

# **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA**



**18 April 2013**

**at 3.00pm**

**in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

MEMBERS: 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 4 April 2013 *(to follow)*
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



## REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

18 April 2013



**Report of:** REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES  
SCRUTINY FORUM

**Subject:** DRAFT FINAL REPORT – INVESTIGATION INTO  
THE JSNA TOPIC OF 'EMPLOYMENT'

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To present the draft findings of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum following its investigation into the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) topic of Employment.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum met on the 2 August 2012 to consider their Work Programme and agreed that the Forum would in 2012/13 focus on the following JSNA topic:-

Employment - Increasing the number of people who are 'work ready' with the right skills to get local employment; helping people understand that they could have their own business, and help them to develop their entrepreneurial ideas.

- 2.2 The Marmot principle, 'Create Fair Employment and Good Work for all' was the overarching principle which the Forum used to measure the provision of Council Services throughout their investigation into Employment. The priority objectives and policy recommendations in relation to this principle being:-

#### **Priority Objectives:-**

- (a) Improve access to good jobs and reduce long-term unemployment across the social gradient;
- (b) Make it easier for people who are disadvantaged in the labour market to obtain and keep work; and

- (c) Improve quality of jobs across the social gradient.

### **Policy Recommendations**

- (a) Prioritise active labour market programmes to achieve timely interventions to reduce long-term unemployment;
- (b) Encourage, incentivise and, where appropriate, enforce the implementation of measures to improve the quality of jobs across the social gradient, by:
  - Ensuring public and private sector employers adhere to equality guidance and legislation; and
  - Implementing guidance on stress management and the effective promotion of wellbeing and physical and mental health at work.
- (c) Develop greater security and flexibility in employment, by:
  - Prioritising greater flexibility of retirement age; and
  - Encouraging and incentivising employers to create or adapt jobs that are suitable for lone parents, carers and people with mental and physical health problems.

## **3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

- 3.1 The membership of the Scrutiny Forum was as detailed below:-

Councillors Ainslie, Cranney, Dawkins, Hall (Chair), Payne, Sirs and Wells (Vice-Chair)

## **4. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION**

- 4.1 The overall aim of the Scrutiny investigation was 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'.

## **5. FINDINGS**

- 5.1 The terms of reference for the investigation were based on the ten key questions outlined in the JSNA. Members received evidence from a wide range of sources relating to these key questions and the findings are detailed in paragraphs 5.2 to 5.45 of this report. Details of evidence presented to the Forum is attached as **Appendix A**.

### *Setting the Scene*

5.2 At the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum held on 13 September 2012 and 11 October 2012, Members received a setting the scene presentation from the Economic Regeneration Team; verbal evidence from the Member of Parliament for Hartlepool; and verbal evidence from the Mayor as Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods. The presentation and evidence covered the following JSNA questions:-

- What are the key issues?
- What is the level of need?
- Who is at risk and why?

### **What are the key issues?**

- 5.3 Members supported the key issues identified in the Employment JSNA entry. However, Members raised concerns about constrained access to business finance and questioned whether banks were lending money. It was confirmed by the Economic Regeneration Manager that banks were lending money but based on standing lending criteria. This was a fundamental issue because it was difficult for start up businesses to access finance based on standard lending criteria. The Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning was aware of successful businesses being adversely affected by decisions made by banks.
- 5.4 Members recognised that one of the main key issues was decreasing levels of local pre-start up and start-up business support, particularly following the abolition of the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and Business Support Organisations. However, Hartlepool had made good progress on business start ups and Hartlepool's rate was above the Tees Valley and North East rate. Members were informed that business deaths had decreased and Hartlepool compared well with other localities.
- 5.5 The MP commented that the size of the Hartlepool economy was significantly smaller than the North East and UK averages which resulted in reduced economic activity. In addition to this, youth unemployment rates were high. The MP felt that this was due to young people not being able to gain employment because of lack of experience but not being able to gain experience because of not being able to get a job.
- 5.6 A key issue highlighted by the MP was long term unemployment and an over reliance on large employers, such as the Council and the NHS to provide employment. However, Members were very supportive of the fact that the engineering industries had the opportunity to increase employment and training opportunities within Hartlepool. Members emphasised the importance of the Council continuing to work together with the larger employers in the Tees Valley.

