argument for not having a one-way system in place along the streets indicated above:

With Arncliffe Gdns now not being a bus route the road is a much easier quieter and safer road to travel along.

With traffic traveling along Baden St to the junction with Elwick Rd/ Arncliffe Gdns, if you would normally go along Arncliffe to join Park Rd you would have to either turn left or right to go along Eamont or Wansbeck Gardens thus increasing vehicle usage to these streets and may even increase traffic usage to Eldon Grove (which during peak times is very busy along with Baden St junction)

Making streets one-way allows vehicles to drive without due care and possibly at a greater speed knowing that you have a clear run along that street, yes we have a 20mph speed limit inforce but unfortunately it appears only a few drivers observe this.

Please note speed humps may help but will not reduce traffic taking the quickest route to Park Rd.

This proposal appears to only give one street relief from road traffic whilst the other two streets will have to suffer the brunt of any increased traffic wanting to join Park Rd.

Why four streets? why not just Arncliffe Gardens made one-way, why not make Arncliffe one-way for a trial period and leave the other streets as is? and see how this works.

It appears to me that only one street (Arncliffe Gardens) wants this one-way system.

My argument is primarily based on traffic trying to get to Park Rd from the junction of Baden St/ Elwick Rd, it will make Arncliffe a major cut through for vehicle's wanting to travel from Park Rd to Elwick Rd/ Baden St, and thus you are not removing the problem just moving it or causing further problems.

P.S Park Road a few years ago was modified to allow cars to park easily on Park Rd, but it meant that any car trying to join Park Rd from the above mentioned streets having to put themselves in danger by trying to protrude far enough out from the junction to see any oncoming traffic especially at peak traffic time. I suggest you try and drive along Wansbeck and turn left or right and see how difficult it is to see oncoming traffic and to join Park Rd with the exaggerated curb line which when

Chief Excutive's Debt Support Services

turning left forces you in the path of oncoming traffic especially when you meet a large vehicle travelling the opposite way.

I look forward to your reply to the above.

Yours Faithfully 20 Mr T. Leighton

REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO 24th August 2012



2.4

Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: COMMUNITY POOL CATEGORY 5A – DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT GRANT, RED DREAMS APPLICATION

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non -Key Decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of the report is to present the application received through Category 5A of the Community Pool for consideration for approval by the Portfolio Holder.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Following the review of the Community Pool, the approach to commissioning of the budget this financial year has been significantly different to the approach taken in previous years.
- 3.2 On 21 November 2011, Cabinet agreed that the overall value of the Community Pool Grant Fund 2012 / 2013 would be £403,000. Cabinet also agreed that this funding would be allocated via the following five categories:
 - Category 1 The provision of universal welfare benefits and advice;
 - Category 2 The provision of universal credit union support;
 - Category 3 Capacity and resource building in the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS);
 - Category 4 The provision of universal specialist support; and
 - Category 5 The provision of development / investment and emergency funding.
- 3.3 Following the allocation of funds through Categories 1, 2 and 3 using a formal procurement process and allocation of grants through Category 4, there was £51,863 total funding available for Category 5, this was an

combination of the remaining budget and reserves. Of this £43,863 remains unallocated.

- 3.4 Category 5A is specifically for Development and Investment Grants. The aim of these grants is to provide support to groups that want to invest and develop in themselves to enable the group to strengthen in the future, putting the group in a stronger position for income generation opportunities and commissioning to deliver services.
- 3.5 The maximum grant that an organisation can apply for through this scheme is £8,000. The eligibility criteria is outlined below:
 - The project must be an investment in or development of the VCS organisation.
 - The applicant must be constituted, allowing the delivery of services, for example a registered charity, community interest company etc.
 - The applicant must be non-profit distributing.
 - The organisation must deliver services in Hartlepool Borough.
 - The organisation must have been in existence for more than 12 months.

• Only one grant per organisation per financial year will be allocated. In addition to this criteria it is also essential that the applying organisation demonstrates that they are pro-active, imaginative and forward thinking and have taken full advantage of self help opportunities that will strengthen the future sustainability of the group.

4. SUMMARY OF APPLICATION

(This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3))

- 4.1 Red Dreams is a registered charity based in Hartlepool that works with young people aged 19 and under within all areas of creative and performing arts and media. The aim of the charity is to build confidence and self-esteem, knowledge and skills of the young people they work with to enable them to excel at their art from and prepare for their future.
- 4.2 The organisation has been established for 4 years and is currently based on Whitby Street South. They are planning to expand into larger premises also on Whitby Street South in autumn 2012. This expansion of the charity into new premises will equate to approximately 3 times the current level of space and lead to increased capacity, which will enable them to accommodate more young people wanting to use the services available.

