

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



21 February 2013

at 3.00 pm

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors Ainslie, Cranney, Dawkins, Hall, Payne, Sirs and Wells.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2013

4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM

No items

5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

No items

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

No items



7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Scrutiny Investigation into the JSNA topic of Employment

- 7.1 Projected Level of Need / Service Use; Unmet Needs; Additional Needs Assessment:-
 - (a) Covering Report – *Scrutiny Support Officer*
 - (b) Presentation – *Representatives from Job Centre Plus, National Apprenticeship Service and the Skills Funding Agency*
- 7.2 JSNA Employment Entry – *Scrutiny Support Officer*
- 7.3 Feedback from Neighbourhood Forums – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

Six Monthly Update of Recommendations

- 7.4 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum's Recommendations - *Scrutiny Support Officer*

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

- 8.1 Executive's Forward Plan March 2013 – June 2013 – *Scrutiny Support Officer*

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting 21 March 2013, commencing at 3.00 pm in Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool



REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

17 January 2013

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Gerard Hall (In the Chair)

Councillors: Jim Ainslie, Kevin Cranney, Robbie Payne and Kaylee Sirs

Also present:

Ashleigh Bostock, Hartlepool Youth Parliament

Officers: Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Damien Wilson, Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning
Kimberley Bell, Participation Worker
Laura Stones, Scrutiny Support Officer
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

52. Inquorate Meeting

In the absence of a quorum, Members agreed that the comments made by the Members present on the proposals for inclusion in the Council Plan 2013/14 would be submitted to the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 January 2013.

53. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Keith Dawkins and Ray Wells.

54. Declarations of interest by Members

Councillor Gerard Hall declared a personal interest in minute 60.

There were no other declarations of interest at this point in the meeting – see minute 60.

55. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2012

Confirmed subject to the inclusion of apologies for absence from Councillor Robbie Payne.

A discussion ensued on the importance of meetings being quorate, especially in view of the forthcoming changes to the Governance arrangements of the Council including the creation of decision making Committees. It was suggested that the Chair write to the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer outlining Members' concerns.

56. Matters arising from the Minutes

Minute 48 – A Member had sought clarification on the number of elm and ash trees at threat of disease in the town. It was noted that this information had been circulated to Members who were pleased to note that there did not appear to be any trees in Hartlepool affected by the disease.

Minute 50 – Members had requested an update on the progress of the Mill House Master Plan. The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning confirmed that several proposals for the site had been submitted to the Council by the potential developer although further detailed information was awaited and once this had been received, an update would be provided to Members. Members were disappointed that this development did not appear to be progressing.

57. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of this Forum

None.

58. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

None.

59. Feedback on the JSNA Topic of Employment (*Hartlepool Youth Parliament*)

As part of the consideration of the JSNA Topic of Employment, Hartlepool Youth Parliament had been invited to comment on areas such as employment, self employment, projects and preparing young people for the world of work. A representative from the Hartlepool Youth Parliament was in attendance and presented the group's findings.

In conclusion the group agreed that vocational learning and work experience was vital for young people and should be implemented throughout all secondary schools within the town. This would help young people to consider whether they should progress onto further education or higher education.

The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning commented that the Hartlepool Youth Parliament had provided an excellent report which held a strong resonance with the work undertaken by the Economic Development Team. The importance of young people having the opportunity to participate in work experience was reiterated. The Assistant Director referred to the City Deal Bid and the opportunity that this may provide to increase apprentices by linking with colleges and employers and the potential to directly access funding that may be available. The Hartlepool Youth Parliament had highlighted that self employment was not something young people considered as a viable option. The Assistant Director commented that whilst this was not a surprise, schools and colleges should be encouraging young people to consider this as an option through examining their individual strengths, skills and interests that may have the potential to develop into self employment.

Members commented that effective work experience for young people, including in areas involving vocational skills such as mechanics and different trades, would enabled them to learn more life skills and build on their confidence. The Assistant Director noted that the business birth rate in Hartlepool and the north east region was below the national average and confirmed that developing the employer base and creating self employment opportunities were both important in relation to reducing unemployment.

A Member questioned was the average failure rate of business start ups was. The Assistant Director indicated he would forward that information to the Member direct.

In response to a question by a Member, the Participation Worker indicated that she would discuss the issue of self employment and business start ups with the Youth Parliament and feed that information back to the Scrutiny Forum.

The Chair thanked the representatives from the Youth Parliament for their informative report.

Recommended

The report was noted.

60. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents – Proposals for inclusion in Council Plan 2013/14 *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

The Strategy and Performance Officer introduced the report which provided the opportunity for the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum to consider the proposals for inclusion in the 2013/14 Council Plan that fell under the remit of the Forum. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods gave a detailed and comprehensive presentation which provided the proposed outcomes and actions contained within the plan. The presentation highlighted the challenges faced by the Department and proposals on how to deal with those challenges.

Following the conclusion of the presentation a discussion ensued which included the following issues:-

Outcome 1 – Hartlepool has improved business growth and business infrastructure and an enhanced culture of entrepreneurship. A Member sought clarification on how businesses were supported once the 'start-up' support ceases. The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning indicated that start-up support was available to all new businesses from pre-start and for the first two or three years of trading. However, there was no defined time period for support and this would always be available from the Economic Development Team to businesses. In addition to this, the Enterprise Allowance Scheme and Business Link provided support to businesses for 12-18 months periods.

A Member questioned whether charges were levied for any of the support provided to businesses. The Assistant Director commented that it would be difficult to charge new businesses for support as by definition, they would be in a low financial position and it may affect their financial stability. However, it was noted that if a business can be sustained for 3 years, it was more likely to survive as a long term viable business. In response to a question from a Member, the Assistant Director indicated that it would be complicated for a Local Authorities to secure a share of any business as payment for the support provided and this would have the potential to leave the Local Authority susceptible to any liabilities should the business fail.

The importance of considering all opportunities for sustaining local jobs was discussed including through social enterprises.

The following outcomes from within the Council plan were discussed as noted below:

Outcome 2 – Hartlepool has attracted new investment and developed major programmes to regenerate the area and improve connectivity and Outcome 5: Hartlepool has a boosted visitor economy. A discussion

ensued on the potential of tourism in Hartlepool during which it was highlighted that a number of organisations were undertaking events to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the commencement of the World War 1.

Councillor Jim Ainslie declared a personal interest at this point in the meeting.

It was noted that the Heugh Battery Trust were taking a proactive approach to the centenary celebrations and the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods indicated that representatives of the organisation should contact Council officers to ascertain if there was any funding support available to them.

In relation to tourism, a Member questioned how Hartlepool could link into the coach trip and short stay economy. The Assistant Director indicated that discussions were ongoing with other local authorities in the Tees Valley area as well as Durham City Council to explore ways of creating and managing additional tourism opportunities for Hartlepool. In relation to coach trips and short stay holidays, it was highlighted that coach companies already have well established routes and that the profile of Hartlepool would need to be increased and marketed to these companies through tourism exhibitions with incentives for them to visit the town, such as discounts on hotel prices etc. Members commented that train times could be a factor that deterred people from visiting the town.

Outcome 15 – Communities have improved confidence and feel more cohesive and safe. A Member questioned the inclusion within the Plan as an indicator of the number of deliberate fires. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods responded that this indicator was included due to the Local Authority being a statutory partner with the Community Safety Partnership. However, it was noted that through raising awareness in partnership with the Cleveland Fire Authority, the number of deliberate fires was reducing year on year and this would be monitored through the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

In response to a question from a Member, the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods confirmed that discussions were ongoing with secondary school head teachers and the Pupil Referral Unit to raise awareness of the impact of hate crime.

Outcome 17 – Hartlepool has an improved natural and built environment. The Assistant Director confirmed that the adoption of the Local Plan was a key document enabling the Local Authority to set out the use of land within the town for the next 15 years. Members were informed that the inspection of the Local Plan was due to commence at the end of January and would be reported back to Council early in the new municipal year.

Outcome 23 – Housing Services and housing options respond to the specific needs of all communities within Hartlepool. A Member commented that the impact of the work currently being undertaken on

Selective Licensing was phenomenal and had improved what had been a challenging situation.

Recommended

- (i) That the proposed outcomes and actions for inclusion in the 2013/14 Council Plan, attached at Appendix A, be supported.
- (ii) That the comments of the Forum, as outlined above, be presented to Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 18 January 2013.

60. Quarterly Housing Services Report *(Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning)*

The Quarterly Housing Services report had been considered by the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods on 7 December 2012. The report provided an update on progress and benchmarking across key areas of the Housing Services during Quarter 2 2012/13 and updated the last report presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 11 October 2012.

A discussion ensued which included the following issues:

- (i) A Member sought clarification on the enforcement of empty property taxes. The Assistant Director, Regeneration and Planning confirmed that there were some exemptions for empty property tax, in instances where a property becomes empty through no fault of the owner. However, where no exemptions applied, enforcement action was undertaken in order to retrieve empty homes tax.
- (ii) Clarification was sought on the future roll out of the Selective Licensing Scheme to other areas in the town. The Assistant Director confirmed that the extension of the scheme was currently being explored through the provision of qualitative data in order to provide a robust evidence base for any potential area for inclusion within the scheme. Any proposals to extend this scheme would be reported back to Members.
- (iii) A Member questioned how the area designated for travellers within the Local Plan had been identified. The Assistant Director indicated that as part of the consultation undertaken in relation to the Local Plan, a whole range of potential sites were identified. The specific site highlighted had been the main site used by travellers on an historic basis and was therefore included. However, the Local Plan was subject to an inspection which was being undertaken later in January.

Recommended

The report was noted.

61. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chair reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner would be attending the meeting of Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee on 15 February to provide an update on progress in relation to the Police and Crime Plan. Members were encouraged to forward any questions to the Scrutiny Support Officer before 18 January 2013.

Meeting concluded at 4.57 pm

CHAIR

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION IN THE JSNA TOPIC OF 'EMPLOYMENT' – PROJECTED LEVEL OF NEED / SERVICE USE, UNMET NEEDS AND ADDITIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT - COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that representatives from the Job Centre Plus; National Apprenticeship Scheme; and the Skills Funding Agency have been invited to attend this meeting to provide information in relation to the investigation into the JSNA topic of 'Employment'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 2 August 2012, Members agreed the Scope and Terms of Reference for their forthcoming investigation into the JSNA topic of Employment.
- 2.2 Subsequently, the following representatives have been invited to attend this meeting and to deliver a 15 minute presentation:-
- (i) Job Centre Plus;
 - (ii) National Apprenticeship Service;
 - (iii) Skills Funding Agency.
- 2.3 During this evidence gathering session with the representatives detailed in paragraph 2.2, the following JSNA questions in relation to the topic of Employment will be covered by each organisation:-
- (i) What is the projected level of need / service use in Hartlepool?
 - (ii) What needs might be unmet?

(iii) What additional needs assessment is required?

2.4 In considering the evidence presented to them at today's meeting, Members should be mindful of the Marmot principle to 'Create Fair Employment and Good Work for all'

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 It is recommended that the Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum consider the evidence from Job Centre Plus; National Apprenticeship Service and the Skills Funding Agency in attendance at today's meeting, seeking clarification on any relevant issues where required.

Contact Officer:- Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department – Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523087
e-mail: laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Employment – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 2 August 2012.
- (ii) Minutes of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum held on 2 August 2012.

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: JSNA EMPLOYMENT ENTRY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with the JSNA Employment entry for consideration as part of the Forums ongoing investigation.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 2 August 2012, Members agreed the Scope and Terms of Reference for their forthcoming investigation into the JSNA topic of Employment. The aim of the investigation being to:-

To strategically evaluate, and contribute towards the development of, the 'Employment' topic within Hartlepool's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, whilst reflecting (where possible / appropriate) on the Marmot principle to 'Create Fair Employment and Good Work for all.'

- 2.2 The draft employment JSNA entry is attached at **Appendix A** and is due to be uploaded onto the JSNA website <http://www.teesjsna.org.uk/hartlepool-poverty/>. Throughout this investigation, Members have explored the questions and responses contained within the JSNA entry.
- 2.3 Members are today asked to consider the JSNA content in its entirety and express a view in relation to the responses provided within the JSNA entry.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That Members receive the JSNA entry and express views / responses in relation to the questions raised.