**What is the level of need?**

- 5.7 There are approximately 16 unemployed people for every vacancy in Hartlepool, which is the highest in the Tees Valley. Members welcomed securing investment and jobs through the offshore renewable energy sector, as Hartlepool is well placed geographically to attract this type of development. The Mayor highlighted that Hartlepool College of Further Education provided key training in the areas of nuclear power, aeronautics, renewables and engineering. These courses provided essential training to the next generation of the workforce to meet the needs of employers in the local area.
- 5.8 In relation to the Talent Match funding provided by the National Lottery, Members were disappointed that Hartlepool had not qualified to receive any of the funding. However, other Tees Valley Local Authorities had been invited to submit a bid.
- 5.9 The Forum was very supportive of the key role that economic development played in supporting the health and wellbeing of the town. The Mayor emphasised the importance of the involvement of Hartlepool in the development of the Local Enterprise Partnership across the Tees Valley with the potential to secure further bids to the Regional Growth Fund. It was essential that the Economic Regeneration Strategy and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy ensured that resources were utilised in the best way possible to meet the needs of residents in Hartlepool.

**Who is at risk and why?**

- 5.10 The Forum acknowledged that skilled workers were critical to the growth and success of a business. Members recognised that the reduction in industrial and manufacturing jobs within Hartlepool had impacted on the workforce which had resulted in a reduced skilled workforce. Members drew attention to recent statistics that highlighted that there was a skills gap in certain trade areas, including engineering. Figures collated by the Local Government Association showed that in construction nationally, approximately 123,000 people trained for approximately 275,000 advertised jobs. Similarly, in hairdressing approximately 94,000 completed hair and beauty courses, but only 18,000 jobs were available. Currently, in Hartlepool there were 420 apprentices aged 16-18 at Hartlepool College of Further Education and 350 over the age of 19. Members were pleased to hear that Hartlepool had the second highest number of 16-18 year olds in learning in the North East, the figure was 84.3%. This compared to a National average of 80.8% and a regional average of 79.1%, with only North Tyneside having a higher number of 16-18 year olds undertaking further education.
- 5.11 The MP highlighted that more work was needed to encourage the growth of small businesses. It was suggested by the MP that schemes such as entrepreneurs going into primary and secondary schools would be beneficial and / or low cost start up units should be considered by the Council to encourage people to start their own businesses. In relation to women

starting their own businesses, the MP indicated that the statistics revealed more women were starting their own businesses than men. However, there was still an expectation that businesses must always succeed first time. Members were of the opinion that a business failure should not be seen as a reason not to try again.

- 5.12 It was recognised by Members that the majority of start-up businesses were by people aged over 25. Members were very keen to encourage people under the age of 25 to start their own businesses or at least consider it as an option.
- 5.13 In relation to advice and resources available to new business start-ups. Members suggested the expansion of the One Stop Shop approach and how promotion should be inclusive of the harder to reach groups.
- 5.14 The MP was disappointed that the JSNA employment entry had not been uploaded onto the website and commented that there was no statistical evidence to recognise and support the fact that employment reduces health inequalities.

#### *Service Provision*

- 5.15 At the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Service Scrutiny Forum held on 13 December 2012, Members received a presentation from the Council's Economic Regeneration Team; the Council's School Improvement Advisor and representatives from a local school and college. Verbal evidence was received from the young people's representatives. The evidence presented covered the following JSNA questions:-
- What services are currently provided?
  - What evidence is there for effective intervention?