5. PROJECT AIMS

- 5.1 The purpose of the project is to assist the smooth transition between premises and prepare for the increased volunteer numbers, and resource and capacity requirements of the larger premises. The move to the larger premises will however increase the facilities available for young people to access and will overcome some of the capacity issues that the organisation currently has to contend with due to the restrictions of the current building, for example limited rehears al space and availability restricts the number of young people that are able to use the facilities at a particular time.
- 5.2 This additional space within the new premises will also enable the organisation to use the building to increase the amount of income generated through room hire and other services that they will be able to offer.
- 5.3 Detailed below is a summary of how each of the elements of the project will contribute towards the future sustainability of the organisation, aiding their continued development. This information is summarised from the information provided in the application form and supporting documents.
- 5.4 Volunteer Recruitment and Training The project will enable the organisation to hold a volunteer recruitment event with the aim of involving 15 new volunteers in the charity. All of the volunteers will be offered a training package which encourages capacity building of the organisation and will include skills such as business planning, marketing and managing voluntary organisations. Increasing the number of volunteers involved in the charity will maximise the resources that the organisation are able to offer to young people using the facilities available.
- 5.5 Arts Awards This is an additional training programme for volunteers to become an accredited adviser able to deliver Arts Awards at the bronze, silver and gold levels, this investment will increase the offer of awards that is currently available to young people to work towards. The organisation is looking to develop this further into potential apprentice and employment opportunities.
- 5.6 Equipment and Software The space available in the new premises will allow three times the amount of ICT workstations in comparison to the current resource available, the application includes ICT equipment and software (4 computers, 2 printers, Office Professional package and a projector and screen) which will contribute towards the total equipment required to equip the new premises. Match funding has been sought to purchase the additional equipment required to fully equip the space. This level of equipment will enable the accommodation of a greater number of volunteers within the organisation and contribute towards enabling the equal and fair opportunities to be offered to all volunteers as well as offering a greater availability of facilities to young people.

- 5.7 PQASSO Quality Framework The PQASSO Quality Mark is a 'kitemark' to show that an organisation has met the PQASSO standards. It is designed to build self-assessment against the PQASSO standards by having an independent external review. Red Dreams are keen to work towards this quality assurance standard, such standards have the following benefits:
 - greater recognition and credibility from statutory and independent funders, users and other stakeholders;
 - increased motivation for staff, trustees and volunteers; and
 - enhanced organisational learning through completing the assessment process.

The funding requested will cover the cost of purchasing the PQASSO Quality Mark work pack and consultancy fees to achieve the accreditation.

- 5.8 The project that Red Dreams are applying for demonstrates that the organisation are looking to develop services available through the transition into the larger premises and are putting steps in place that will strengthen the organisation in the future as well as increasing the opportunities and facilities available for young people involved in Red Dreams. These actions will enable them to take advantage of future development opportunities.
- 5.9 There has also been extensive staff training within the organisation in areas such as business planning, managing Voluntary Organisations and Human Resources and People management since the beginning of 2011. The organisation actively encourage and support volunteers to undertake training and qualifications that will help them to develop their areas of expertise, helping to achieve the organisations aspirations to branch out into music publishing, artist management and becoming a music label. Red Dreams latest annual report is attached as **Appendix 4**; this gives a comprehensive overview of what the charity have done over the last year and what they are working towards.
- 5.10 The projects run by the organisation are supported by a number of funders, they also run fundraising and charity events, have been successful in tendering for contracts and are exploring and establishing income generations initiatives such as hire charges for rehearsal space and rooms (young people are charged a nominal fee of 50p per session for using facilities). Trustees have recently worked with a consultancy firm to create a strategic business plan and funding strategy for Red Dreams.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The total unallocated budget for Category 5 (Development & Investment Grants and Emergency Contributions Grant) of the Community Pool is £43,863.

- 6.2 Should this application be approved the remaining unallocated budget would be a maximum of £36,823. The maximum grant available is £8,000, should all further grant applications be at this level, there is budget available for upto 5 further grants, although applicants can apply for grant between £2,000 and £8,000.
- 6.3 Applications are presented in the order received, at present there is one further application to the Emergency Contributions Fund that will be presented at Regeneration & Neighbourhoods Portfolio on 24th August 2012.
- 6.4 To safeguard the Council's investment and minimise risk, it is recommended that should grant aid be approved, the project will be subject to a thorough monitoring process, to ensure that the project has progressed and been undertaken as expected. Monitoring will be undertaken at the end of the project, in addition to this all successful applicants receiving a Development and Investment Grant will be contacted 6 months after project completion to assess how the investment has aided their organisation.

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Risk implications to the Council will be managed through successful organisations agreeing to terms and conditions of a grant offer letter and monitoring requirements as set out above.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Legal implications will be managed through the requirement on an offer letter.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no staff implications for Hartlepool Borough Council.

10. SECTION 17

10.1 There are no implications under Section 17.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 The organisation meets the eligibility criteria for the grant funding; the services provided through Red Dreams are accessible to all young people in Hartlepool. There are no determined equality and diversity issues highlighted by supporting this project.

12. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 Portfolio Holder is asked to consider and approve the following:
 - 1. Application form Red Dreams for an Investment and Development Grant.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 Cabinet has previously agreed to commission Category 5 though a grant process (21st November 2011) and the criteria for Category 5 grants (19th March 2012).

14. APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE

- 1) Appendix 1 (This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3))
- 2) Appendix 2 (This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3))
- 3) Appendix 3 (This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3)).
- 4) Appendix 4 Red Dreams Annual Report

15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (i). Item 5.1 from Cabinet on 21st November 2011.
- (ii). Minutes from Cabinet on 21st November 2011.
- (iii). Item 6.1 from Cabinet on 6th February 2012.
- (iv). Minutes from Cabinet on 6th February 2012.
- (v). Item 5.1 from Cabinet on 20th February 2012.
- (vi). Minutes from Cabinet on 20th February 2012.
- (vii) Item 5.12 from Cabinet on 19th March 2012.
- (viii) Minutes from Cabinet on 19th March 2012.