Contact Officer:- Laura Stones - Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523087
Email: laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (i) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Scrutiny Investigation into Employment – Scoping Report' Presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on 2 August 2012.
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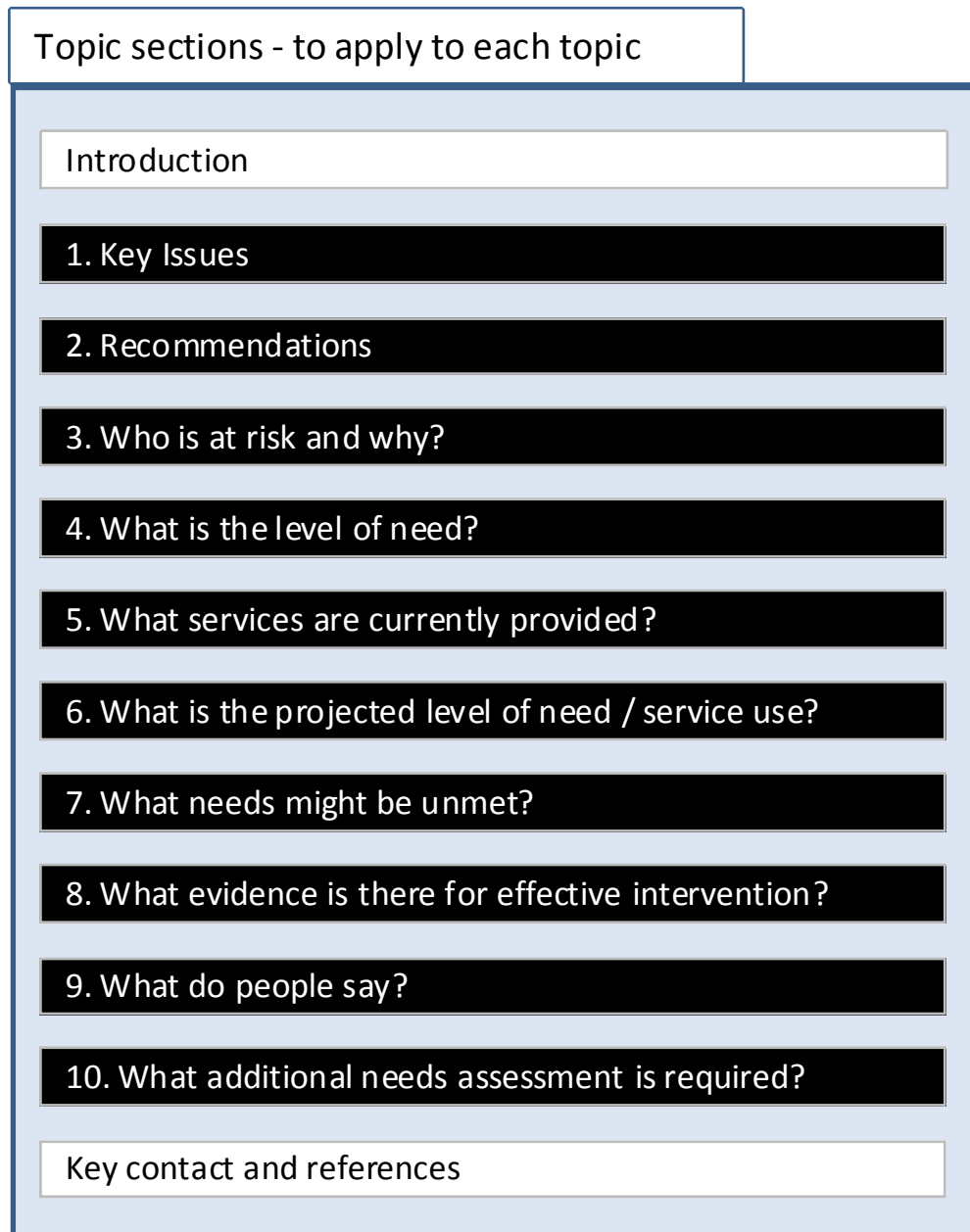
Tees JSNA

Draft Topic Content Template

Leon Green
Public Health Intelligence Specialist

July 2011

Figure 1. Tees JSNA topic section structure



Each topic within the JSNA is composed of ten sections, plus an introduction and contact information with references.

Introduction	20/12/11
<p>In general terms, being in employment has major benefits for an individual including increased social status, economic independence and a sense of inclusion within the wider community. Being in employment also improves the health of adults. For those people who do work, there is a direct correlation with better physical and mental health than those who are unemployed. Whilst in employment, it helps to protect the health of adults.</p> <p>Healthy people are also more likely to secure and sustain a job than an unhealthy person. In an increasingly competitive market, adults with disabilities or a long term limiting illness may become further disadvantaged within the labour market and may remain economically inactive for longer periods, which could provoke further health problems. This may lead to cyclical long term unemployment and health problems for an individual.</p> <p>The positive health and wellbeing of Hartlepool's local residents is critical to its economic prosperity. To achieve long term, sustainable growth, the Borough must have a workforce and a labour supply that is fit and motivated so that it can capitalise on employment opportunities that are available now and in the future. Over the past twenty years, the Borough has made great strides in tackling the causes and consequences of deprivation, such as social disparity and worklessness. At the present time, there are 58,100 working age adults within Hartlepool but the overall worklessness rate remains high, recently rising to 31.2%, equating to 18,200 working age adults claiming a key benefit which is higher than the North East and national rate of 26.6% and 23.8% respectively. Of this worklessness rate, over 6,000 adults are on Incapacity Benefit (IB) and are un-fit for work.</p> <p>The most cost-effective and efficient long term strategy to improve the health and wellbeing of working age adults and therefore improve the economic conditions of Hartlepool is to ensure that individuals can fully participate in the labour market. Even within a challenging economic climate, all adults should be supported so that they are fully trained to take full advantage of emerging employment opportunities and the eventual upturn in the economy.</p> <p>Within Hartlepool, through collaborative working, there are major opportunities to increase the employment rate, upskill the workforce and re-train long term unemployed adults. This includes increasing the number of apprenticeships available and jobs that will be created through major macro-economic initiatives including the Regional Growth Fund and Enterprise Zones.</p> <p>In addition, early intervention programmes are critical to support employed adults with recent research by Legal & General found that six weeks is the 'tipping point' for avoiding long term absence, with early intervention making all the difference in ensuring sick staff do not become long-term absentees. Absent employees who have positive interventions in the first six weeks of their absence have a 69% chance of returning to work within six months, but those referred later have a much lower return rate of 52%.</p>	

1. Key Issues

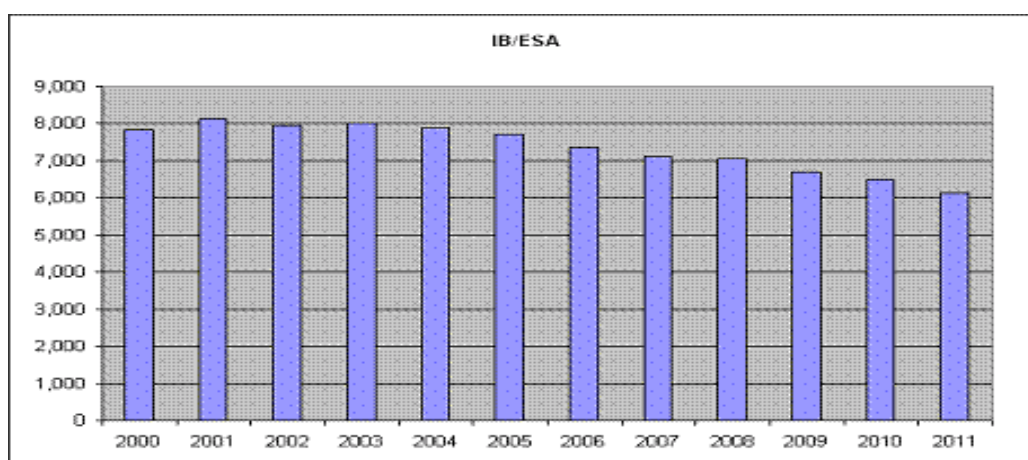
Updated 20/12/11

The positive health and wellbeing of Hartlepool's local residents is critical to the Borough's economic prosperity. Regular paid work greatly reduces the risk of isolation, improves quality of life and the health of an individual and aids rehabilitation and recovery.

When considering how to improve the health of Hartlepool's local population, the key issues that need to be considered and addressed are:

- How to support long term unemployed and economically inactive adults to overcome barriers to employment, such as health and wellbeing matters?
- How the Economic Regeneration Forum and Health and Wellbeing Board can work in partnership to ensure that employment and business support services are linked to health provision.
- How to improve the labour supply links to skills training, apprenticeship programmes, job creation and future job opportunities?
- How to improve links to pre-employment programmes that include health initiatives for adults who are long term unemployed and have a health condition?
- That the profile of early intervention health services is raised to employers so that more employed adults are supported to remain in work?
- That there is a continuation of support to upskill and provide in-work mentoring for employed status adults.
- That there remain high levels of workless adults within Hartlepool, with over 6,000 adults claiming Incapacity Benefit (IB). 75% of IB claimants are reported to be "not fit for work" due to mental health conditions including stress, anxiety and depression.

IB/Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Rate in Hartlepool, 2000-2011



2. Recommendations

Updated 20/12/11

The key recommendations are to:

- Complete a comprehensive needs assessment to understand the health service requirements of unemployed and employed adults. Particular qualitative and quantitative research should be undertaken on how both cohorts have potentially differing demands on health service provision that will meet an individual's needs.
- Improve links to existing services for employed status adults to ensure that they are adequately connected to major early intervention health programmes such as Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service. This will require increased engagement with employers which can be facilitated by the Economic Regeneration Forum.
- Experienced Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) officers based within the community and an integral part of multi-disciplinary teams, including health professionals to provide appropriate careers advice and sign post to suitable provision.
- Intermediate Labour Market (ILM) placements to provide work experience with supportive employers who understand the challenges faced by long term unemployed adults re-entering into employment.
- Commission pre-employability programmes that incorporate healthy lifestyle and fitness to work sessions. These should be focused at pre-Work Programme customers.
- To promote a healthy and supportive working environment that includes implementing health initiatives and raise awareness of how to tackle in-work stress, anxiety and depression.
- Early access to health provision for employed adults. Specifically targeted at preventing those adults reaching the stage of being classified as 'long term sick'.

3. Who is at risk and why?

Updated 20/12/11

In the current economic climate, both employed and unemployed adults are at risk of suffering from physical and mental health problems from the stress of issues including job insecurity, a lack of employment opportunities and a rolling-back of welfare state benefits. Young people are the most disadvantaged from the labour market and Hartlepool continues to have one of the highest rates of youth unemployment in the country.

Unemployed and Economically Inactive Adults Most at Risk

- The long term unemployed claiming key benefits who may feel socially excluded.
- Unemployed adults with long term limiting illnesses.
- Those adults aged 50+ who have recently been made redundant or are due to be made redundant.
- Adults who have little or no work experience.
- Adults with low educational attainment.
- Those returning to the labour market including lone parents.
- Those adults with health problems and/or disabilities.
- Those with caring responsibilities.

The table below shows the number of customers receiving each of the key DWP benefits within Hartlepool.

Benefit	Male	Female	Total Claimants
Jobseeker	2,760	1,160	3,920
ESA and IB	3,390	2,680	6,070
Lone Parent	40	1,370	1,410
Carer	370	670	1,040
Income Related Benefits	400	140	540
Disabled	330	300	630
Bereavement	30	100	130
TOTAL	7320	6420	13740

Employed Adults Most at Risk

- Employees carrying out repetitive tasks who are at risk of Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI).
- Lower skilled workers/middle managers who have limited or no influence over decisions or contractual working practices.
- Employee's who are subject to poor workplace practices.
- Workers who feel a lack of job security or who face redundancy.