#### **What services are currently provided and what evidence is there for effective intervention?**

- 5.16 The Economic Regeneration Team provided Members with details of the range of services and projects provided by the Council. These included the Hartlepool Youth Investment Project, Youth Guarantee Scheme, FamilyWise, Flexible Support Fund; Incubator Business Support; Regional Growth Fund, Enterprise Zone and City Deal.
- 5.17 The Forum was informed by the School Improvement Advisor that statutory entitlement to work experience had been removed by the Government in 2012. The Youth Parliament believed that the removal of statutory work experience from school was disappointing and had a negative impact when trying to prepare young people for the world of work. The young people suggested that work experience or an alternative should be re-introduced into schools.

- 5.18 Members raised concerns that young people were not encouraged to consider self employment as a career option. It was confirmed by the Economic Regeneration Manager that the Hartlepool Youth Investment Programme linked business enterprises with schools and colleges to ensure self employment was discussed as a career option.
- 5.19 The Forum questioned the options that were available to young people who did not achieve a GCSE level of education. The 11-19 Framework for Economic Well-being was used across Hartlepool schools and the wider Tees Valley area to support young people into further education, training or employment. The school representative indicated that secondary schools had the responsibility to ensure that students were encouraged to achieve a GCSE standard of education and a personalised education programme was developed for all students based on whether they would be suited to achieving GCSE or vocational qualifications.
- 5.20 Members were of the view that age should not be a barrier to self-employment. However, the young people's representatives highlighted to Members that they did not have the option to study 'enterprise' at school. The Assistant Director of Regeneration and Planning confirmed that 'Young Enterprise' programmes were in place in some schools and offered as an extra curricula option to students in Years 10 and 12. These programmes were diverse in nature and focussed on the life span of a business from birth through to wind up. Members were strongly of the view that enterprise programmes should be introduced in all schools and also into youth centres to encourage entrepreneurial activity. It was suggested that programmes could include the option to set up a business within the school / youth centre, for example a tuck shop, which would provide young people with some of the practical skills needed for self employment. The promotion of business ventures should be shared with young people, for example, successes, such as the recent young person who sold his business for millions. It was acknowledged that people aged 50+ were also looking at self employment as an option.
- 5.21 Members viewed a DVD produced by the Wharton Trust which captured the views of young people on training, employment and education. The majority of young people on the DVD said that they would like to go onto further and higher education after school.
- 5.22 The Youth Parliament recommended to Members that it would be beneficial for colleges to make substantial links with employers to create work experience programmes. It would be beneficial if colleges and employers could develop a formal recruitment and selection process, the young people believed that this would be very beneficial as the employers could select through a formal and vigorous process and the young people would have an interest in the area as they would be studying it at college.
- 5.23 The young people believed that self employment opportunities were not very well promoted and suggested that agencies throughout the town needed to make young people more aware of where they can obtain information

regarding employment. The young people did express concerns about promoting self employment at a young age as young people may not be equipped with the skills at a young age. However, schools and colleges should be encouraging young people to consider this as an option.

- 5.24 Members received an update on the progress in Hartlepool of the Department for Work and Pensions' Work programme. Members felt that there should be a more collective approach between the Local Authority and the providers of the work programme as everyone is seeking the same outcomes. There were a number of concerns expressed by Members about the numbers of people in sustainable employment from the work programme in comparison to previous successful initiatives which secured employment, for example the Future Jobs Fund.

### **What do people say?**

- 5.25 The Forum at their meeting of 21 February 2013 received evidence in relation to the JSNA question 'What People Say'. As part of the investigation, the Forum sought views from the North and Coastal and South and Central Neighbourhood Forum meetings held on 3 October 2012. A presentation regarding the investigation into Employment was delivered to the Neighbourhood Forums and members of the public were asked to answer questions on the subject and were also able to ask questions and raise any matters of concern.
- 5.26 Members of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum welcomed the comments and views from the Neighbourhood Forums. A concern was raised at the Neighbourhood Forum meeting regarding the emphasis on qualifications. Members were of the view that schools should offer vocational and enterprise programmes tailored to young peoples' needs, aspirations and skills in order to provide young people with a variety of options, both academic and vocational.

