

REGENERATION AND NEIGHBOURHOODS PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



10th January 2013

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 Environmental Apprenticeship Post – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)*

2. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 2.1 Local Safety Schemes – *Assistant Director (Transport and Engineering)*

3. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

No items

4. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

No items

**5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION)
ORDER 2006**

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves 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



6. EXEMPT KEY DECISIONS

No items

7. OTHER EXEMPT ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 7.1 Proposed Compulsory Purchase of Empty Residential Dwelling –
Property 001 (para 3) – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)*
- 7.2 Proposed Compulsory Purchase of Empty Residential Dwelling –
Property 002 (para 3) – *Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)*



**REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS
PORTFOLIO
10th January 2013**



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration & Planning)

Subject: ENVIRONMENTAL APPRENTICESHIP PROJECT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Key Decision (test (ii)) applies. Forward Plan Reference No. RN01/13

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To seek approval from the Portfolio Holder to implement the new Environmental Apprenticeship project which is a collaboration between the Council, Hartlepool College of Further Education and Job Centre Plus.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 29th June 2012, the Portfolio Holder approved the delivery of a six month Environmental Apprenticeship pilot project. This pilot was a partnership between the Council and Nordic Pioneer, who are a North East based national training provider and graffiti removal business that was founded in 1994 to work with local authorities on anti-graffiti measures and environmental activities.

- 3.2 The main points of this current pilot are:

- The project started in July 2012 and will end in January 2013;
- 13 unemployed adults aged 18-24 years are employed by Nordic Pioneer and will complete a 26 week Apprenticeship programme;
- The Apprentices are working towards an NVQ Level 2 in Cleaning and Support Services and are employed for 30 hours per week;
- The 13 Apprentices are placed within the Council's Neighbourhood Services Division specifically working within the Parks and Countryside section;
- The 13 Apprentices are supervised by Neighbourhood Services and the work they undertake will be in addition to what is currently being delivered by Council staff;
- There is no cost to the Council for the Apprentices wages as this is externally funded from the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)

Youth Contract and a contribution from Manor House Ward Members Budgets.

- The Apprentices are Work Programme customers only and were referred by Avanta to Nordic Pioneer.
- 3.3 The pilot has proven successful with 100% of the Apprentices remaining on the programme. The Apprentices have been fully integrated within Neighbourhood Services and have provided additional environmental services across parts of Hartlepool, such as the Manor House Ward. Also, as the accountable body, Nordic is fully responsible for providing support to the Apprentices to find sustained employment and this will continue for up to three months after they leave their work placement within the Council.
- 3.4 Alongside this pilot, the Council has been working closely with Hartlepool College of Further Education, Job Centre Plus and National Apprenticeship Service to develop a similar delivery model to support a further 15 young people to enter onto an Environmental Apprenticeship Project.

4. NEW ENVIRONMENTAL APPRENTICESHIP PROJECT PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Through consultation with the external partners as outlined within paragraph 3.4; a new Environmental Apprenticeship Project could be delivered, if approved by the Portfolio Holder which could see fifteen 18 year olds employed.
- 4.2 The project delivery model would be:
- A one year project commencing in January 2013;
 - Due to funding requirements, all 15 young people must be aged 18 years only and must be 26 weeks unemployed and claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance.
 - All of the young people must be pre-Work Programme customers only;
 - All of the young people will be employed through Hartlepool College of Further Education's *Flagship Training Solutions*.
 - All 15 Apprentices will complete a voluntary two-week pre-Apprenticeship programme which will include literacy and numeracy assessments, Employability sessions, health and safety modules and a work trial. This will be delivered in partnership between the Council and the College.
 - The Apprentices will work towards a full Apprenticeship Framework which will include an NVQ Level 2 in Cleaning and Environmental Services and will be employed for 37 hours per week;
 - The 15 Apprentices will again be placed within the Council's Neighbourhood Services Division, however, this time they will work specifically within the Street Cleansing and Environmental Teams;
 - The 15 Apprentices will be supervised by Neighbourhood Services and the work they undertake will be in addition to what is currently being delivered by Council staff;

- The 15 Apprentices will provide additional environmental support services to specific wards through a work programme designed by Council Officers following consultation with relevant Elected Members.
- That the 15 Apprentices will be provided with a named Council Employment Adviser who will provide advice and guidance to all learners to help them move into sustained employment on completing their Apprenticeship.

4.3 This new project will be aligned to the existing Apprenticeship agreement between the Council and Hartlepool College of Further Education. However, the key differences will be that this new project will be focused on supporting pre-Work Programme customers only and will be funded via a number of sources as shown in paragraph 6.1.

5. REFERRAL OF LEARNERS ONTO THE PROJECT

- 5.1 JCP will be the main referral agency and will work closely with the Council to identify who will be eligible for this project. JCP has already undertaken a mapping exercise and as of November 2012, has identified 40 potential JCP customers who could be eligible for this project. This list will need to be re-visited once confirmation has been made on whether the project is approved.
- 5.2 All eligible learners will need to be able to complete the full Apprenticeship Framework and therefore the College will undertake literacy and numeracy assessments within the voluntary two-week induction.