4. What is the level of need in the population?

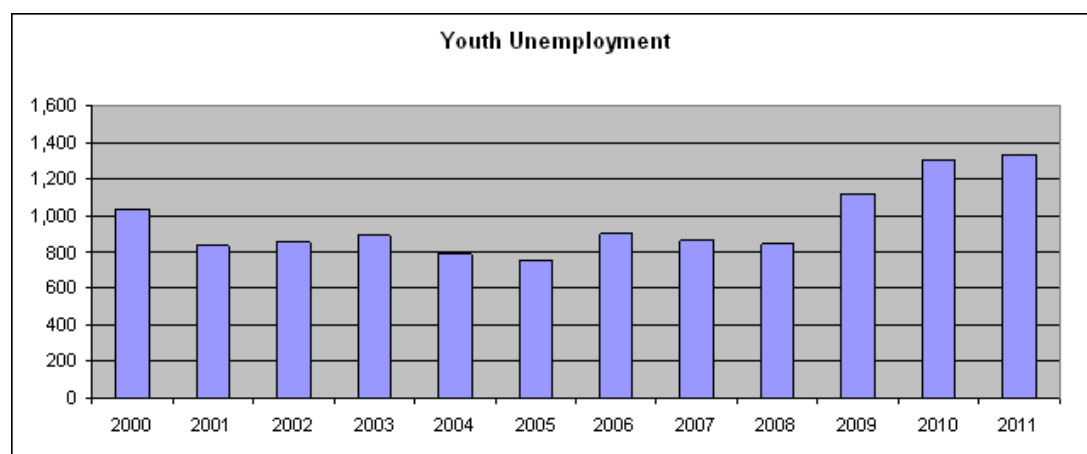
Updated 20/12/11

Tees JSNA

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) report, 'Caring for Our Future' (2004) into health and wellbeing found that long term unemployed or economically inactive adults are nearly twice as likely (30%) to have a mental health problem as those who are employed (16%).

The level of need in the population is shown from the numbers who are unemployed including:

Youth Unemployment Rate in Hartlepool, 2000-2011



Youth Unemployment Rate in Hartlepool, 2000-2011

Date	Hartlepool	Hartlepool (%)	North East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Feb 00	1,035	15.3	9.6	5.9
Feb 01	835	11.9	8.8	5.3
Feb 02	855	12.1	8	5.1
Feb 03	885	12.2	7.6	5
Feb 04	785	10.6	6.9	4.8
Feb 05	750	9.8	6.3	4.6
Feb 06	900	11.5	7	5.2
Feb 07	860	10.6	7.2	5.1
Feb 08	845	10.2	6.8	4.5
Feb 09	1,115	13.3	10.1	7.5
Feb 10	1,300	15.6	10.1	8.2
Feb 11	1,335	16	9.8	7.3

- Youth unemployment breaking 1 million in October 2011 has brought the health and wellbeing of young people onto the agenda. Within Hartlepool almost 1 in 5 young people aged 18-24 are unemployed.
- The overall worklessness rate has also risen to 31.2%, equating to 18,200 working age adults claiming a key benefit which is higher than the North East and national rate of 26.6% and 23.8% respectively. The number of workless adults provides an indication of the level of stand alone and joint health and employment service provision required to support adults to move into work.

- Moving directly from an inactive benefit to a work-ready benefit may be extremely stressful for customers, especially those who may not have worked for long periods of time. The early results of the WCA for October 2008 to August 2010 have shown that 75% of customers (887,300) have been classified as 'fit for work'.

5. What services are currently provided?

Updated 20/12/11

The Coalition Government's Welfare to Work Agreement was published in May 2010 which set out a number of major welfare reforms including the 'Get Britain Working' campaign which is designed to support people to find employment.

The Work Programme

This will be the main welfare funded programme over the next 5-7 years and prime providers will be given up to two years to work with customers and greater freedom to decide the appropriate support for them. In Hartlepool, it is anticipated that up to 2000 customers will start on the programme each year and should have a major impact on reducing worklessness rates.

New Flexibilities within Jobcentre Plus

JCP is now empowered to decide when and how to support customers and have the autonomy to make decisions locally. This includes offering customers a range of support from day one of their new benefit claim. JCP has a fundamental role to play in Hartlepool to support unemployed customers back to work and will continue to work together with local community partners, service providers, Registered Social Housing Providers, Council and employers of all sizes - to find new and innovative ways to support people back to work.

Hartlepool Works Employment & Skills Consortium

The partners work within a set strategic framework which ensures that they develop collaborative and targeted interventions, with a specific focus on priority groups or unemployment 'hotspot areas'. In the longer term, consortium members will continue to design employability programmes for local residents. A membership of over 40 providers.

Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT):

The IAPT programme supports the frontline NHS in implementing [National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence \(NICE\)](#) guidelines for people suffering from depression and anxiety disorders. It was created to offer patients a realistic and routine first-line treatment for mental health problems, combined where appropriate with medication which traditionally had been the only treatment available. The programme was first targeted at people of working age but in 2010 was opened to adults of all ages.

6. What is the projected level of need?

Updated 20/12/11

The health and wellbeing of people of working age is critical to supporting the economy and society. Whilst being in work is in general good for health, being out of work can lead to poorer physical and mental health. Recent studies outline that a rise in the unemployment rate can signal an increase in people's health problems. With almost 18,220 adults economically inactive, they are particularly susceptible to the negative long term health impacts of being workless.

The number of workless adults is a key point which should inform health commissioning bodies of the potential projected level of need and service use requirements in the future in Hartlepool.

Currently within Hartlepool there are:

- Over 4,267 adults who are unemployed.
- 1 in 5 young people unemployed.
- Over 6000 adults on IB.
- Over 2000 of these adults on IB longer than 2 years.

7. What needs might be unmet?

Updated 20/12/11

In order to evaluate what needs might be unmet; we require a comprehensive assessment to ascertain if the current service provision meets demand.

Further research is required to evaluate if the services offered to unemployed and employed adults meets their needs. Increases in the unemployment rate could mean that demand outstrips supply.

- The potential of a new group, recently unemployed who may have an increased need for health services. Unemployment could have a detrimental effect not only to an individual's health, but to other members of their family. Adults who are at risk of redundancy or are made redundant may not seek help because of the stigma attached to mental health problems or by the reluctance to admit that there is a problem.
- To ensure that there are regular reviews of unmet needs, it is important that statutory agencies, health services, post-16 providers and employers' network together to debate where there are service gaps and how these can be plugged through existing services.
- Employers would value access to independent expert advice on the functional capabilities of sick employees, especially in longer-term and more difficult instances of sickness absence, where there is great risk of people never working again.
- If an Independent Assessment Service (IAS) is not introduced through a

national roll-out programme then consideration should be given to how existing local health and employment services, particularly those who currently offer in-work mentoring, HR and employer advice can work together to sustain adults in work.

8. What evidence is there for effective intervention?

Updated 20/12/11

The most effective intervention is to upskill the local labour supply and ensure that all working age adults who are fit for work can access employment opportunities. There are very positive opportunities to support adults into employment and over the next ten years the Borough will enter into a new phase with a resurgence of new jobs created to provide future opportunities for local residents. This will include an approximate 3000 new jobs through major regeneration initiatives such as the Enterprise Zone and Regional Growth Fund.

To improve the skills levels of the local labour supply so that it meets the demands of employers and enables individuals to compete for these future jobs will require continued investment in skills and this will be driven through the new Economic Regeneration Forum and the full implementation of Hartlepool's new Economic Regeneration Strategy 2011-2021.

Once in employment, interventions need to continue that will facilitate an employee remaining in sustained employment through joint support from employers and relevant health and employment agencies.

It should be noted that there have been many effective, localised interventions that have assisted adults to enter into and remain in sustained employment. This included initiatives such as:-

Future Jobs Fund

An employment initiative introduced by the previous government to assist long term unemployed adults with multiple barriers to enter into employment, which incorporated in-work mentoring support. Within Hartlepool over 720 adults successfully entered into employment.

Hartlepool Council's Economic Development Team - Progression to Work Programme

This programme was funded through the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) and supported long term unemployed adults with mental health problems and physical disabilities to return to the labour market. Adults were supported with pre-employability programmes that included intensive coaching to prepare them for work.

Tees Valley In Work Support Project (TVIWS)

The project is a partnership between the five local authorities within the Tees Valley sub-region and is managed by Hartlepool Borough Council. The aim of

Tees JSNA

the project is to raise awareness of the full range of services available to both employers and employees in order to keep their workforce fit, healthy and able to continue in work. It will also signpost employers and employees to appropriate support organisations. This programme ceases in March 2012.

9. What do people say?

Updated 20/12/11

Employers, partners and providers agree that an early intervention to health programmes and support to help all adults to fully participate within the labour market is key to improving the health of the local population.

A quote from the Tees Valley In-Work Support Project stated that:

"I think it's massively important to invest in the wellbeing of staff, they are just as much an asset as our premises and stock. Taking the time to address such problems, and draw upon local support can make a really positive difference. I didn't know there was so much help available."

10. What additional needs assessment is required?

Updated 20/12/11

The *Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill (2009)* originally placed a statutory duty with relevant local authorities to complete an Economic Assessment by April 2011. The Hartlepool Economic Assessment for 2010/11 was completed and endorsed by the Council in March 2011. The assessment is a comprehensive document which provides a detailed need analysis of the key drivers that directly, and indirectly, impact on the Borough's economic capacity. The assessment is split between three main sections, **Business, People and Place** and provides a wide range of information, data and statistical evidence relating to key social, economic and environmental issues, such as employment and skill levels and the health and wellbeing of the population.

The completion of this assessment provided the Council and its partners with the evidence base for the development of the first draft of the Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy for 2011-2021 and ERS Action Plan for 2011-2014. The ERS provides a very clear framework for the future direction and delivery of the Council and relevant partner's services, aimed at maximising economic growth for the Borough and of improving outcomes for residents, including helping people into sustained employment.

Whilst the Economic Assessment and ERS provide a significant level of detail relating to economic and regeneration matters, there is still a need for a full needs assessment to understand the health service requirements of unemployed and employed adults. Particular qualitative and quantitative comprehensive research should be undertaken on how both cohorts have potentially differing demands on health service provision that will meet an

Tees JSNA

individual's needs.

Key contact and references	Updated 12/07/11
<p>Key contact: Patrick Wilson</p> <p>Job title: Employment Development Officer</p> <p>e-mail: patrick.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk</p> <p>Phone number: 01429 523517</p> <p>References:</p> <p>Hartlepool Economic Regeneration Strategy for 2011-2021. Available from www.investinhartlepool.com</p> <p>Hartlepool ERS Action Plan for 2011-2014. Available from www.investinhartlepool.com</p> <p>Hartlepool Economic Assessment for 2010/11. Available from www.investinhartlepool.com</p> <p>The Department of Health's strategy - Healthy Lives, Healthy People (2010). Available from www.dh.gov.uk</p> <p>The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) report, 'Caring for Our Future' (2004). Available from www.dwp.gov.uk</p> <p>Supporting youth employment – an overview of the Coalition Government's approach. Available from www.agcas.org.uk</p> <p>Skills for Sustainable Growth. Available from www.bis.gov.uk</p>	

REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION IN THE JSNA TOPIC
OF 'EMPLOYMENT' – FEEDBACK FROM
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUMS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members of the Forum with details of the discussions that took place at the Neighbourhood Forums on 3 October 2012, regarding the JSNA topic of 'Employment'.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Members will recall that at the meeting of this Forum on 2 August 2012, the Terms of Reference and Potential Areas of Inquiry / Sources of Evidence for this Scrutiny investigation were approved by the Forum.
- 2.2 Consequently, in order to seek the views of residents on the JSNA topic of 'Employment' Members of the Forum attended the North and Coastal and South and Central Neighbourhood Forum meetings held on 3 October 2012 in the Civic Centre.
- 2.3 Members of the public were provided with a brief presentation regarding the Employment investigation and were asked to answer questions on the subject. Members of the public were also able to comment on the topic and raise any issues of concern they may have. The responses to presentation questions, issues raised and views expressed at the Neighbourhood Forum meetings are detailed in section 3 of this report.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM RESPONSES