### *Level of Need*

- 5.27 At the meeting of the Regeneration and Planning Service Scrutiny Forum held on 21 February 2013, Members received a presentation from the Skills Funding Agency, National Apprenticeship Service, Hartlepool's Job Centre Plus and the Council's Director of Public Health. The evidence presented covered the following JSNA questions:-

- What is the projected level of need / service use?
- What needs might be unmet
- What additional needs assessment is required

### **What is the projected level of need / service use?**

- 5.28 The representative from the National Apprenticeship Scheme, which supports, funds and co-ordinates the delivery of Apprenticeships throughout England confirmed that anyone aged between 16 and 65 can apply for an



apprenticeship and grants were available for employers who were new to offering apprenticeships or had not offered an apprenticeship within the previous 12 months. Members were informed that the target for participation in Hartlepool for apprenticeships was 20% and currently the participation rate in Hartlepool was 15%.

- 5.29 In relation to apprenticeships, Members questioned whether people who had not achieved the expected academic qualifications could secure an apprenticeship. Members were reassured that it was possible for people to secure an apprenticeship without the expected academic qualifications as there was additional support in place to help those people to achieve the appropriate academic qualifications. Although, this would be subject to the employers' requirements in relation to the essential qualifications and skills needed to commence employment within their company.
- 5.30 In relation to awareness of apprenticeships, Members were very interested to hear how people could be encouraged to apply for apprenticeships. Members welcomed the concept of traineeships, which would last up to six months and enable young people aged 16-18 years who were unemployed to gain skills required for work or an apprenticeship.
- 5.31 Members welcomed the introduction of the Environmental Apprenticeships which had been part funded from Members' Ward budgets. 15 people had been selected to undertake the apprenticeships.
- 5.32 Members questioned whether the Future Jobs Fund could be replicated by work programme providers. It was confirmed that Providers can offer advice and guidance on opportunities but it was the employers' decision whether to take part in an apprenticeship programme or offer permanent employment.
- 5.33 Members were mindful of the need to up skill the workforce but also the need to create longer term sustainable jobs. The Forum was supportive of the need for local authorities to be able to target funding for training into areas where there were local skills shortages, rather than targeted from Central Government. Members recognised that the City Deal bid was looking at direct links between trainers and employers to identify local need with the aim to channel funding into areas of need.
- 5.34 The Forum hoped that future health initiatives could focus on preventative actions to stop the escalation of ill health and mental health. For example, engaging with local people within their communities to promote health and encourage people who were long term unemployed to engage in community activities and develop new skills. Members were very supportive of a holistic approach to health and employment.

### **What needs might be unmet?**

- 5.35 Members acknowledged that there were still high numbers of young people aged 18 – 24 years who were unemployed in Hartlepool and that joint

working between schools, colleges, training providers and employers needed to continue.

- 5.36 In order to help people gain experience the Get Britain Working initiative provided work experience to those in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance. However, Members questioned what measures were in place to stop employers continually seeking people to undertake work experience at no cost. Members were pleased to hear that this initiative was managed very closely and if employers did take advantage of the service then discussions would take place in order to create a waged vacancy or if this was not successful, the Job Centre would stop sending volunteers to that company. The Job Centre Plus highlighted that work was ongoing to develop work clubs within the community.
- 5.37 Concerns were raised by Members around the potential problem in the future of a shortage of industry workers due to an ageing workforce and people not being skilled to undertake jobs in industry. One of the ways to help tackle this issue was that many training providers were working with retired workers to provide training and share their skills.
- 5.38 In relation to funding, it was highlighted by Members that young people were volunteering within the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), but the VCS organisations could not access training and obtain funding for qualifications because there was no funding to access. The representative from the Skills Funding Agency confirmed that there would be opportunities for providers to work with VCS organisations.
- 5.39 Members discussed clawing back of funding and future budget allocations. Members questioned whether provider organisations that had not hit their targets would have more flexibility to offer alternative training. However, it was for the provider organisations to be proactive about marketing and delivering Government priorities.