(iX) Mayors Portfolio Holder Minutes Hartlepool Voluntary & Community Sector Strategy (Community Pool Grant Allocations 2012/13) 21st May 2012

16. CONTACT OFFICER

Denise Ogden, Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services) Civic Centre Victoria Road Hartlepool TS24 8AY Telephone: 01429 523800 Email: denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

2.4 Appendix 4



Red Dreams' Annual Report

March 2011—February 2012



Fourth Year

- Community
- Awards
- Holding out for a Hero

Date 28th February 2012—Fourth Annual Report to Trustees, Members and Funders

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Fundraising

With the current financial climate, and grants being capped or dramatically slashed, it was decided that we would need to increase our levels of fundraising, and look to support from parents, local businesses and acquaintances.

We began with a long term fundraising scheme whereby we collected old CD's and DVD's to trade in via a website called **Music Magpie**. This has currently brought in more that **£100**, and can be done at any time. We also set up with **Just Giving** which brings in Gift Aid, for people to donate to specific fundraising events, or monthly donations. A number of these events are annual, so are being established and recognized.

We have done a number of performances, including 3 separate dances from our show choir **'The WacKY LEague'**, over Halloween. They raised money with the Glee mash-up 'Thriller—Off With Your Head' routine in the Art Space in **Middleton Grange Shopping Centre**; along with bag packing at Tesco and at a performance night for the **RAW** project at One77 on York Road. The WacKY LEague have become a strong bag packing team and have 'worked' ASDA 3 times this upper and Tesco twice. So we have had every helming sup

this year, and Tesco twice, so we have had overwhelming support from these two supermarkets.

One parent, **Denise Murphy** organized an evening of music and entertainment with her son Lewis taking to the stage both solo, and with his boy band 3D. Keeping it in the family, her mother and aunt performed a hilarious comedy sketch entitled 'The little man in the fridge' to a packed house, and overall raised **£950** including Gift Aid.



We were also chosen as the dedicated charity of **The Oxbridge** pub in Stockton on Tees. This materialised through a former volunteer Steph Wilson, who ran our youth theatre last summer. Her family run The Oxbridge, and having told them about Red Dreams and what we do, they adopted us as their charity of the year. As a way of saying thanks, we organized a quarterly performance night for our young people. We showcased a number of singers, some of who had never performed before who would start the evening off, and we would end the night with singers who were more confident. One of the confident youngsters is 12 year old Amelia Wilde



who made quite an impression with her strong, mature voice, and was requested to perform each time; literally bringing her audience to tears. The Manager, Anne Wilson worked very hard holding karaoke evenings, summer barbeques and raffles to raise money, and we were awarded with a magnificent **£1,000** in January 2012.

Fundraising



We were asked by the managers of Middleton Grange Shopping Centre, along with one of our media partners **PBL Audio**, to organise and manage two days of entertainment, of a four day programme, for the opening of the centrally situated BHS store. With PBL running the sound and lighting, we concentrated on filling the 10am to 4pm schedule.

This was the perfect opportunity to showcase singers and acoustic

artists that hadn't performed before, and also set up numerous fundraising activities. Over the two days we had over 20 young people performing, some doing both days to maximize their confidence. We had some great feedback from the two days, with **BHS directors** actually



saying it was the best store opening they had ever seen, and complimenting us on the professionalism of both our young people, and our management of the event.



A fundraising event that has become annual is our **Wake-a-Thon** whereby a number of volunteers get sponsored to stay awake for 48 hours (April 2011) or 52 hours (February 2012) and stream everything live through an internet TV channel. To keep awake and mentally stimulated, there were 'live lounge' sets from our young people, band mastermind, man versus food challenges and other sketches. We also broadcast our first regional top 40 where





people voted on our website, and we gradually revealed the places over the 52 hours. This proved really popular, with bands and artists sending us tracks from all over the region, up to Northumberland, and down to County Durham.



Community

We have worked with quite a few other community groups and organisations this year, to help them with their fundraising events. We receive a number of phone calls asking for entertainment or support with community cohesion events, which we are more than happy to do. The majority of fundraising activities are during the summer months and we had young people performing at the Rift House Summer Fayre, Manor Residents

Association Summer Extravaganza, Burn Valley Residents Fun Day, and

Hartlepool Families First Summer Fun Day. These

events not only help these organisations to raise much needed funds, but also offer amazing opportunities for our





young people to perform and work within the community, building strong links and promoting community cohesion.

Other community events are more about information, communication, participation and recognition, and we have been a part of four such events this year, all very different. We had performers and information at The Mill House Leisure Centre, at an event to raise awareness of activities for young people, and the Hartlepool Grant Givers. Similarly we attended an event at

The Historic Quay, which was aimed at the young people who had just been a part



of a National Citizen Service pilot, where we had performers and also photographers doing quick photo shoots to show some of what we do. Further to this, Charity Manager, Dawn McManus took part in a communications and community event for year 7 pupils at **Dyke House School**, whereby pupils interviewed a number of representatives from community

organisations in Hartlepool, increasing their skills and



knowledge with each interview done. Red Dreams was chosen specifically following requests from a number of pupils, and we received a number of enquiries on how to join, following the event. Finally, we were asked to provide singers and acoustic artists for the very first Skate Park Awards based at Rossmere Community Centre. Whilst the contest took place on the relatively new, specifically designed skate park, our young people were entertaining those waiting to compete, as well as the general public, there to watch the competition. All of these opportunities are what integrate us into the community, and the minds of both young people and adults alike; ensuring the continuation of our projects and the good name Red Dreams is securing.