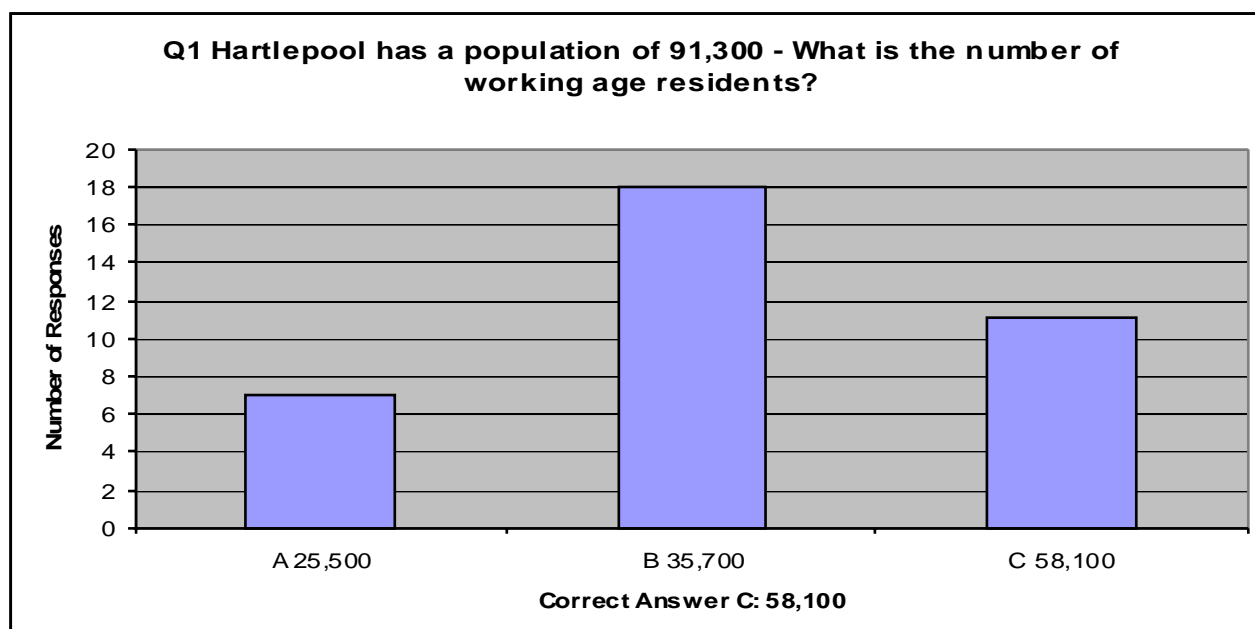
Issues raised

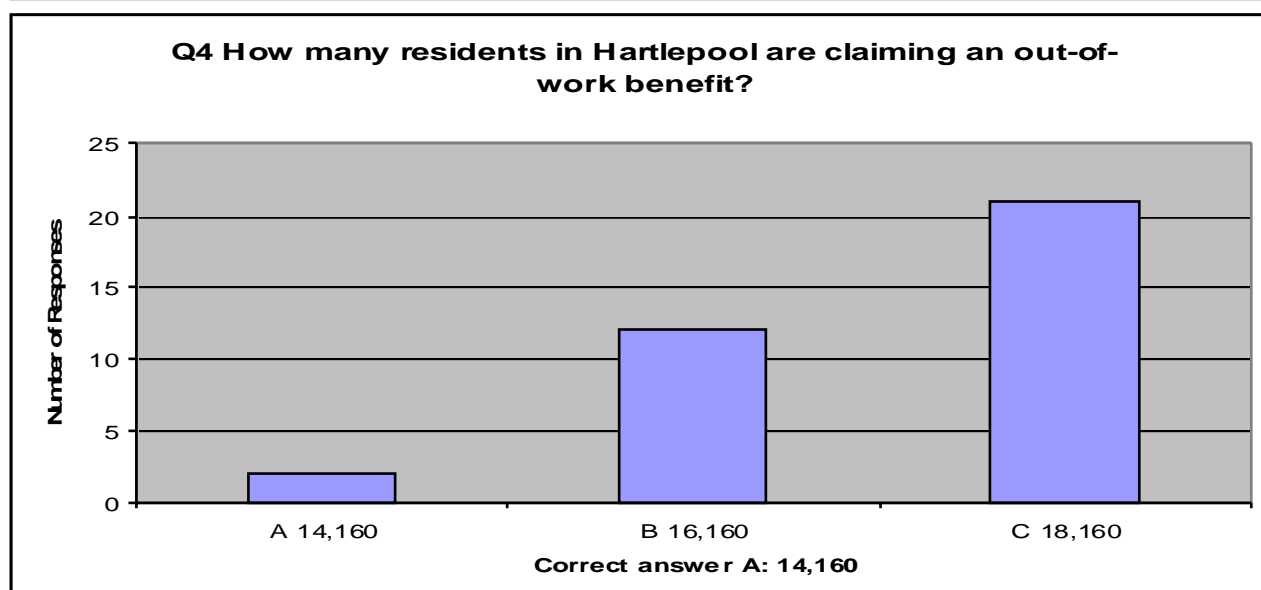
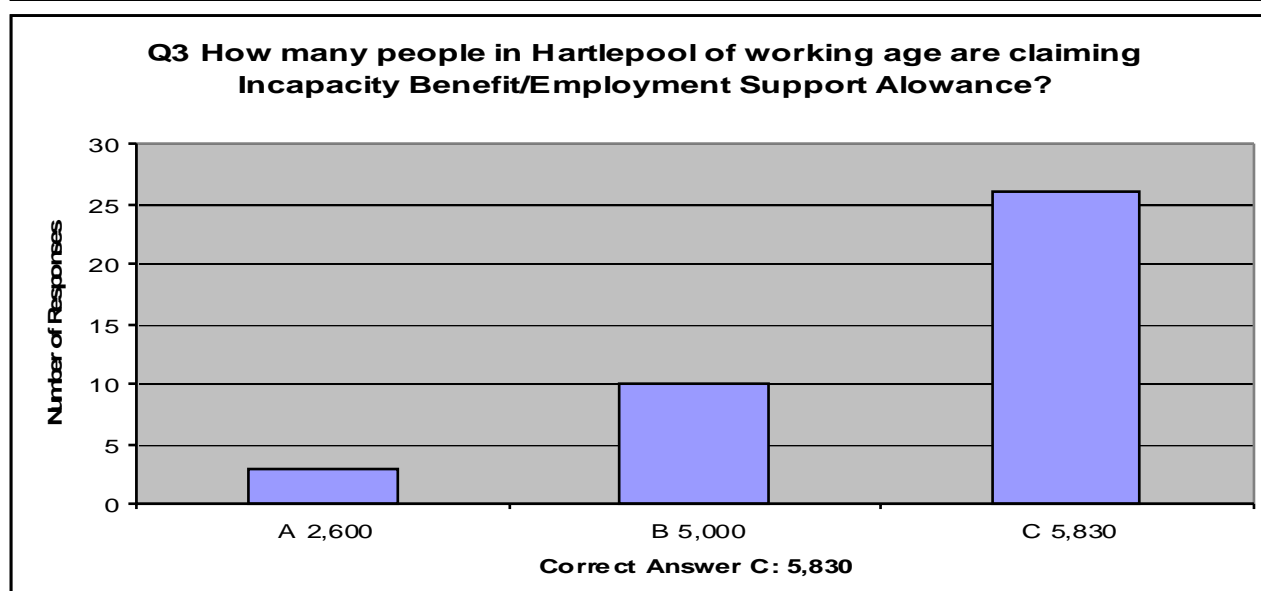
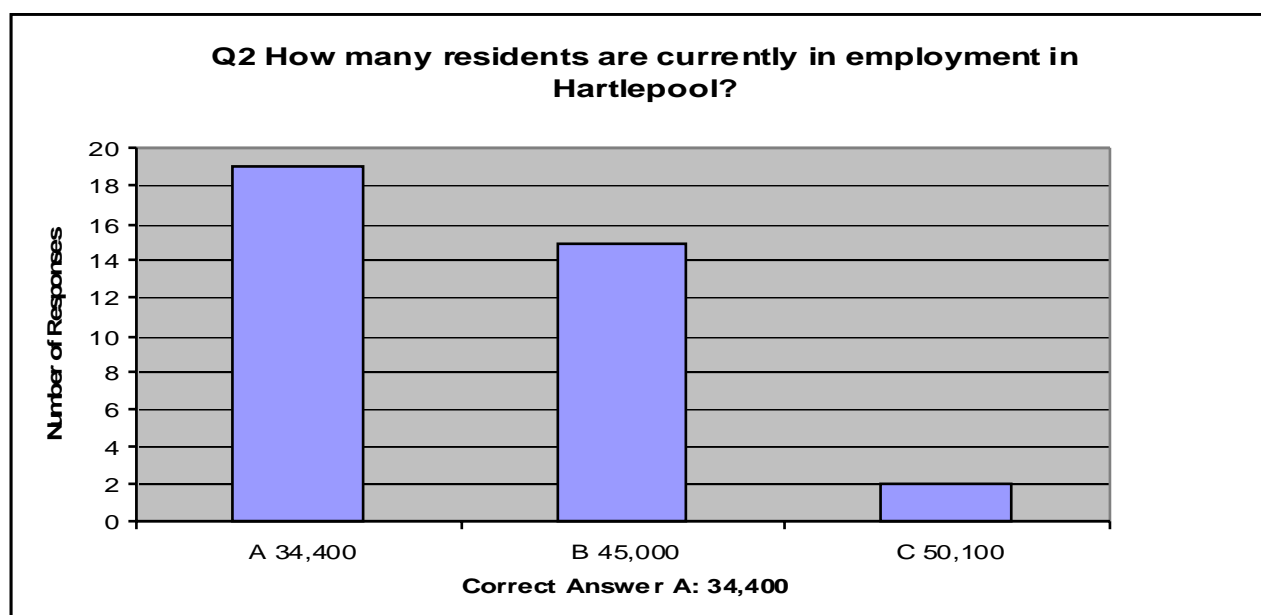
- 3.1 A resident expressed concern about when 'The Range' was being refurbished, how people from outside of Hartlepool were employed to carry out the work. It was confirmed that Job Centre Plus had worked closely with the company and a number of Hartlepool residents were employed as a