#### **What additional needs assessment is required?**

- 5.40 The Forum was supportive of the additional needs assessment as identified in the JSNA entry for employment.
- 5.41 The Director of Public Health delivered a presentation to Members which highlighted the Marmot Principles and how employment can improve health and wellbeing but also how employment can sometimes have a negative impact on health and wellbeing, for example stress.
- 5.42 Members discussed mental health and raised concerns about people who were employed but were reluctant to talk about their health due to fear of losing their jobs. The Director of Public Health strongly supported the need to talk about mental health and by doing this would in turn remove the stigma associated with mental health. Members highlighted that people who were long term unemployed may also suffer from mental health and often were offered no support when starting a new job. Good mental health was an

essential part of improving a person's health and wellbeing. Members commented that it was for the local authority to set an example and lead the way in supporting employees and cascade the message to all staff about good mental health. Members strongly believed that employment was a big determinate of health. It was essential that people were aware of mental health services and Managers raised awareness of 'good mental health' to their staff, this could be done by asking people from mental health charities to talk to staff. Members felt that the Council should be taking the lead on health and wellbeing and promoting good mental health.

- 5.43 Members supported the need for the Council to generate investment and income. The Forum suggested rewarding staff for successful investment and income ideas and also creating an online suggestion box for staff to submit ideas.

### **What are the recommendations for commissioning?**

- 5.44 The Forum was supportive of the recommendations for commissioning as detailed within the JSNA entry for employment.
- 5.45 In addition to the to the recommendations for commissioning identified in the JSNA entry, the Forum formulated the recommendations, outlined in section 6, to inform the development and delivery of the Health and Wellbeing and Commissioning Strategies.

## **6. RECOMMENDATIONS TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING AND COMMISSIONING STRATEGIES**

- 6.1 The Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum has taken evidence from a wide range of sources to assist in the formulation of a balanced range of recommendations. The Forum's key recommendations to inform the development and delivery of the Health and Wellbeing and Commissioning Strategies are:-

- 1) That the Employment JSNA entry is uploaded onto the JSNA website and is updated on a regular basis to reflect the needs of Hartlepool residents, including statistical information to support how employment reduces health inequalities
- 2) That within the Employment JSNA entry, the need to encourage the growth of businesses in Hartlepool is identified as a key issue and that the Council:-
  - (a) introduces schemes that promote entrepreneurial activity with specific focus on people under the age of 25. For example, entrepreneurs visiting primary and secondary schools to offer advice and mentoring and to highlight business successes and failures;

- (b) expands the current 'one stop shop' approach to provide advice and resources to new business start ups and to promote self employment opportunities including to the harder to reach groups; and
  - (c) pursues funding and investment opportunities with companies, for example, explores offering investment packages to new businesses, such as revolving loans, low interest funds and buying shares in growing companies
- 3) That partnership working is included in the JSNA entry and that the Council works with schools, colleges, training providers and employers to:-
  - (a) help support the implementation of the Hartlepool Youth Investment programme;
  - (b) explore the option of creating work experience programmes for students at secondary school and college;
  - (c) introduce vocational and enterprise programmes in schools and use council services, for example, youth centres, to teach young people about self employment and help prepare young people for work by equipping young people with the right skills;
  - (d) widely communicate and publicise the local need for skills in the engineering, manufacturing and renewable energy sectors to encourage people to train in these areas, as local companies are suffering a shortage of skilled workers; and
  - (e) support the devolvement of training funds to local authorities to match training to the local need for skills
- 4) That the Council, through the Health and Wellbeing Board:-
  - (a) focus future health initiatives on preventative actions to stop the escalation of ill-health and mental health within communities; and
  - (b) raise awareness to Council employees of the mental health services available to enable employees to access the services if required
- 5) That the Council encourage staff to put forward ideas for investment and income generation, for example by rewarding staff for successful ideas and / or creating an online suggestion box for staff to submit ideas