Training and Education

We have been planning a number of changes this year, which will continue into the new year, and the new facility, giving us more opportunities for income generation and bestow relevant qualifications on our staff and volunteers. As Charity Manager, Dawn McManus has taken two qualifications that will both enhance her knowledge and abilities, and help the charity to run more efficiently.

The first course taken was a **Level 3** qualification through SkillShare based at Belle Vue Centre, and focused on **Managing Community and Voluntary Organisations**. This has supported Red Dreams by instilling confidence in producing business plans and finance strategies, portraying professionalism to our funders.

Dawn has also taken a **Level 4** qualification, along with our single salaried staff member **Peter Davies**, in **Human Resources and People Management**. This is accredited through Teesside University and delivered by Hartlepool Borough Council. This course gives Red Dreams invaluable insight and tools for not just managing salaried staff, but also on how to manage volunteers, apprentices, session workers and temporary staff.

Finally we had two volunteers, **Ian McManus** and **Rick Kitson**, enroll on the very first qualification on **Managing a Music Business Enterprise (MMBE)**. This was a **Level 3 Diploma** offered through Gateshead College on behalf of **Generator North East**, and gives us the basis to look into music publishing, artist management and becoming a music label in the very near future.

However, it isn't just Red Dreams' staff that benefit from the above training and knowledge; we also take on a number of **Work Experience** students throughout the year, from schools in Hartlepool including **Dyke House** and **English Martyr's** Schools as well as schools further afield such as **Northfield School in Billingham**.

Despite not being an actual qualification, the **vInspired Awards** are a nationally recognized award for volunteers, showing commitment, dedication, experience and a work ethic amongst volunteers applying for jobs, possibly for the first time. They are awarded after 10 hours, 50 hours and 100 hours of volunteering, and Red Dreams became an **Approved Provider** and also **Validators** of these awards. This will enable us to encourage volunteers to stay with us, and also be able to approve and validate volunteer hours from other community groups and organisations.



People and Projects

Since our last report, our numbers have grown at a remarkable rate. We have waiting lists for vocals and band rehearsal, which is unfortunate for the young person waiting, but shows the popularity, and ultimately the need for what we do.

Our young participants' numbers have increased from 184 to 232 registered, of which 99 attend on a weekly basis; this is made up of 14 bands, 22 vocalists and 4 rappers. Of those registered, music is by far the most popular area of progression, but also includes 8 photographers, 4 film makers, 20 in the acting and drama group, and 8 in the show choir.



We have also enrolled and trained **10 new volunteers** this year, bringing the total registered to 31. We have said goodbye to two vocal coaches; Jordan Grylls has embarked on a neurobiology degree at Leeds University, whilst Lisa Coulson gave birth to a beautiful daughter, Olivia, and is enjoying being a mother.



Following our last AGM, we have opened ourselves up as a

member organisation, and alongside our 6 Trustees, now have 11 Members made up of parents, musicians, film makers, participants and the management team. Trustees and Members are as follows:

Steven Armstrong—Chair + Musician Andy Brown—Treasurer + IT Technician Dale Tritschler—Secretary + Sound Technician James Ellis—Trustee + Film maker Daniel Drinkwater—Trustee + Musician Dean Cartwright—Trustee + Film maker Dawn McManus— Charity Manager Peter Davies—Technical Manager Adam Quigley—Film maker Sarah Tudor—Parent **Owen Tudor**—Parent Joanne Davies—Parent Dalton Lamplough—Participant

Ian McManus— Co-Manager Andy Sharpe—Sound Technician

Craig Lamplough—Parent

Alexa Nixon—Participant

Members can be nominated to become Trustees, and current Trustees will be up for re-election at the next AGM

Events

We have, in the last three years, established annual events that we organise and run at approximately the same time each year. This not only makes planning more efficient, but also raises our profile within the

> community as people remember the same thing happening before. By far the largest of these events is Pitch Invasion, which was held

on 20th and 21st August 2011 at Seaton Carew Cricket Club, for the 3rd year running. We had wonderful weather, and estimated 8-9000 attendees over the two days, which was our biggest crowd ever.

By the end of the year, we had a proposal from **Russ Green, CEO of Hartlepool United**, who asked us to run the festival from Victoria Park. We are now currently organizing the event for 12th and 13th May 2012, and look forward to our partnership with Hartlepool United Football Club.

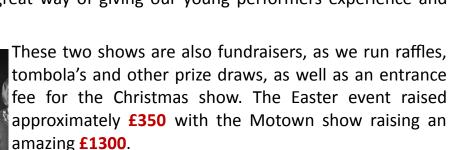
Our next biggest event is our Awards ceremony, which, for its 3rd year running,

took place in a bigger venue. This year we chose The **Corporation Club** and still struggled to fit everyone in, as we had over **400 people attending**. We decided against generic trophies this year, and hand made bespoke **gold discs** for each winner. We had two large screens with 'Brit Like' nomination videos and each category sponsor presented the awards. It is always a



highly charged and emotional evening, and everybody had an amazing experience.

The last two of our own events are Easter Saturday in Middleton Grange Shopping Centre and our Christmas show, which this year was Motown themed. Both shows are always popular with the general public and are a great way of giving our young performers experience and confidence.