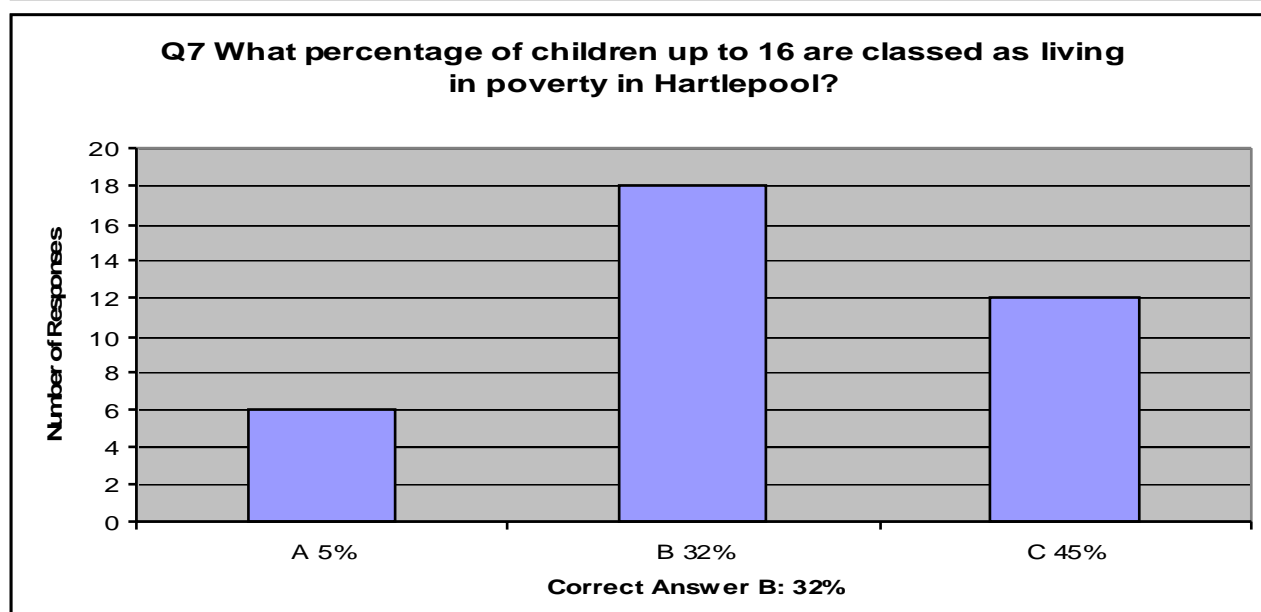
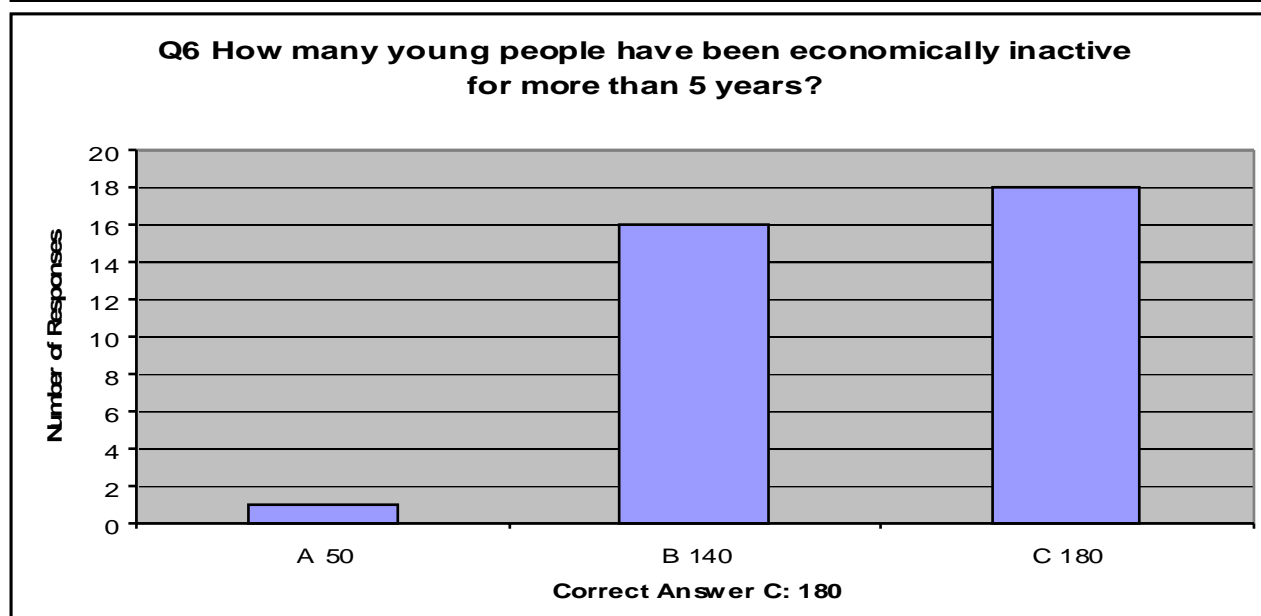
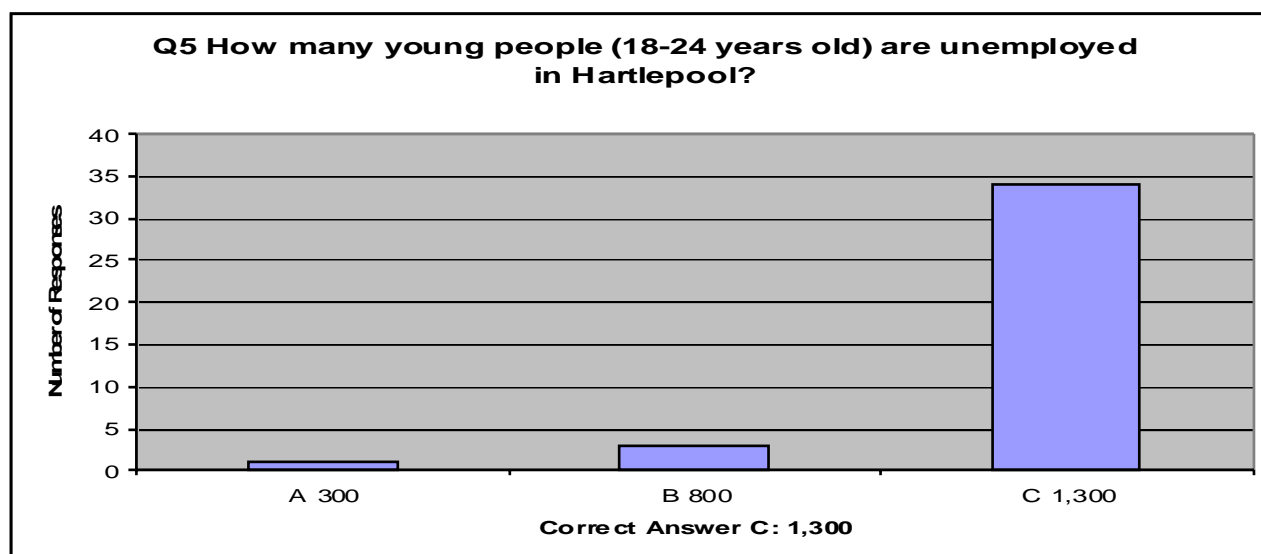
result. Legal requirements prevented the Council from imposing a requirement to have a company employ local people. However, the Council was looking at encouraging companies to do so more in the future.

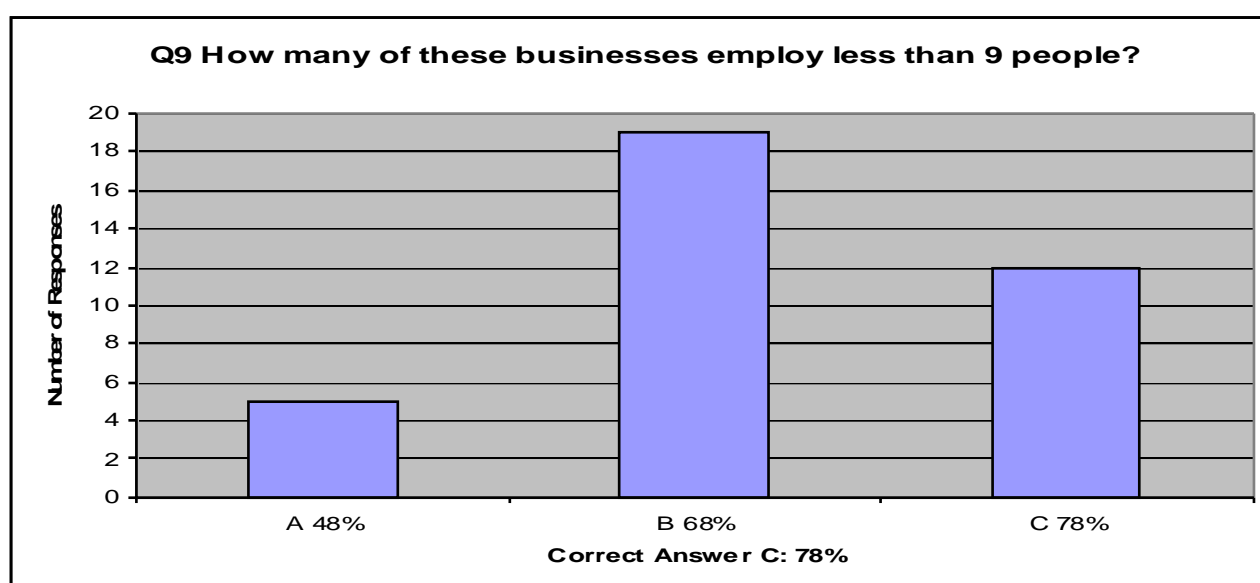
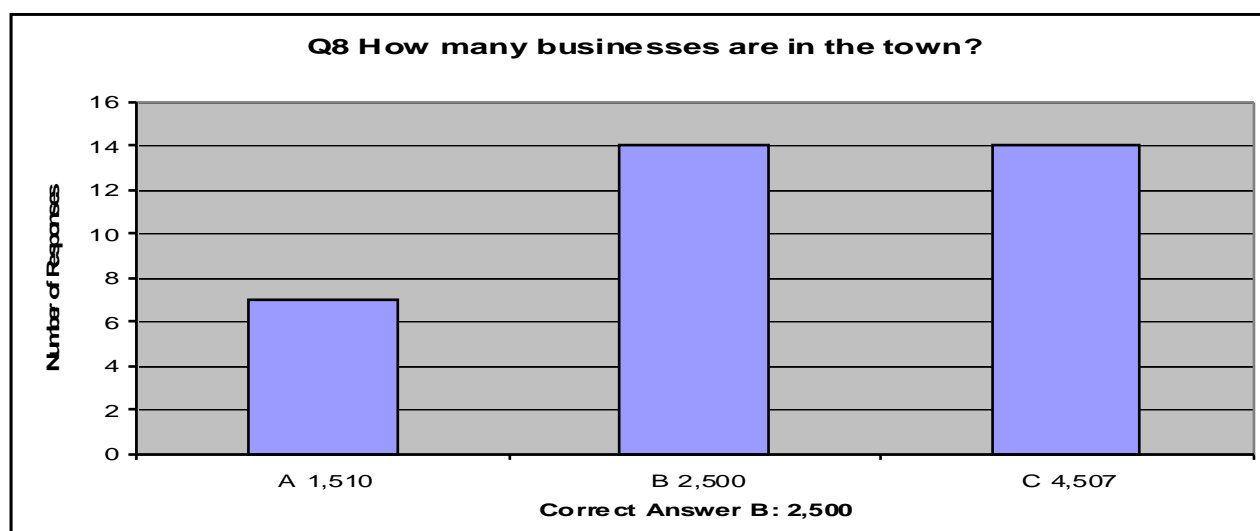
- 3.2 A resident expressed concern regarding the number of young people leaving school without sufficient grades to gain a place in higher education and the difficulty of finding a job. Members expressed concern regarding the emphasis on qualifications. It was highlighted that more needed to be done to help people who were less academic especially in the time leading up to them leaving school.
- 3.3 The plans for Oakesway Business Park, Jacksons Landing and the future of the Power Station were discussed. The Forum was informed that the opportunities available in these areas would be beneficial to Hartlepool and could create business opportunities and jobs for the unemployed.

Responses to presentation questions









4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Members consider the responses/issues raised at the Neighbourhood Forums of 3 October 2012, as detailed in section 3 of this report, as part of the investigation into the JSNA topic of 'Employment'.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: SIX MONTHLY MONITORING OF AGREED
REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
SCRUTINY FORUM'S RECOMMENDATIONS

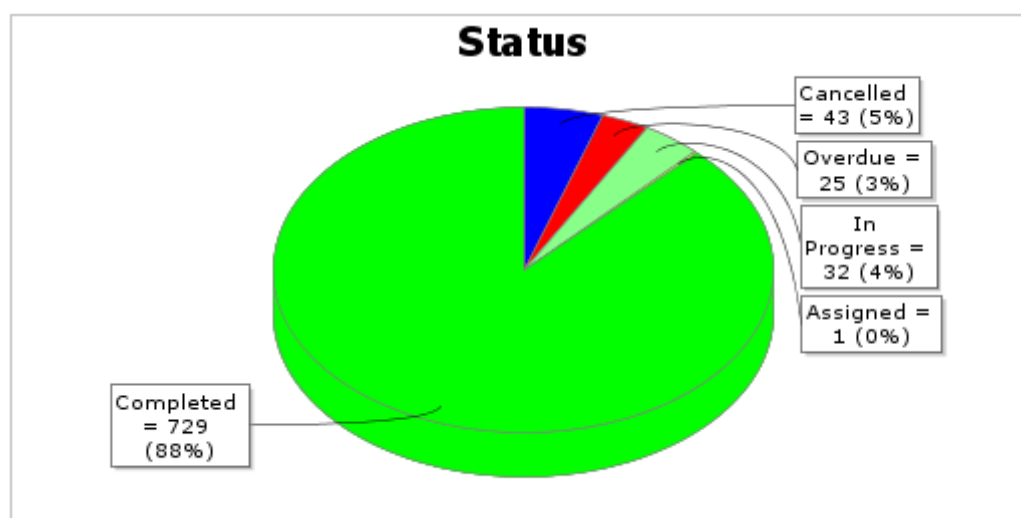
1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with the six monthly progress made on the delivery of the agreed scrutiny recommendations of this Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