6. COST OF DELIVERING THE PROJECT

- 6.1 The total cost of delivering the project is £107,025. This amount will cover the costs for the Apprentices wages, their training, mentoring support and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Funder	Total Contribution
Department for Work and Pensions Youth Contract Wage Incentive (To be paid to the College when the learners have been in employment for 26 weeks).	£34,125
Flexible Support Fund (To be paid to the College on day 1 of the learner entering into employment).	£26,400
Hartlepool College of Further Education's <i>Flagship Training Solutions</i>	£30,000
Elected Members Ward Budgets (To be paid to the College on day 1 of the learner entering into employment).	£15,000
Hartlepool Borough Council's Neighbourhood Services	£1,500
Total Amount	£107,025

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 As outlined in paragraph 6.1, this project will be funded through the DWP Youth Contract Wage Incentive, Flexible Support Fund, Hartlepool College of Further Education, Elected Members Ward Budgets and Hartlepool Borough Council.
- 7.2 The Council's Neighbourhood Services Division has also agreed to provide an in-kind contribution to the pilot through the supervision of the Apprentices who will be integrated within the Division and also £1,500 cash contribution. The latter relates to £100 contribution for each Apprentice for PPE.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 If approved by the Portfolio Holder, then this new project will fit within the existing agreement between the Council and the College. If necessary, the Council's Legal Team will be involved in revising this agreement, although changes are not expected.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 If approved, the Apprentices will be employed through Hartlepool College of Further Education's *Flagship Training Solutions* and will adhere to their terms and conditions. However, each learner will be placed within the Council for one year to enable them to complete their Apprenticeship Framework and will be directly supervised by the Council's Neighbourhood Services.
- 9.2 A meeting was held with the Trade Union on 3rd December 2012 where they were given assurances that any work carried out by the Apprentices would be in addition to the existing work of Council staff. On this basis, the Trade Union was satisfied with the ethos of this project.

10. HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 The health and safety of the Apprentices is paramount and therefore the following procedures will be undertaken prior to any learner entering into a Hartlepool Borough Council placement:
- The College will complete a 'Risk Assessment' with every Apprentice to help assess the risks of an individual entering into a specific role;
 - All Apprentices will complete a two-week pre-Apprenticeship programme with the Council and College which will incorporate health and safety as a module;
 - The College will work closely with the Council to undertake risk assessments on placements; and;

- All Apprentices who are placed within the Council will be supervised by Neighbourhood Services Team Leaders and will be required to complete an induction with the relevant Division prior to commencing any work.

11. OTHER RISKS TO THE PROJECT

11.1 The main risks associated with successfully delivering this project are that:

- There are not 15 eligible JCP customers who wish to register onto this project. The Council will work closely with JCP to promote the project to existing eligible 18 year olds.
- The learners leave the project before completing their full one year's Environmental Apprenticeship. To reduce the risk of this happening, all learners will complete a two-week induction prior to starting onto the project which will include a work trial and employability training. This voluntary two-week programme will provide sufficient insight to enable the learner to decide if an Environmental Apprenticeship is their chosen career path. JCP will not penalise any learner who does not wish to progress onto the full Apprenticeship at the end of the two week period.

12. LONGER TERM JOINT WORKING OPPORTUNITIES

12.1 If this project is approved and is successful, there are opportunities for expanding this delivery model to help 18-24 year olds who are unemployed to enter into work. This could be achieved by the Council, College, other post-16 providers, JCP and NAS working together to design a joint financial incentive scheme and training programme to encourage employers to employ a young person.

13. CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER COUNCIL PROGRAMMES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

13.1 If approved, this project will directly benefit other Council employment initiatives, such as the Hartlepool Youth Investment Project and Think Families, Think Communities. Also, the project would positively contribute to the following indicators:

- Improving the Overall Employment Rate:
- Improving the Overall Youth Employment Rate
- Reducing the Youth Unemployment Rate:
- Reducing the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

14. IMPACT ON CHILD / FAMILY POVERTY

- 14.1 This project will positively contribute to ameliorating the longer term causes and consequences of child and family poverty by providing all young people with access to provision that will enable them to reach their aspirational goals and become economically active.
- 14.2 The wider project objectives will also be to align young people and their families to additional support services, such as Early Intervention Teams and The FamilyWise programme.

15. SECTION 17

- 15.1 This project will positively contribute to Section 17 by improving education and employment routeways for young people. This will include providing early interventions to intensive support programmes for individuals who have been identified as high risk of offending.

16. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 16.1 This project is aimed at supporting young people to achieve their aspirational goals, and will help to narrow the education attainment gap and will positively contribute to tackling employment inequality, particularly amongst vulnerable groups such as the seven priority groups shown below:
- Looked after children and care leavers;
 - Young offenders (including those leaving the secure estate);
 - Teenage parents;
 - Young carers;
 - Young people with specific learning difficulties and/or disabilities (SLDD);
 - Young people with mental health issues; and;
 - Young people with drug and alcohol misuse issues.

17. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1 It is recommended that this 12 month Environmental project be approved by the Portfolio Holder.

18. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 18.1 The key reasons for this recommendation are that:
- There is an excellent return on investment to the Council, clients and partners for the delivery of this project.

- The work undertaken by the Apprentices will provide additional capacity to the existing Council's Neighbourhood Services Division and will not duplicate what is currently being delivered by Council staff;
- The Council will be able to maximise this additional capacity to undertake further focused environmental work within neighbourhoods;
- At a time when Hartlepool's youth unemployment rate is the third highest in the country, this project provides an opportunity to offer 15 young people aged 18 years an Apprenticeship programme; and
- This project will directly contribute to other Council led employment initiatives, such as the Hartlepool Youth Investment Project and Think Families, Think Communities.

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

19.1 There are no appendices for this report.

20. BACKGROUND PAPERS

20.1 The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Youth Contract
<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/youth-contract/>

21. CONTACT OFFICER

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**REGENERATION & NEIGHBOURHOODS
PORTFOLIO
10 January 2013**



Report of: Assistant Director (Transportation and Engineering)

Subject: Local Safety Schemes

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To report the list of potential safety schemes following a review of updated road casualty data (**Appendix 1**).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Safety schemes are prioritised primarily on the basis of the number of accidents, followed by the level of speeding recorded during surveys.

3.2 Each year road casualty data is reviewed for the previous 3 calendar years, to determine the 20 locations with the highest number of accidents.

3.3 The Council has national performance indicators that must be reported against, which measure how well its casualty reduction targets are being met.

3.4 The list can be subjective where locations have similar accident records, so a points system is used of 3 points for a fatal accident, 2 points for a serious accident and 1 point for a slight accident. This is consistent with the need to reduce fatal and serious accidents by a greater level against the Council's future targets.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 Safety measures are proposed to be implemented at locations from the top of the list, as far as the available budget allows, as follows:-

A689 (Newton Bewley – Greatham) – The road markings and cats eyes are in a very poor condition on this section of road. A number of accidents took place during the hours of darkness, so they are to be upgraded to rectify this.

A179 (Marina Way) – Anti-skid surfacing is required at the Middleton Road roundabout, due to a number of ‘loss of control’ accidents having occurred previously. There is also a capacity issue at some of the bus stops along this road, which may necessitate extension of the lay-bys. However, as this was a result of a commercial decision from one of the bus operators, a solution is being pursued around their timetable scheduling in the first instance.

Tees Road – A vehicle activated sign is proposed to highlight the Zinc Works bend, on the approach to the Power Station roundabout, and also an extension of the existing street lighting coverage. This road is also receiving improvements funded by the developers of the housing/ sports complex site at the Mayfair Centre, in the form of additional street lighting, a reduced speed limit and the provision of a designated right turn lane into the housing estate.

- 4.2 Should there be any budget remaining following these works, then further improvement measures will be implemented for the next scheme(s) on the list.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The A689 works are estimated to cost around £25,000, the A179 works £20,000, and the Tees Road improvements £15,000.
- 5.2 All schemes will be funded from the Local Transport Plan’s ‘Local Safety Schemes’ budget.

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 list of top 20 accident locations be noted, and the improvements for the top three sites be approved.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To assist with the Council's casualty reduction aims.

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

10.1 **Appendix 1** – List of potential safety schemes.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 There are no background papers.

12. CONTACT OFFICER

12.1 Alastair Smith (Assistant Director)
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APPENDIX 1

Safety Scheme Priority List

Priority	Location	Number Of Accidents x			Accident Points	Recorded Speeds *
		Slight	Serious	Fatal		
1	A689 (Newton Bewley - Greatham)	9	4	-	17	
2	A179 (Marina Way)	14	-	-	14	
3	Tees Road	4	3	1	13	
4	A689 (Greatham to Truro Drive)	7	3	-	13	53mph (Sapper's Corner)
5	York Road	12	-	-	12	30mph
6	Raby Road (North of Hart Lane)	8	2	-	12	31mph
7	Winterbottom Avenue	7	2	-	11	34mph
8	A689 (Church Square - The Lanyard)	10	-	-	10	
9	Elwick Rd (West of Elwick Road)	6	2	-	10	35mph
10	Throston Grange Lane	5	2	-	9	35mph
11	Hart Lane (West from Serpentine Road)	5	2	-	9	
12	Victoria Road	9	-	-	9	
13	A689 (Owton Manor Lane - Brenda Road)	7	1	-	9	
14	Owton Manor Lane (West of Catcote Road)	7	1	-	9	34mph
15	Grange Road	8	-	-	8	
16	West View Road	4	2	-	8	
17	Catcote Road (Brierton Lane to Oxford Road)	4	2	-	8	
18	Catcote Road (Owton Manor Lane to Brierton Lane)	6	1	-	8	
19	Raby Road South of Hart Lane	3	2	-	7	31mph
20	A689 (Park Road - Church Square)	5	1	-	7	
x	Accidents over the previous 3 years (2009 to 2011). Calculated: Fatal - 3 points, Serious - 2 points, Slight - 1 point.					
*	Figures are 85 th percentile speeds – The speed at which 85% of traffic is travelling at or below.					