External Projects

Over and above our own events, we are continually asked to work with other community groups and organisations, helping to raise funds for their causes, or as entertainment for statutory events.

We won a **tender** in May to run a music project for **Hartlepool Families First**, based at **One77**. We entitled the project **RAW** (Rock Academy Wednesdays) and have a number of



volunteers who teach guitar at all levels, bass guitar, drums and vocals, as well as offering rehearsal for bands and supporting songwriting. We hold a **performance evening** once a month to show the progression the young people are making, and have over **40 young people aged 9-17 registered.** Due to



the space available, and number of volunteers, many participants have to attend fortnightly to fit everyone in.

Whilst RAW brings in an income of **£390 pcm**, most other events are free or on a donation basis. The **Hartlepool Fireworks** is an event we have provided entertainment for, for four years now, and we never have a shortage of performers wanting to sing, as the potential audience can be up to



5000 people. We worked with **TFM** this year and PBL Audio hosted a second stage for those who could not play the main area due to time restrictions.





Awards and Recognition

We have certainly had a very busy year when it comes to publicity for Red Dreams, and there is none bigger than appearing on the new charity game show, Holding out for a Hero. Blissfully unaware of what was being plotted around us, Trustee Dan Drinkwater had agreed to represent us on the show, and hopefully win us lots of money. Unfortunately, despite a perfect round of answers, luck just wasn't on our side and the accumulated £63,000 escaped our grasp and went to the deserved winners; although we did leave with the basic guaranteed amount of £3000. We were accompanied by six of our volunteers, who were on set with us during the show. We all had an amazing time, and two of the 'girls' took quite a shine to presenter, Gethin Jones.



We were also highly honoured to be exemplified in a publication by **Enyan and Artswork**, lobbying government to release extra funding for the youth arts.



We were also presented as the **'Local Hero'** in the inaugural **Pride** of Hartlepool Awards, a category voted for by the general public. It was an incredibly emotional evening as the presentation took place on what would have been **Kyle's**







Funding

With the current financial climate, and so many smaller charities folding completely, we are having to find more ways to become **self sufficient** at a time when the majority of people in the community just don't have the money to give. With the RAW project secured in May, by end of February 2012 we had a guaranteed **income of £3,510**; with the new Membership scheme and money from refreshments the total **Income for the year was £5,312**.

Grants are also few and far between and funders are more cautious in their spending. Those funders who do not have an **all or nothing** policy are granting approximately **2/3** of the amount requested, leaving large shortfalls. This year we **secured just £15,870** for project funding. Because of the lack of security we had to increase our fundraising activities, and through bag packing, ticket sales at events, staying awake for 48 and 52 hours, recycling DVD's and CD's, tombola's, raffles and kind donations, we raised £11,074.

Towards the end of the year, as part of our desperately needed expansion plans, we applied to funders for money towards refurbishing a **new**, **larger facility**, and secure rent. We are looking at a budget of at least £80,000 for refurbishment and £14,400 per year in rent; and at year end had secured £9,500 from Awards for All and £10,000 from The Foyle Foundation towards refurbishment. We had also secured £10,000 per year from LankellyChase and £2,000 per year from Hospital of God, both for 3 years, towards rental costs. This gives us a total of £31,500 towards expansion. This account is separated from our general funds and is shown as restricted in our annual accounts.

Annual accounts are yet to be examined, so the income and expenditure to the right, is

summarized from the management accounts and receipts.

Summary shown is of the general funds only

Restricted funds shown above for expansion, are taken forward to March 2012.

Summary of Accounts March 2011—February 2012

Income and Expenditure account for the period ending 28th February 2012

Income	£	£ 38,427.16
Less Expenditure		
Refreshments	1729.46	
Advertising	233.62	
Equipment	3273.60	
Events	6354.19	
Rent	3082.20	
Printing & Stationary	2333.61	
Vehicle Costs	3353.1	
Wages	5565.19	
Licences	1429.25	
Utilities	2579.75	
Insurances	1944.78	
Refurbishment + unit	4486.57	
Petty Cash	1192.52	
Total	37557.84	38,427.16
Surplus of Income over Expenditure		869.32



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REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO 24th August 2012



Report of: Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)

Subject: COMMUNITY POOL CATEGORY 5B – EMERGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS FUND OWTON MANOR WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION APPLICATION

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non - Key Decision

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of the report is to present the application received through Category 5B of the Community Pool for consideration for approval by the Portfolio Holder.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Following the review of the Community Pool, the approach to commissioning of the budget this financial year has been significantly different to the approach taken in previous years.
- 3.2 On 21 November 2011, Cabinet agreed that the overall value of the Community Pool Grant Fund 2012 / 2013 would be £403,000. Cabinet also agreed that this funding would be allocated via the following five categories:
 - Category 1 The provision of universal welfare benefits and advice;
 - Category 2 The provision of universal credit union support;
 - Category 3 Capacity and resource building in the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS);
 - Category 4 The provision of universal specialist support; and
 - Category 5 The provision of development / investment and emergency funding.
- 3.3 Following the allocation of funds through Categories 1, 2 and 3 using a formal procurement process and allocation of grants through Category 4, there was £51,863 total funding available for Category 5; this was an combination of the remaining budget and reserves. Of this £43,863 remains unallocated.