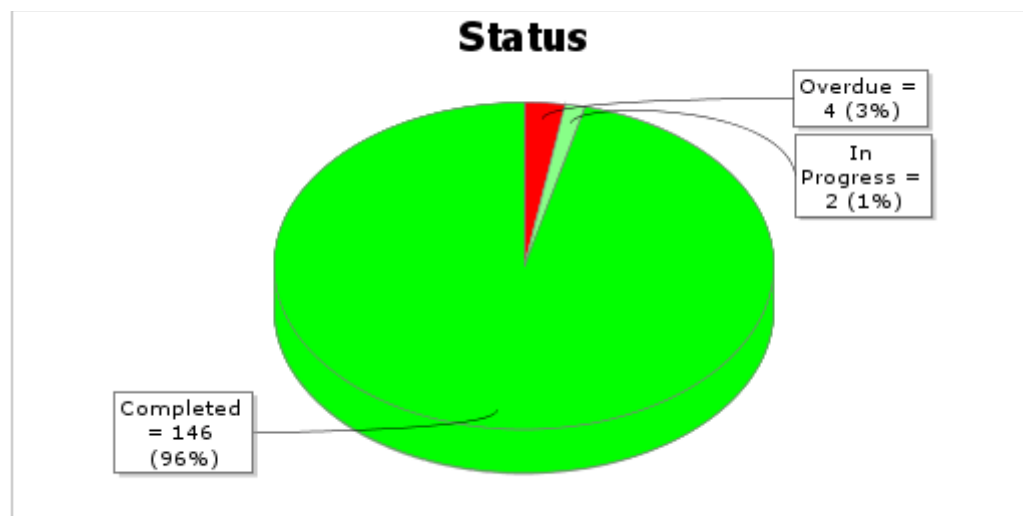
- 2.1 In accordance with the agreed procedure, this report provides for Members details of progress made against each of the investigations undertaken by the Forum. **Chart1** below is the overall progress made by all scrutiny forums since 2005 and **Chart2** (overleaf) provides a detailed explanation of progress made against each scrutiny recommendation agreed by this Forum since the last six monthly monitoring report presented in September 2012.

Chart1: Progress made by all Scrutiny Investigations Undertaken since 2005



Regeneration & Planning Services Scrutiny Forum - All

Generated on: 08 February 2013





Year 2009/10




Investigation Hartlepool's Business Incubation System

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
SCR-RP/9a/ii That due to long-term sustainability problems of the Working Neighbourhood Fund (WNF) - (ii) Seeks innovative ways of attracting sustainable income to support and	SCR-RP/9a/ii As a service, opportunities to develop the property portfolio will be sought which has the potential in the medium term to provide income which could be utilised to support Hartlepool's Incubation system.	Mick Emerson	31-Mar-2013	31-Mar-2013	04-Jan-2013 There is currently no opportunity to develop the property portfolio. Other areas of possible income are being considered and developed through the Commercial Skills Set training. 10-Oct-2012 The continued flatness in the wider economy means that	<div><div></div></div> 90% In Progress	

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
develop the Business Incubation System in Hartlepool.					demand is still slow. There has been a slight increase in floorspace availability at the Enterprise Centre but this will not have a significant effect on available income		

Year 2011/12**Investigation** Employment and Training Opportunities for 19-25 Year Olds

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
SCR-RP/12c That the development of a process to hold careers events to promote the types of careers available with local employers and also the routes to access potential opportunities, is explored with local service providers, employers and Connexions	SCR- 11-19 Partnership will take RP/12c/i responsibility	Tom Argument; Kelly Armstrong	31-Jul-2013	31-Jul-2013	08-Jan-2013 11-19 Partnership are taking responsibility for the strategic and operational plans and review performance on a quarterly basis, this is ongoing.	 In Progress	
					03-Oct-2012 11-19 Partnership are taking responsibility for the strategic and operational plans and review performance on a quarterly basis, this is ongoing.		
SCR-RP/12c That the development of a process to hold careers events to promote the types of careers available with local employers and also the routes to access potential opportunities, is explored with local service providers, employers and Connexions	SCR- Secure financial contributions RP/12c/i across 11-19 partnership for i Choices Event	Tom Argument; Kelly Armstrong	30-Sep-2012	30-Sep-2012	08-Jan-2013 The next choices event is scheduled for 10th October 2013, all schools are aware of this date, the staff taking part in the event are giving their time in kind which counts as a contribution of costs towards the event.	 Overdue	
					03-Oct-2012 As previously indicated it has not been possible to secure financial contributions for Choices 2012, however all schools, colleges and work based learning providers are taking part in the Choice Event 2012 and are providing staff without		

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
					charge to the LA. The aim is remains to implement this in October 2013.		
SCR-RP/12d That ways of re-invigorating the partnership between Connexions and Job Centre Plus in Hartlepool be explored to ensure consent to share forms are completed and data shared, where possible and in accordance with the data protection act.	SCR-RP/12d/i Explore co-delivery opportunities through sitting Job Centre + workers in OSS	Mark Smith	31-Jul-2012	31-Jul-2012	08-Jan-2013 Positive contact has been established with new job centre plus partnership manager with a view to exploring options for the codelivery of services.	 100% Overdue	
					02-Oct-2012 The sharing of data relating to 18 and 19 year old benefit claimants remains problematic and this has being escalated for national attention via the DfE and DWP, to try and resolve information and data sharing issues.		
SCR-RP/12g/i That the use of the Social Return on Investment model is explored as part of the budget process to provide Members with qualitative data upon which to make decisions.	SCR-RP/12g/i The use of the Social Return on Investment model is extremely resource intensive. The potential use needs to be explored in the context of the resource constraints facing the Council and other pressures on resources. These issues includes legislative changes being implemented over the next 12 months, including localisation of business rates and Council Tax benefits, work on ICT and the delivery of budget savings for 2013/14. It is envisaged that the model may be applicable to specific budget proposals rather the whole budget process.	Chris Little	31-Jul-2012	31-Jul-2012	09-Jan-2013 Arrangements been made to address social return and investment issues within detailed savings reports to be referred to SCC from October onwards. Addressed in detailed appendices of the MTFS Report.	 90% Overdue	
					10-Oct-2012 Arrangements been made to address social return and investment issues within detailed savings reports to be referred to SCC from October onwards.		
SCR-RP/12g/ii That the use of the Social Return on Investment model is	SCR-RP/12g/i i As detailed above the use of this model is resource intensive and application to	Chris Little	30-Jul-2012	30-Jul-2012	09-Jan-2013 Arrangements been made to address social return and investment issues within detailed	 90% Overdue	

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
explored to assist in shaping the future of service delivery by evaluating current service provision	specific cases may be provide improved information for decision making. This issue needs exploring.				savings reports to be referred to SCC from October onwards. Addressed in detailed appendices of the MTFS Report. 10-Oct-2012 Arrangements been made to address social return and investment issues within detailed savings reports to be referred to SCC from October onwards.		

Year 2011/12**Investigation** Employment and Training Opportunities for 19-25 Year Olds

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
SCR-RP/12a/ii That Hartlepool Borough Council liaise with prime providers of the Work Programme to assist Avanta in engaging with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to share data regarding the success of the Work Programme within Hartlepool;	SCR-RP/12a/i At the present time, both prime providers have been instructed by the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) that they cannot release information on performance. A regional group has been established with representation from Hartlepool Borough Council which will provide the forum to challenge DWP on this matter.	Patrick Wilson	31-Jul-2012	31-Jul-2012	22-Jan-2013 Hartlepool Borough Council's Economic Regeneration Team continue to engage with the Prime Providers on a quarterly basis and both Avanta and Ingeus attended the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum on Employment in the last quarter. 09-Oct-2012 Ingeus and Avanta have recently submitted Data Sharing Agreements to the Council. These agreements are currently being reviewed by the Council's Legal Team, but, it is clear from the documents that any information on certain performance information will have to be kept confidential.	<div><div></div><div>100% Completed</div></div>	
SCR-RP/12a/iii That Hartlepool Borough Council liaise with prime providers of the Work Programme to	SCR-RP/12a/i As stated above, the Work Programme providers are not contractually able to release information. However, the quarterly meetings and the	Patrick Wilson	31-Jul-2012	31-Jul-2012	22-Jan-2013 Performance information on the Work Programme providers was made publicly available on 27.11.2012. The Work Programme providers for	<div><div></div><div>100% Completed</div></div>	

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress	
develop a process to ensure the dissemination of information in relation to the success of the DWP Work Programme in Hartlepool to the Council	regional meeting will progress this matter.				Hartlepool; Avanta and Ingeus continue to be invited to quarterly meetings and will be invited to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum in March 2013 to discuss their performance. 09-Oct-2012 Ingeus and Avanta have recently submitted Data Sharing Agreements to the Council. These agreements are currently being reviewed by the Council's Legal Team, but, it is clear from the documents that any information on certain performance information will have to be kept confidential.		
SCR-RP/12b/i That Hartlepool Borough Council facilitate meetings between prime providers of the DWP Work Programmes and third sector providers to promote the specialist support services local organisations are able to provide as sub-contractors	SCR-RP/12b/i Initial meetings have already taken place with the prime providers to discuss the potential for third sector organisations to offer specialist services within subcontract arrangements. This matter will continue to be progressed by the Council in the quarterly meetings.	Patrick Wilson	31-Jul-2012	31-Jul-2012	22-Jan-2013 Quarterly meetings with the two Work Programme prime providers have been arranged, where subcontracting arrangements will continue to be discussed. 06-Jul-2012 Avanta held an event on 23rd May 2012 to identify potential third sector organisations who could deliver the Work Programme. Avanta is now in the process of deciding which partners to contract with.	<div><div></div></div> 100% Completed	
SCR-RP/12b/ii That Hartlepool Borough Council facilitate meetings between prime providers of the DWP Work Programmes and third sector providers to explore options to provide specialist services 'on demand'	SCR-RP/12b/i As stated in (b)(i), initial meetings have highlighted this matter and will be progressed within the quarterly meetings.	Patrick Wilson	31-Aug-2012	31-Aug-2012	22-Jan-2013 The Council continues to work with the Prime Providers to explore options for subcontracting and both will be invited to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum in March 2013 where this will be discussed in more detail. 09-Oct-2012 Hartlepool's Economic Regeneration Team continue to meet with the Work Programme	<div><div></div></div> 100% Completed	

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress		
					providers on a quarterly basis to discuss progress on their activities. In addition, both providers have been invited to the Regeneration and Planning Scrutiny Forum on 10.10.12 as part of the Scrutiny into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 'Employment Topic'.			
SCR-RP/12f That the Economic Development Team works in partnership with prime providers, local suppliers of employment and training services and the Economic Regeneration Forum to promote the Youth Contract	SCR-RP/12f	A working group has been established between partners such as Economic Development, Jobcentre Plus (JCP) and the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) to formulate wider activities to engage and raise awareness of apprenticeships to employers. This will include the Employer Services Manager of NAS being based within Economic Development Team for one day per week from April 2012.	Patrick Wilson	30-Sep-2012	30-Sep-2012	22-Jan-2013 This is an ongoing pilot whereby all of the partners continue to engage with employers to raise awareness of apprenticeship schemes and business support services.	<div><div></div></div> 100% Completed	

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members note progress against the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum's agreed recommendations, since the 2005/06 Municipal Year, and explore further where appropriate;

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD PLAN – MARCH 2013 TO JUNE 2013

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum to consider whether any item within the Executive's Forward Plan should be considered by this Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 One of the main duties of Scrutiny is to hold the Executive to account by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Executive's Forward Plan) and to decide whether value can be added to the decision by the Scrutiny process in advance of the decision being made.
- 2.2 This would not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 As you are aware, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has delegated powers to manage the work of Scrutiny, as it thinks fit, and if appropriate can exercise or delegate to individual Scrutiny Forums. Consequently, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee monitors the Executive's Forward Plan and delegates decisions to individual Forums where it feels appropriate.
- 2.4 As such, the most recent copy of the decisions contained within the Executive's Forward Plan that fall under the remit of this Forum are attached as **Appendix A**. Please note that at the time of production of the report the most recent Forward Plan (March 2013 – June 2013) had not yet been published, as such the decisions contained within the Executive's Forward Plan that fall under the remit of this Forum will be circulated under separate cover prior to today's meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum considers the content of the Executive's Forward Plan.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

**REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES
SCRUTINY FORUM**

21 February 2013



Report of: Scrutiny Support Officer

Subject: THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD PLAN

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity for the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum to consider whether any item within the Executive's Forward Plan should be considered by this Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 One of the main duties of Scrutiny is to hold the Executive to account by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Executive's Forward Plan) and to decide whether value can be added to the decision by the Scrutiny process in advance of the decision being made.
- 2.2 This would not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 As you are aware, the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee has delegated powers to manage the work of Scrutiny, as it thinks fit, and if appropriate can exercise or delegate to individual Scrutiny Forums. Consequently, Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee monitors the Executive's Forward Plan and delegates decisions to individual Forums where it feels appropriate.
- 2.4 In addition to this, the key decisions contained within the Executive's Forward Plan (March 2013 – June 2013) relating to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum are shown below for Members consideration:-

**THE PLANS AND STRATEGIES WHICH TOGETHER COMPRISE THE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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

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

a) Development plan documents – (DPDs) – these are part of the development plan and must include:-

- A local plan setting out the long term spatial vision for the area and the strategic policies and proposals to deliver the vision
- DPDs on Site specific allocations and policies
- Generic development control policies relating to the vision and strategy set out in the local plan, and
- Proposals Map

Preparatory work relating to the local plan has been ongoing for some time involving the gathering of essential evidence which will be required to support and justify the policies included in the Document. Various studies have been produced including the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, the Housing Needs Assessment, an Executive Housing Need Strategy, a Housing Implementation Strategy, an Employment Land Review, a PPG17 Open Space Assessment, a Sport and Recreation Audit and an indoor Sports Facilities Study. A revised Strategic Housing Market Assessment has been prepared; the Local Infrastructure Plan which sets out details of infrastructure which will need to be provided in support of proposals contained within the local plan is also being prepared. The draft Local Infrastructure Plan has been consulted on and will be submitted to Cabinet for approval in 2013. Following the initial Issues and Options stage, a Preferred Options Document was produced and consulted on in early 2010. Following a significant number of responses from the consultees which included statutory and non-statutory bodies, local groups and organisations and residents, and taking account of planning policy changes introduced or proposed at national level by the new government, Cabinet decided to revise and re-consult on the Preferred Options. The revised Preferred Options document was published in November 2010 and a 6 weeks consultation period concluded in February 2011.

The second Preferred Options document also generated a significant number of responses and these were reported to Cabinet in September as part of a detailed report which highlight officer recommendations on key policy issues such as proposed housing sites, industrial allocations and affordable housing policies. Cabinet's views have been fed into the local plan Publication Document which was approved by Cabinet in January and full Council in February prior to a final consultation before being sent to the Secretary of State who appoint an independent Planning Inspector to hold an Examination in Public (EiP). The Publication Document represents the Councils definitive

position in relation to the local plan minor changes have been made at the request of the Planning Inspectorate which have been consulted on prior to the Examination in Public, these included the insertion of policies relating to the control of advertisements and telecommunications, presumption in favour of sustainable development; and the allocation of a Gypsy and Traveller site. The EiP hearings took place in January / February 2013, however a suspension of the hearings has been put forward by the Planning Inspector to allow the Council to do further work, the details of this work will be provided in a letter from the Planning Inspector in February 2013. Once the further work has been carried out and submitted to the Planning Inspector it is likely further hearings will be required. If the local plan passes the tests of 'soundness' it may be amended to take account of the Inspectors recommendations and then adopted, probably in late 2013.

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

b) Supplementary Planning Documents

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

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

Planning Obligations SPD – This document will set out guidance and standards on the use of commuted sums negotiated from developers through planning agreements. A draft of this SPD was initially presented to Cabinet for approval for public consultation purposes in October 2009, with the consultation beginning on the 31 October 2009 for a period until 8 January 2010. Responses to this are being considered alongside changes to the Planning Obligations Regulations which were introduced in 2010. The revised Planning Obligations SPD will go to Cabinet for approval in 2013.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – a new planning charge came into force in April 2010 which allows local authorities to raise funds from developers

undertaking new building projects towards the cost of a wide range of infrastructure that is needed as a result of development. Although local authorities are not obliged to introduce CIL, restrictions on the use of Planning Obligations through Section 106 Agreements which will come into effect in 2014 would reduce local authorities' ability to secure infrastructure improvements without CIL. The scope for introducing CIL in Hartlepool is currently being investigated and subject to agreement to proceed a charging schedule will be prepared and submitted to Cabinet for approval in 2013.

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

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

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

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

Trees and Development Guidelines – SPD Cabinet agreed on the 29th October to the preparation of guidance in relation to those involved in development on the standards that the Council will expect from new development proposals as they relate to trees. Work on this SPD will progress and reported back to Cabinet in early 2013 with any proposed modifications as a result of the consultation process. It is anticipated that this would be presented to Council in summer 2013 with a view to adoption.

Shop Front Design Guide - SPD to encourage the construction of traditional shop fronts to create high quality shops and together, with other adjoining buildings, generate shopping streets in which individuals and firms can do business and invest with confidence. It is proposed that a report will be presented to Cabinet in February/March 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD.

New Development Outside of Development Limits – SPD to provide guidance in light of the National Planning Policy framework (NPPF) 2012 and the deletion of Planning Policy Statement 7 (PPS7) with regard to development in the open countryside. It is proposed that a report will be presented to Cabinet in February 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD.

Tees Valley Waste Management Developments – SPD to provide a focused direction to the Waste Management issues within Hartlepool. It is proposed that a report will be presented to Cabinet in April/May 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD.

(c) Local Development Orders

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

Cabinet in October endorsed the preparation of draft LDOs for the Enterprise Zones, and undertake public consultation on these including submission of the LDOs to the Secretary of State prior to adoption by Council of the final LDO in April 2012.

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

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

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

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

Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) have been produced each year since 2004 / 5. The Authorities Monitoring Report relating to 2011 / 2012 was to be

presented to Cabinet December 2012 and will be presented to Council in February 2013.

Further Information:

Chris Pipe, Planning Services Manager Regeneration and Planning Services Department, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool, TS24 7BT
Tel. 01429 523596 e-mail Christine.pipe@hartlepool.gov.uk

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

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

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

Who will make the decision?

There will be a range of recommendations to be made around the future development of the Mill House site in addition to the potential sale of Victoria Park. Recommendations may be made by Cabinet or an Executive Committee of Cabinet as appropriate and then to be considered by Council.

Wards affected

The wards affected are in the Victoria and Headland and Harbour Wards in particular, but there is town wide interest in the provision of recreational facilities generally and the Football Club itself.

Timing of the decision

The decision on Victoria Park is expected to be made in March / April 2013. Further decisions on the Masterplan will follow in March / April 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

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

Information to be considered by the decision makers

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

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

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

An Economic Impact Assessment of the value of the Club to the town has been completed and will be considered by Cabinet and Council in the decision making process on the potential sale of the land to the Football Club.

Expressions of interest were invited from developers in connection with a Masterplan for the Mill House and a preferred developer has been appointed by Cabinet at its meeting on 19th March 2012.

Cabinet considered the Masterplan and the potential disposal of Victoria Park to the Football Club at the meeting on 19th March 2012 and it was agreed that the disposal should be referred to Full Council for decision. A Members presentation was held on 18th June 2012 in advance of the full Council meeting with the result that Members required more information on the masterplan and the land arrangements prior to it being considered by Council. Further discussions have taken place with the developer in relation to leisure provision and the regeneration of the site as a whole. Some further details on options have been provided but more detailed viability assessments are awaited. Audit Committee have also considered relevant aspects of the proposals.

How to make representation

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

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

E mail: Damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

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

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 99/11 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

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

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Policy Committee.

Ward(s) affected

The Community Infrastructure Levy would impact across the Borough.

Timing of the decision

The decision to progress preparatory work and evidence gathering was made by Cabinet in February 2012 and the decision to approve the appointment of external consultants to undertake viability testing on a range of development types to illustrate whether it is viable to implement a CIL in Hartlepool was made in June 2012.

The key decision in relation to the introduction of the CIL charging schedule will be taken following this work, it is anticipated that this will be in June 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

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

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet were asked for permission to undertake preparatory work, evidence gathering and viability testing which will inform the development of the draft CIL charging Schedule. This will need to be worked up so that it can be brought into use when the Local Plan is adopted next year. A further report will be brought back to Policy Committee following the completion of this preparatory work for a formal decision whether to introduce a CIL charge.

How to make representation

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

Further information

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

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

Key Test Decision (i) applies

Nature of the decision

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

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Seaton Ward will be directly affected by the proposals.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

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

Information to be considered by the decision makers

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

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

How to make representation

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

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson as above

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 10/12 - ACQUISITION OF THE LONGSCAR BUILDING, SEATON CAREW

Key Test Decision (i) applies

Nature of the decision

To seek authority for officers to pursue the acquisition of the Longscar Building, Seaton Carew in order to facilitate the delivery of the Seaton Carew Masterplan.

The Longscar Building is currently empty and occupies a prominent position on The Front, Seaton Carew. The building's under-use, significant size and its poor condition has a negative influence in the centre of Seaton Carew's commercial and visitor area. The Council currently owns land on either side of the property and is currently developing regeneration proposals for this whole area that will attract new investment and encourage visitors to Seaton Carew. The inclusion of the site that the building currently occupies in these proposals will be critical in the delivery and success of that regeneration scheme.

Cabinet has previously agreed the appointment of the Esh Group as a preferred developer, to work in partnership with the Council to develop other Council owned sites in Seaton Carew (and help to deliver the regeneration proposals.) Working in partnership with Esh, the development of these sites will release funding that will

provide the resources to deliver the regeneration proposals at The Front including the Longscar Building, as outlined above.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

Seaton Ward

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

Public consultation exercises have been carried out previously in Seaton Carew. Further public consultation will be carried out with Ward Councillors as part of the regeneration proposals now being developed with the Esh Group. These are likely to take the form of public events, briefing sessions and public drop-in sessions.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

In considering the acquisition of this property, Portfolio Holder will need to contemplate the rationale for acquisition. The details of the proposed regeneration scheme will need to be considered, including the progress regarding the timetable for the delivery of that scheme. Valuation of the property and planning policy considerations will also need to be taken into account.

How to make representation

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

Further information

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

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 20/12 SELECTIVE LICENSING

Key Decision Test (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

Policy Committee will be asked to consider the findings of the consultation with stakeholders in current selective licensing areas. The findings from this consultation exercise will be used to inform the process with regards to considering an additional designation.

Policy Committee will also be presented with the outcome to the research and consultation related to the consideration of any new proposed designation; areas which could benefit from the introduction of an additional selective licensing designation, together with a timetable of possible implementation.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Policy Committee.

Ward(s) affected

Various wards depending on the evidence gathered from the consultation exercise in terms of any new proposed designation.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made May 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

A comprehensive and extensive programme of engagement and consultation, in compliance with prescribed government guidance, will be necessary in order to consider any new designation. All stakeholders who are likely to be affected by a new designation will be consulted. This will include:

- Residents
- Landlords
- Letting and Managing Agents
- Community / Voluntary Sector
- Local Businesses
- Ward Members
- Service Providers and Strategic Partners

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The Housing Act 2004 introduced a discretionary power for Local Housing Authorities to designate areas for the selective licensing of private sector rented housing suffering from, or likely to suffer from, low housing demand and/or experiencing persistent or significant anti-social behaviour.

The current designation of Selective Licensing was implemented in May 2009 covering 6 areas of the town.

In September 2011, Cabinet agreed to delay its decision to extend the scheme into a further 9 areas, for 12 months, until a thorough evaluation of the evidence available from the existing scheme had been undertaken.

Since the data analysis on the current Selective Licensing scheme has been undertaken. This was presented to Cabinet on the 18th September 2012 to provide members with the opportunity to consider how effective the scheme has been in each of the existing 6 areas.

This further report will outline the qualitative research/anecdotal evidence carried out with key stakeholders in the existing areas, to complement the data analysis already considered by Cabinet. It will also inform members of the outcome and evidence gathered from the research and consultation into introducing further Selective Licensing areas in Hartlepool, in addition to the areas which currently have selective licensing of private landlords operating in selective areas.