**COUNCILLOR GERARD HALL  
CHAIR OF THE REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY  
FORUM**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Forum is grateful to all those who have presented evidence during the course of our investigation. We would like to place on record our appreciation, in particular of the willingness and co-operation we have received from the below named:-

Hartlepool Borough Council:

Elected Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods –  
Stuart Drummond

Damien Wilson – Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)

Louise Wallace – Director of Public Health

Antony Steinberg – Economic Regeneration Manager

Patrick Wilson – Employment Development Officer

Mark Smith – Head of Integrated Youth Support Services

Tom Argument – School Improvement Adviser

Kimberley Bell – Participation Worker

Hartlepool Youth Parliament

External Representatives:

Iain Wright, Member of Parliament for Hartlepool

Graeme Cadas – Job Centre Plus

Simon Wigington – National Apprenticeship Service

David Jackson – Skills Funding Agency

Lee Brown – Deputy Headteacher, Dyke House School

Jane Steel – Director of Curriculum, Hartlepool College of Further Education

Teresa Driver – Wharton Trust

## Appendix A

### Evidence provided to the Forum

The following evidence was presented to the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum throughout the course of the investigation into the JSNA topic of 'Employment':-

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Evidence Received</b>
2 August 2012	Scoping Report – <i>Scrutiny Support Officer</i>
13 September 2012	Setting the Scene Presentation – <i>Economic Regeneration Manager</i>  Verbal Evidence – <i>Mayor as Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods</i>
11 October 2012	Verbal Evidence – <i>Member of Parliament for Hartlepool</i>
13 December 2012	Service Provision and Effective Intervention – Presentation – <i>Economic Regeneration Team, local school / college; Youth Support Service</i>  DVD – <i>Wharton Trust</i>
17 January 2013	Written Evidence – Feedback on the JSNA Topic of Employment – <i>Hartlepool Youth Parliament</i>
21 February 2013	Projected Level of Need / Service Use; Unmet Needs; Additional Needs Assessment – Presentation – <i>Representatives from Job Centre Plus, national Apprenticeship Service and The Skills Funding Agency</i>
21 March 2013	Verbal Evidence - Health and Employment – <i>Director of Public Health</i> Recommendations for Commissioning – Presentation – <i>Economic Regeneration Team</i> Verbal Evidence – <i>Hartlepool Youth Parliament</i>

## **REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

**18 April 2013**



**Report of:** Scrutiny Support Officer

**Subject:** THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD PLAN

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### **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 (April 2013 – July 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 have been 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 4<sup>th</sup> August 2011. The DPDs were jointly adopted by the Tees Valley Authorities on the 15<sup>th</sup> 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. It is anticipated that 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 it is anticipated that this will be 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. It is proposed that a report will be presented to Cabinet in early 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD.

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 the preparation of bids for funding. Work on this is progressing.

Seaton Carew SPD – Cabinet agreed on 27<sup>th</sup> 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 is progressing

Design SPD – Cabinet agreed on 27<sup>th</sup> 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 is progressing. It is proposed that a report will be presented to Cabinet in early 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD. It is anticipated that this would be presented to Council in 2013 with a view to adoption.

Trees and Development Guidelines – SPD Cabinet agreed on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2012 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 early 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD. It is anticipated that this would be presented to Council in summer 2013 with a view to adoption.

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. The SPD was presented to Cabinet in February 2013 to request agreement to public consultation of this SPD. It is anticipated that this would be presented to Council in summer 2013 with a view to adoption.