- 3.4 Category 5B is specifically for Emergency Contributions. The aim of these grants is to assist organisations that find themselves in temporary difficult financial situations, and is designed for emergency assistance in the following situations:
 - To fill a funding gap in the interim where funding has been secured but not yet administered;
 - To allow groups who are awaiting funding decisions to continue running a project until the outcome of a decision is known; and
 - To allow groups who have been unsuccessful in securing funding time to look for alternative funding options.

Whilst this is not an inclusive list, all applications will be considered on the information provided.

- 3.5 Funding support through this grant scheme is not designed as a long term funding solution and it is explicit within the guidelines that applications must clearly outline what has been done and how they are planning to secure additional funding. Any grants awarded through this scheme are for one off support only.
- 3.6 The maximum grant that an organisation can apply for through this scheme is £8,000. The eligibility criteria is outlined below:
 - Available to all voluntary and community organisations;
 - The applicant must be constituted, allowing the delivery of services, for example a registered charity, community interest company etc;
 - The applicant must be non-profit distributing;
 - The organisation must deliver services in Hartlepool Borough;
 - The organisation must have been in existence for more than 12 months;
 - Need to be able to evidence that the short term investment is viable; and
 - Applicants must have been actively applying for alternative funding to continue their project / service.

4. SUMMARY OF APPLICATION

4.1 Details of the summary application can be found in the confidential Appendix Number 1 This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3)

5. **PROJECT AIMS**

5.1 The purpose of the application is to request core costs for the organisation for 22 weeks; this will alleviate the short term financial pressures on the organisation allowing the continuation of the current projects that the group have been able to sustain and enable the centre manager post to continue (on reduced hours) to look for additional sources of income. This will be done with

the support of HVDA and it is the intention of the organisation to develop a funding strategy.

- 5.2 The continuation of the project whilst further funding options are being explored will maintain the services delivered by the centre within the local community; a neighbourhood that is affected by high levels of economic and social deprivation. The grant, should it be approved will achieve the following:
 - Retention of staff and volunteers;
 - Continuation of the Manor West Youth Project;
 - Continuation of Job Club; and
 - Centre will remain open for residents, offering an information access point, advice and signposting and facilities (e.g. internet access).
- 5.3 The organisations board has committed to meeting more frequently to monitor the financial situation and performance of the centre manager, ensuring that the centre and projects delivered by the organisation are available to the local community for as long as possible.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Applications are presented in the order received; at present there is one further application for a Development & Investment Grant that will be presented at Regeneration & Neighbourhoods Portfolio on 24th August 2012.
- 6.2 The total unallocated budget for Category 5 (Development & Investment Grants and Emergency Contributions Grant) of the Community Pool is £43,863 (£36,823 should the application for 5A Development & Investment Grant be approved in full).
- 6.3 Should this application be approved the remaining unallocated budget would be a maximum of £35,876 (£28,836 should the application for 5A Development & Investment Grant be approved in full). The maximum grant available is £8,000; should all further grant applications be at this level, there is budget available for up to 4 further grants, although it should be noted that applicants can apply for grant between £2,000 and £8,000.
- 6.4 To safeguard the Council's investment and minimise risk, it is recommended that should grant aid be approved, the project will be subject to a thorough monitoring process to ensure that the project has progressed and been undertaken as expected. Due to the nature of the funding, the project will be subject to interim monitoring and performance management through which information on progress made to secure additional funding will be requested (ensuring that the need for the grant is still required). In addition, it is also proposed that the payment of grant will be made in installments. The frequency of monitoring and payment structure will be detailed in the offer letters ensuring that organisation is aware of the monitoring requirements from the outset of the project.

2.5

- 6.5 Monitoring visits will also be an opportunity to discuss any support or training requirements and opportunities with OMWNWRA with the aim of assisting organizational development.
- 6.6 All applicants receiving an emergency grant will be contacted 6 months after the final payment to assess how the grant assisted the organisation.

7. RISK IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Risk implications to the Council will be managed through successful organisations agreeing to terms and conditions of a grant offer letter and monitoring requirements as set out in section 6.4.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Legal implications will be managed through the requirement on an offer letter.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no staff implications for Hartlepool Borough Council.

10. SECTION 17

10.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

11.1 The organisation meets the eligibility criteria for the grant funding; the services provided through Owton Manor West Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association are accessible to all people living in the Owton Manor area in Hartlepool. There are no determined equality and diversity issues highlighted by supporting this project.

12. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 Portfolio Holder is asked to consider and approve the following:
 - 1. Application from Owton Manor West Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association for an Emergency Contributions Grant.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 Cabinet has previously agreed to commission Category 5 though a grant process (21st November 2011) and the criteria for Category 5 grants (19th March 2012).

14. APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE

- 1) Appendix 1 (This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)' (para 3))
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15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (i). Item 5.1 from Cabinet on 21st November 2011.
- (ii). Minutes from Cabinet on 21st November 2011.
- (iii). Item 6.1 from Cabinet on 6th February 2012.
- (iv). Minutes from Cabinet on 6th February 2012.
- (v). Item 5.1 from Cabinet on 20th February 2012.
- (vi). Minutes from Cabinet on 20th February 2012.
- (vii) Item 5.12 from Cabinet on 19th March 2012.
- (viii) Minutes from Cabinet on 19th March 2012.

(iX) Mayors Portfolio Holder Minutes Hartlepool Voluntary & Community Sector Strategy (Community Pool Grant Allocations 2012/13) 21st May 2012.

16. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO 24th August 2012



3.1

Report of:Assistant Director (Regeneration and
Neighbourhoods)

Subject: ECONOMIC PROFILE – 12 MONTH COMPARISON

1. TYPE OF DECISION

1.1 Non Key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Portfolio Holder on the current position of key economic Performance Indicators (PI) and to highlight the progress made within the last twelve months.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On a quarterly basis, the Council's Economic Regeneration Team monitors the current position of key economic PI and analyses Hartlepool's progress against:
 - The other four Local Authority areas within the sub-region; and;
 - The Tees Valley, North East and Great Britain rate.
- 3.2 Data information is collected from a variety of sources and in particular NOMIS, the official labour market statistics (Managed by the Office of National Statistics (ONS). On collection, the progress of each PI is reported on a quarterly basis through the Council's Covalent Management Information System.

4. ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY

4.1 Since the global economic crisis in 2008, there has been an increased focus to closely monitor the economic resilience of Hartlepool and in April 2011, the Council produced the first Hartlepool Economic Assessment (2010/11). Significant qualitative and quantitative data research was undertaken in

which to compile this assessment and the document provides a detailed analysis of the key drivers which may impact on the social, economic and environmental progress of the local area.

- 4.2 This assessment provided the necessary evidence base to increase knowledge and better understand local economic conditions of Hartlepool and led to the creation of the Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy (ERS) 2011-2021 and ERS Action Plan 2011-2014.
- 4.3 The ERS and action plan have been developed in partnership with key stakeholders, such as Job Centre Plus and Skills Funding Agency. All parties involved believe that the successful implementation of the action plan will ensure that Hartlepool's social, economic and environmental landscape will be significantly improved and will ultimately positively contribute towards the key Pl as shown within **Appendix 1.**
- 4.4 The progress of the ERS action plan and the PI will also be monitored on a quarterly basis within the Economic Regeneration Forum and key stakeholders will inform on how their organisations strategies and operational activities will respond to communities and businesses needs and contribute to the PI.

5. OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 5.1 There continues to be significant progress made on improving the economic landscape of Hartlepool through major initiatives including Regional Growth Funding, Enterprise Zones, the Seaton Carew development, the redevelopment of Hartlepool College of Further Education and Cleveland College of Art and Design, the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) Get Britain Working Measures, Flexible Support Fund and Familywise project.
- 5.2 However, as **Appendix 1** shows, a review of the comparison between the June 2011 and June 2012 PI highlights that there are still key issues, such as:
 - Hartlepool's unemployment rate has increased from 7% to 7.7% within twelve months and is the highest percentage rate increase across the Tees Valley sub-region, North East and Great Britain. This will be tackled through initiatives such as DWP Get Britain Working Measures.
 - Hartlepool's long term unemployment rate has increased from 2.6% to 4.5% within twelve months and is the highest percentage rate across the Tees Valley sub-region, North East and Great Britain. The Work Programme prime providers are accountable for supporting this cohort, however, to date, there is no information available on their performance.
 - Hartlepool's youth unemployment rate has increased by 1.1% to 15.9% within one year. As of June 2012, Hartlepool has the third highest rate of youth unemployment in the country for 18-24 year olds and is the second highest within the North East region. To counter the high numbers of

young people who are unemployed, the Government has announced a number of measures. These include the Youth Contract and Apprentice Grant for Employers (AGE) which will both offer subsidies to employers to employ a young person.

- Hartlepool's employment rate reduced by 3.1 percentage points, which is in line with the Tees Valley and North East rate.
- The number of adults on an out-of-work benefit has increased by 0.2 percentage points to 24.1%, which is less of an increase than the Tees Valley and North East average and in line with Great Britain rate.
- The median gross weekly earnings for Hartlepool residents who are in fulltime employment continues to increase and is currently £470.60 per week. Hartlepool has the second highest median gross weekly earnings within the Tees Valley and is higher than the North East average earnings rate.
- There are increased numbers of live unfilled Job Centre Plus vacancies to 462.
- Although Hartlepool's new business registration rate per 10,000 of population reduced from 32 in 2009 to 29 in 2010, this reduction is in line with the Tees Valley and North East averages.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 In relation to this report, there are no equality or diversity implications.

7. SECTION 17

7.1 In relation to this report, there are no implications under Section 17.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The Portfolio Holder is recommended to note the contents of this report.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Hartlepool Economic Assessment 2010-11 http://www.investinhartlepool.com/publications-and-forms/strategies.

Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy (ERS) 2011-2021 http://www.investinhartlepool.com/publications-and-forms/strategies Hartlepool ERS Action Plan 2011-2014 http://www.investinhartlepool.com/publications-and-forms/strategies

10. APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE

11. CONTACT OFFICER

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Appendix 1

Hartlepool Economic Profile – June 2011 & June 2012 Comparison Most up to date statistics – July 2012

Unemployment Rate

The official unemployment claimant count numbers along with the residence-based proportions.

	Jun-11		Jun-12		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	7	4,076	7.7	4,502	426
Middlesbrough	7.4	6,929	7.8	7,329	400
Stockton	5.2	6,469	5.7	7,121	652
Darlington	5.2	3,304	5.7	3,608	304
Redcar	6.1	5,225	6.4	5,483	258
Tees Valley	NONE	NONE	6.5	27,900	N/A
North East	4.8	82,225	5.4	92,085	9,860
Great Britain	3.7	1,434,373	3.8	1,502,357	67,984

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Long Term Unemployment Rate

The number of Jobcentre Plus claimants out of work for over 6 months.