How to make representation

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

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Lynda Igoe, Principal Housing Advice Officer, Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Housing Options Centre, Park Road, Hartlepool. Telephone: 01429 284177. Email: lynda.igoe@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 27/12 COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND ROUND 2 APPLICATION

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to implement a programme for coastal communities should a bid to the Coastal Communities Fund be successful

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder

Ward(s) affected

It is anticipated that a number of wards could be affected, depending upon the nature of the bid.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

Consultation will take place with the private, voluntary and community sectors to explore the potential for partnership working to deliver a bid.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The Coastal Communities Fund is a government initiative to support the economic development of coastal communities. Grants in excess of £50,000 are available for projects which benefit coastal communities. The fund is equal to 50% of the revenues generated by the Crown Estate's marine assets. The UK wide fund will be hosted by the Big Lottery Fund (BIG Fund), and will be delivered on a local level in conjunction with country specific boards.

The objective of the fund is to *'support the economic development of coastal communities by promoting sustainable economic growth and jobs, so that people are better able to respond to the changing economic needs and opportunities of their area'*.

Project proposals are required to meet a number of specified criteria and those resulting in the highest level of economic growth will be prioritised.

A bid for funding submitted by the Council in April 2012 was unsuccessful. Further funding for 2013/14 is expected (although the level remains unknown) and timescales will be announced by the fund administrators in 2012, following a review and evaluation from year one. It is anticipated that the application process and timetable for submission will be similar to the round 1 timetable with submissions required in April 2013.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department, Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY. Tel: 01429 523400 Email: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Antony Steinberg, Economic Development Manager, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool Tel: 01429 523503. antony.steinberg@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 31 / 12 - CITY DEAL

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

To consider Hartlepool Borough Council's inclusion in a Tees Valley bid for a City Deal proposal with the Government.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet which will need to be ratified by Council.

Ward(s) affected

All wards

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

All Council members
Tees Valley Directors of Place
Tees Valley Leader and Mayors
Tees Valley Chief Executives
Tees Valley Unlimited/Local Enterprise Partnership Board

Information to be considered by the decision makers

On 8th December 2011, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Cities, jointly published "Unlocking Growth in Cities" which invited the eight core cities in

England to submit proposals for tailored deals, consisting of new powers and innovative projects to unlock growth.

The eight core cities have been working with Government to develop the detail of their city deals, with Liverpool and Manchester publishing their agreed documents earlier in the year and others, including Leeds and Newcastle following suit when the remaining deals were announced on 5th July 2012.

A second wave of City Deals will be announced shortly and Hartlepool as part of the wider Tees Valley could potentially be included in a City Deal based on the Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership area.

In essence, Government has agreed to devolve new powers to England's largest cities or functional economic areas, such as Tees Valley in a series of very unique and specific deals that will help them invest in growth and unlock job creation, support local businesses, control budgets, improve critical infrastructure and improve local skills. In return, the core cities have agreed to put in place stronger, more accountable local leadership and to spend their resources more efficiently

How to make representation

Representations should be made to

Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Level 3, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Tel: (01429) 523400. E-mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Level 3, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Tel: (01429) 523400. E-mail: damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 33 / 12 – HIGH STREET INNOVATION FUND

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

To seek approval to implement projects from the High Street Innovation Fund.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder.

Ward(s) affected

The High Street Innovation Fund is targeted at the Town Centre which is within the Victoria and Burn Valley Wards.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

Consultation will take place with the Economic Regeneration Forum who have established a Working Group to develop projects for the High Street Innovation Fund. Initial discussions have already taken place around potential project ideas.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

The High Street Innovation Fund is one of a number of new initiatives that have been launched by the Government to help create prosperous town centres in response to the recommendations of the Portas Review, an independent review of the English high street.

The Government's response to the Portas Review sets out a challenge for partners to *"re-imagine their town centres and high streets, ensuring they offer something new and different that neither out-of-town shopping centres nor the internet can match-an experience that goes beyond retail, with creative use of public spaces and a vibrant evening economy"*. Communities are encouraged to develop innovative ideas that address local issues.

Hartlepool has been awarded £100k through the new £10m High Street Innovation Fund, which aims to address empty properties on the High Street by providing an opportunity to implement innovative local projects.

A wide range of activities are eligible for support including the provision of business rate discounts for new start-up businesses taking on empty properties. Temporary enterprises that will occupy vacant units, and apprenticeship schemes to train young people in shop fitting and refurbishment are also eligible for support.

Approval to develop a project for the Indoor Market and for additional signage within the town centre was approved by the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Portfolio Holder on the 28th September 2012. A further report will be considered in November to allocate the remaining £75k from the High Street Innovation Fund.

How to make representation

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

Further information

Further information can be sought by contacting Rob Smith, Senior Regeneration Officer, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square, Hartlepool TS24 7BT Tel: 01429 523531. Email: rob.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 35/12 – EUROPEAN COMMISSION ‘YOUTH GUARANTEE SCHEME’

Key Test Decision (i) and (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

To seek approval from Cabinet to deliver the European Commission Youth Guarantee Scheme programme which is aimed at supporting young people to enter into education, employment or training on leaving school. This decision will be subject to the Council successfully securing this European funding through an open and competitive tendering process.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by the Cabinet.

Ward(s) affected

Potentially all wards could be affected, but particular focus will be on the most deprived wards.

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in March 2013.

Who will be consulted and how?

Schools, career guidance services, voluntary and community sector organisations, public & private employment services, colleges, work-based learning providers and employers have been consulted. All of these key stakeholders have been invited to a briefing session on Monday 15th October 2012 to discuss the tender specification and the proposed delivery model for Hartlepool.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

A report was submitted to Cabinet on 29th October 2012 which provided details of the Youth Guarantee Scheme tender specification.

In August 2012, the European Commission announced a €4million call for proposals to develop a Youth Guarantee Scheme in local, regional or national areas where youth unemployment is above 22.7%. This will build on existing Youth Guarantee approaches in some Member States (particularly Austria, Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden).

The Commission expects to finance at least 15 proposals across the European Union. The amount of grant needed to implement the programme will be between €100,000 and €250,000 with organisations only able to bid for 95% of the funding required. All projects are expected to last no longer than 12 months. Within the tender outline, the Commission has called for proposals that will aim to *‘ensure that all young are in a job, further education or activation measures within four months of leaving school and to provide this as a ‘Youth Guarantee’.*

The Council will submit an application for this funding to the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium by the deadline of 22nd October 2012. Organisations will be notified of the results by the end of January 2013.

How to make representation

Representations should be made to Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning), Level 3, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523400, email damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk or Dean Jackson, Assistant Director (Performance and Achievement) Level 3, Civic Centre, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY. Telephone 01429 523914, email dean.jackson@hartlepool.gov.uk

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Patrick Wilson, Employment Development Officer, Bryan Hanson House, Hanson Square Hartlepool, TS24 7BT. Telephone 01429 523517, email patrick.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk or Tom Argument, 11-19 Partnership Advisor, Education Development Centre, Seaton Lane, Hartlepool, TS25 1HN. Telephone 01429 287366, email tom.argument@hartlepool.gov.uk

DECISION REFERENCE: RN 02 / 13 HARTLEPOOL HOUSING STRATEGY END OF YEAR (2012-2013) REPORT AND ACTION PLAN REFRESH

Key Test Decision (ii) applies

Nature of the decision

Key decision to approve the refresh of the Housing Strategy 2011–2015 Action Plan and the end of year report for 2012-2013.

Who will make the decision?

The decision will be made by Cabinet

Ward(s) affected

All Wards

Timing of the decision

The decision is expected to be made in April 2013

Who will be consulted and how?

Monitoring of the Housing Strategy Action Plan is undertaken quarterly by the Housing Partnership and partnership members will be consulted on the refresh of the Action Plan for 2012-2013. The Housing Partnership is comprised of council officers, registered provider partners, private developers and the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods.

Information to be considered by the decision makers

Cabinet will consider how the Housing Strategy and Action Plan have contributed towards the key housing priorities for Hartlepool for the period 2012-2013. Cabinet will further consider new actions that are proposed to be included from April 2013 which either build upon completed actions or have been developed to address new issues and priorities that have emerged.

How to make representation

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

Further information

Further information can be obtained from Nigel Johnson (Housing Services Manager) 01429 284339 nigel.johnson@hartlepool.gov.uk

2.5 A summary of all key decisions are detailed in the Timetable of Key Decisions below:-

TIMETABLE OF KEY DECISIONS

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

1. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN MARCH 2013

CE 54/12 (page 10)	Local Welfare Support / Social Fund Localisation	Cabinet
CE 55/12 (page 12)	Senior Officer Structure	Cabinet / Council
CAS 129/12 (page 14)	Collaboration in Child and Adult Services	Cabinet / Council
CAS 139/12 (page 18)	Provision for Pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties	Portfolio Holder
CAS 002/13 (page 20)	Adult Substance Misuse Treatment Plans 2013/14	Cabinet
CAS 003/12 (page 22)	Dementia Day Services	Portfolio Holder
CAS 006/13 (page 25)	Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Final)	Cabinet / Council
RN 13/09 (page 31)	Disposal of Surplus Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder
RN 74/11 (page 33)	Former Leathers Chemical Site	Cabinet
RN 89/11 (page 34)	Former Brierton School Site	Portfolio Holder / Cabinet / Council
RN 90/11 (page 36)	Mill House Site Development and Victoria Park	Cabinet / Council
RN 98/11 (page 38)	Acquisition of Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder / Council
RN 5/12 (page 42)	Seaton Carew Development Sites – Results of Joint Working Arrangement with Preferred Developer	Cabinet
RN 11/12 (page 46)	Public Lighting Strategy	Portfolio Holder
RN 18/12 (page 48)	Leasing of Land to a Wind Turbine Developer for the Erection of Wind Turbines on Land at Brenda Road	Cabinet
RN 27/12 (page 53)	Coastal Communities Fund Round 2 Application	Portfolio Holder
RN 31/12 (page 55)	City Deal	Cabinet / Council
RN 33/12 (page 57)	High Street Innovation Fund	Portfolio Holder
RN 35/12 (page 61)	European Commission 'Youth Guarantee Scheme'	Cabinet
RN 39/12 (page 63)	Town Wall Coastal Works: Construction of Set-Back Flood Defence Wall and Associated Works	Cabinet

RN 40/12 (page 65)	Review of Concessionary Fare Payments to Bus Operators for 2013-2014	Cabinet
RN 03/13 (page 69)	Additional Local Highways Maintenance Funding 2013-14	Portfolio Holder
RN 07/13 (page 74)	Neighbourhood Planning	Cabinet

2. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN APRIL 2013

CAS 136/12 (page 16)	Updated Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan	Cabinet
CAS 004/13 (page 23)	Schools' Capital Works Programme 2013/14	Portfolio Holder
CAS 005/13 (page 24)	Adult Education Fees	Portfolio Holder
RN 10/12 (page 44)	Acquisition of the Longscar Building, Seaton Carew	Cabinet
RN 34/12 (page 59)	Adoption of the Review of the Long Term Coastal Management Strategy Covering the Frontage from Crimdon to Newburn Bridge	Cabinet / Council
RN 02/13 (page 67)	Hartlepool Housing Strategy End of Year (2012-2013) Report and Action Plan Refresh	Cabinet
RN 05/13 (page 71)	Supported Living – Land at Burbank St and Centre for Independent Living	Cabinet
RN 08/03 (page 76)	5 Year Highway Maintenance Programme 2012-2018	Portfolio Holder

3. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN MAY 2013

CE 46/11 (page 8)	Review of Community Involvement & Engagement (including LSP review): Update on decisions taken 'In principle'	Policy Committee / Council
RN 20/12 (page 51)	Selective Licensing	Policy Committee
RN 06/13 (page 73)	Local Transport Plan 2012/13 Out-Turn and 2013/14 Programme	Policy Committee

4. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN JUNE 2013

RN 99/11 (page 40)	Community Infrastructure Levy	Policy Committee
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- 2.6 Copies of the Executive's Forward Plan will be available at the meeting and are also available on request from the Scrutiny Team (01429 523647) prior to the meeting.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum:-

- (a) considers the Executive's Forward Plan; and
- (b) decides whether there are any items where value can be added to the decision by the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum in advance of the decision being made.

CONTACT OFFICER – Laura Stones – Scrutiny Support Officer
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523087
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper was used in preparation of this report:

- (a) The Forward Plan – (March 2013 – June 2013)