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 2011 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. It is anticipated that this document will be reviewed in 2013/14.

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](mailto: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 April 2013. Further decisions on the Masterplan will follow in 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 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

Cabinet considered the Masterplan and the potential disposal of Victoria Park to the Football Club at the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012 and it was agreed that the disposal should be referred to Full Council for decision. A Members presentation was held on 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Graham.Frankland@hartlepool.gov.uk)

E mail: [Damien.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 on 15<sup>th</sup> April 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 appropriate Policy Committee

**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 May 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 April 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:damien.wilson@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 April 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 on 29<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 APRIL 2013**

CAS 129/12 (page 11)	Collaboration in Child and Adult Services	Cabinet /Council
CAS 004/13 (page 17)	Schools' Capital Works Programme 2013/14	Portfolio Holder
CAS 005/13 (page 18)	Adult Education Fees	Portfolio Holder
CAS 006/13 (page 19)	Health and Wellbeing Strategy (Final)	Council
CAS 007/13 (page 20)	Low Level Support Services	Cabinet
RN 13/09 (page 26)	Disposal of Surplus Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder
RN 74/11 (page 28)	Former Leathers Chemical Site	Cabinet
RN 89/11 (page 29)	Former Brierton School Site	Portfolio Holder / Cabinet / Council
RN 90/11 (page 31)	Mill House Site Development and Victoria Park	Cabinet / Council
RN 98/11 (page 33)	Acquisition of Assets	Cabinet / Portfolio Holder / Council
RN 5/12 (page 37)	Seaton Carew Development Sites – Results of Joint Working Arrangement with Preferred Developer	Cabinet
RN 18/12 (page 41)	Leasing of Land to a Wind Turbine Developer for the Erection of Wind Turbines on Land at Brenda Road	Cabinet
RN 31/12/ (page 48)	City Deal	Cabinet / Council
RN 34/12 (page 50)	Adoption of the Review of the Long Term Coastal Management Strategy covering the Frontage from Crimdon to Newburn Bridge	Cabinet / Council
RN 35/12 (page 52)	European Commission 'Youth Guarantee Scheme'	Cabinet
RN 39/12 (page 54)	Town Wall Coastal Works: Construction of Set-Back Flood Defence Wall and Associated Works	Cabinet
RN 40/12 (page 56)	Review of Concessionary Fare Payments to Bus Operators for 2013-2014	Cabinet
RN 02/13 (page 58)	Hartlepool Housing Strategy End of Year (2012-2013) Report and Action Plan Refresh	Cabinet
RN 05/13 (page 60)	Supported Living – Land at Burbank Street and Centre for Independent Living	Cabinet

RN 08/13 (page 63)	5 Year Highway Maintenance Programme 2012-2018	Portfolio Holder
RN 09/13 (page 65)	Community Pool Category 4 Grant Allocations 2013/14	Cabinet

## 2. 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
CAS 139/12 (page 15)	Provision for Pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties	Policy Committee
RN 11/12 (page 39)	Public Lighting Strategy	Policy Committee
RN 20/12 (page 44)	Selective Licensing	Policy Committee
RN 27/12 (page 46)	Coastal Communities Fund Round 2 Application	Policy Committee
RN 06/13 (page 62)	Local Transport Plan 2012/13 Out-turn and 2013/14 Programme	Policy Committee

## 3. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN JUNE 2013

CAS 136/12 (page 13)	Updated Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan	Policy Committee
RN 99/11 (page 35)	Community Infrastructure Levy	Policy Committee

## 4. DECISIONS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN JULY 2013

No items

- 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 523087) 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  
Email: [laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:laura.stones@hartlepool.gov.uk)

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

- (a) The Forward Plan – April 2013 – July 2013

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 7.1 Draft Final Report into the JSNA Topic of Employment – *Chair of the Regeneration and Planning Services Scrutiny Forum - (to follow)*

**8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN**

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

**9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT**

**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