	Jun-11		Jun-12		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	2.6	1,500	4.5	2,595	1,095
Middlesbrough	3	2,760	4.4	4,150	1,390
Stockton	1.9	2,325	2.9	3,690	1,365
Darlington	1.7	1,080	2.7	1,750	670
Redcar	2.3	2,000	3.6	3,095	1,095
Tees Valley	2.3	9,670	3.6	15,275	5,605
North East	1.6	27,320	2.8	48,260	20,940
Great Britain	1.3	500,380	1.8	716,975	216,595

Youth Unemployment Rate

	Jun-11		Jun-12		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	14.8	1,230	15.9	1,320	90
Middlesbrough	11.4	2,080	12	2,190	110
Stockton	10.9	1,985	12.3	2,230	245
Darlington	11.1	895	12.6	1,020	125
Redcar	13	1,575	14	1,695	120
Tees Valley	12	7,765	13	8,455	690
North East	9.2	25,185	10.4	28,560	3,375
Great Britain	6.9	396,315	7.3	421,170	24,855

The official unemployment claimant count numbers along with the residence based proportions for customers aged 18 to 24 year old.

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Long Term Youth Unemployment Rate

The number of Jobcentre Plus claimants aged 18 to 24 years old out of work for over 6 months.

	Jun-11		Jun-12		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	3.5	290	8.4	700	410
Middlesbrough	3.4	620	5.8	1,060	440
Stockton	2.6	465	5.7	1,030	565
Darlington	2.1	170	5.3	425	255
Redcar	2.8	345	7.2	875	530
Tees Valley	2.9	1,890	6.3	4,095	2,205
North East	2.3	6,180	5	13,610	7,430
Great Britain	1.5	85,775	2.9	169,620	83,845

Employment Rate

	April 10 – March 11		April		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	61.5	36,000	58.4	33,800	-2,200
Middlesbrough	58.2	54,400	56.2	51,500	-2,900
Stockton	70.4	86,500	68.7	84,400	-2,100
Darlington	71.2	44,800	67.8	42,900	-1,900
Redcar	61.9	53,100	62.2	52,900	-200
Tees Valley	64.9	274,800	63.1	265,500	-9,300
North East	65.9	1,112,800	65.2	1,093,100	-19,700
Great Britain	70.2	27,311,500	70.2	27,384,400	72,900

The official employment numbers along with the residence based proportions.

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Unfilled Vacancies

The number of live unfilled Jobcentre Plus vacancies along with the number of claimants per each vacancy.

	J	Jun-11		Jun-12		
Area	Number	No. per Vacancy	Number	No. per Vacancy	Change	
Hartlepool	390	10.45	462	9.7	-31	
Middlesbrough	606	11.43	533	13.8	2	
Stockton	1,376	4.7	1,147	6.2	2	
Darlington	709	4.7	521	6.9	2	
Redcar	578	1.9	577	9.5	1	
Tees Valley	NONE	NONE	3,240	8.7		
North East	18,812	4.4	12,493	7.4	3	
Great Britain	399,515	3.6	329,320	4.6	1	

3

Out of Work Benefits

	Nov-10		Nov-11		
Area	%	Number	%	Number	Change
Hartlepool	23.9	13,910	24.1	14,030	80
Middlesbrough	23.6	22,080	23.8	22,230	-100
Stockton	17.3	21,710	17.6	22,060	60
Darlington	17.4	11,050	18	11,450	-100
Redcar	21	18,110	20.9	18,010	-70
Tees Valley	20.3	86,860	20.6	87,790	-120
North East	18.5	313,740	18.8	319,170	70
Great Britain	14.5	5,669,370	14.7	5,762,500	-24,500

The number and proportion of working age adults on out-of-work benefits.

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Median Earnings by Residence

Shown below are the median gross weekly earnings for residents who are in full time employment.

	2010	2011	
Area	Full Time per Week (£)	Full Time per Week (£)	Change
Hartlepool	454.2	470.6	16.4
Middlesbrough	425	415.9	-9.1
Stockton	477.3	495.7	18.4
Darlington	455.9	429.8	-26.1
Redcar	435	442.6	-7.6
Tees Valley	449.4	450.92	1.52
North East	443.4	450.9	7.5
Great Britain	498.5	500.7	2.2

New Business Registration Rate per 10,000 of Population

	2009	2010	
Area	Number	Number	Change
Hartlepool	32	29	-3
Middlesbrough	28	26	-2
Stockton	36	29	-7
Darlington	38	35	-3
Redcar	28	26	-2
Tees Valley	32	29	-3
North East	31	28	-3
Great Britain	48	47	-1

The number of VAT/PAYE company registrations per ten thousand adult populations.

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

New Business De-Registration Rate per 10,000 of Population

The number of VAT/PAYE company de-registrations per ten thousand adult populations.

	2009	2010	
Area	Number	Number	Change
Hartlepool	33	36	3
Middlesbrough	31	36	5
Stockton	40	46	6
Darlington	44	50	6
Redcar	31	34	3
Tees Valley	36	41	5
North East	35	38	3
Great Britain	56	59	3

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Sources: Office for National Statistics (ONS), Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Jobcentre Plus (JCP), Skills Funding Agency (SFA) and Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS).