

CABINET AGENDA



Wednesday 29th March 2006

at 2:30 p.m.

in Committee Room B

MEMBERS: CABINET:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond

Councillors Fortune, Hill, Jackson, Payne and R Waller

Also invited: Councillor Preece

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To receive the Record of Decision in respect of the meeting held on 13th March, 2006 (*previously circulated*)

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 4.1 Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) – *Director of Children's Services*
4.2 Youth Justice Plan 2006-2007- *The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*

5. KEY DECISIONS

- 5.1 Construction, Property Management and Highways Partnership– *The JVC Steering Group*
5.2 Joint Commissioning With Hartlepool PCT – *Director of Adult and Community Services*
5.3 New Deal for Communities Community Housing Plan - Thornton Street – *The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services and the Director of Neighbourhood Services*

6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 6.1 Committee on Radio Active Waste Management (CORWM) – *The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)*
- 6.2 Efficiency Strategy – *Chief Financial Officer*
- 6.3 Selective Licensing and Voluntary Accreditation of Private Rented Accommodation – *Director of Neighbourhood Services*

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 7.1 None

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 8.1 Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership – *The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)*

9. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS

- 9.1 Scrutiny of the Second Draft of the Children and Young People's Plan – Final Report (to be presented by Councillor Preece) – *Children's Services Scrutiny Forum*

EXEMPT ITEMS

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10. EXEMPT KEY DECISIONS

- 10.1 None

11. OTHER EXEMPT ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 11.1 None

CABINET

29th March 2006



Report of: Director of Children's Services

Subject: Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider the third draft of the Children and Young People's Plan

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

2.1 This report provides information on the process of preparation and publication of a first Children and Young People's Plan for Hartlepool, as required by the Children Act 2004. The third draft of the Plan is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

3.1 Executive to consider the report and draft Plan and refer the Plan to full Council for approval on 13th April 2006.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

4.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is part of the Budget and Policy Framework of the Council.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

5.1 As part of the Budget and Policy Framework, the Children and Young People's Plan requires the involvement of scrutiny.

5.2 A third draft of the Children and Young People's Plan has been prepared following comments from Children's Services Scrutiny Forum and the outcomes of consultation. Subject to the views of Cabinet, the third draft will be presented to full Council for consideration and approval on 13th April 2006.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

6.1 Members are requested to refer the third draft of the Children and Young People's Plan to full Council for consideration and approval.

Report to: Cabinet
Report of: Director of Children's Services
Date: 29th March 2006
Subject: Children and Young People's Plan

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the third draft of the Children and Young People's Plan

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Hartlepool Borough Council has a duty, under the Children Act 2004, to prepare and publish a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The CYPP is to be the overarching strategic plan for all services for the children and young people of the area. The Council has a duty to promote collaboration between itself and its main strategic partners and to consult with specified organisations and groups.
- 2.2 The preparation of Hartlepool's first Children and Young People's Plan was launched at Hartlepool's Maritime Experience on 7th September 2005, attended by almost 80 people representing the Council, individual partners and partner organisations.
- 2.3 A first draft of the Children and Young People's Plan was produced in November 2005 and a first round of consultation took place from mid November until mid December 2005. The outcomes of this consultation contributed significantly to the second draft, which was considered by Cabinet on 24th January 2006.
- 2.4 With Cabinet approval, the second draft of the Plan was considered by Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 7th February 2006 and 7th March 2006, with the outcomes of this scrutiny investigation reported to Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on 10th March 2006.
- 2.5 At its meeting of 24th January 2006, Cabinet also approved a second round of public consultation, which started immediately and ran until 21st February. The outcomes of this consultation were reported to Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 7th March and helped inform the Forum's consideration of the second draft.

- 2.6 Children's Services Scrutiny Forum members were extremely complimentary about the preparation of the draft Plan, its content and the quality and scope of consultation. A number of amendments have been made to the draft, in light of comments from the Forum. Other issues raised by the Forum will be addressed during the first year of the life of the Plan

3. KEY FEATURES AND OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Throughout the two consultation periods, officers of the Children's Services Department have engaged with a wide range of partners, stakeholders and the general public. Three reference groups (Core, Voluntary and Community Sector and Staff) were established and have met on a number of occasions. The Core Reference Group consists of representatives of key strategic partner organisations. The Voluntary and Community Sector Reference Group was convened democratically by the Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency and enabled members of the planning group to meet with a wide range of organisations. The Staff Reference Group involved employees working within the Children's Services Department at various levels. Members of all three reference groups indicated that they supported the process of preparing the Children and young People's Plan and the content of the two earlier drafts on which they were consulted.
- 3.2 A particular feature of the preparation of the draft Children and Young People's Plan has been engagement with children and young people. This was achieved with the cooperation of schools, youth groups and other organisations with direct access to children and young people. The key tool for discerning the views of children and young people was a prioritisation exercise, known as "Diamond Nine", where children and young people were invited to identify their top priorities from the outcome aims of "Every Child Matters". This information was gathered during the first stage of consultation, analysed and then used in the second stage of consultation to explore in more detail, with children and young people, their aspirations and needs.
- 3.3 During the first stage of consultation parents and carers were consulted through forum meetings and the general public were able to contribute by:
- Completing the Consultation Response Form;
 - Attending a drop-in event at the Grand Hotel;
 - Telephoning a named contact;
 - Sending an email to a dedicated address;
 - Writing a letter.
- 3.4 The second stage of consultation focused heavily on direct engagement with children and young people and with the public. A major event was organised at the Mayfair and was attended by a large number of children and young people aged between six months and twenty-five years, in some cases along with their parents and carers.

- 3.5 One of the definite major issues for children and young people is the fear of bullying. This may at least partially explain why children and young people feel they need to congregate and belong to certain key fashion groups. We have identified the issue of fear of bullying in the draft Plan and intend to explore it in much more detail during the first year of implementation.
- 3.6 On the same day as the Mayfair event, young people from two of the local colleges conducted a survey of adults in the Middleton Grange Shopping Centre. The main purpose was to test informally whether the responses of adults were consistent with those of children and young people. The results were generally very positive, but did reveal that adults who were surveyed did not feel particularly strongly about issues of difference, such as prioritising boys' under-achievement.

4. DECISION REQUIRED

- 4.1 Members are requested to refer the third draft of the Children and Young People's Plan to full Council for consideration and approval.



THE BIG PLAN!
(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

THIRD DRAFT MARCH 2006

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Foreword by the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

I am delighted to introduce the very first Children and Young People's Plan for Hartlepool. This Plan will commit all of us, who are involved in planning and delivering services to children and young people, to work together to secure the welfare and improve the outcomes for all our children and young people.

I recognise that the Children Act gives the responsibility for preparing and publishing this Plan to Hartlepool Borough Council, but I am particularly pleased to be able to thank all of our partners, children, young people, parents and carers and members of the public who have taken part in the preparation of the drafts and the consultation processes that have led to the Plan's publication.



Councillor Cath Hill
Portfolio Holder for
Children's Services
Hartlepool Borough
Council

Foreword by the Director of Children's Services

As Hartlepool's first Director of Children's Services, it gives me great pleasure to introduce this first Children and Young People's Plan, although this has been prepared by my Department, it owes its existence to tremendous collaboration between a wide range of partners and stakeholders, not just in Hartlepool, but beyond. It demonstrates the huge commitment we have to working together on the five national outcomes for children.

I am particularly pleased that we have been able to focus on listening to our children and young people and reflecting their views and aspirations in 'The Big Plan!', our major strategic planning document.

I think that this Plan represents an excellent beginning and I am sure it will develop even further as we continue to work together over the coming years, especially as we develop a Children's Trust and work with our partners towards even greater collaboration, for the benefit of the children and young people whom we are all proud to serve.



Adrienne Simcock
Director of Children's
Services Hartlepool
Borough Council

Foreword by Members of the United Kingdom Youth Parliament

As the Members of the Youth Parliament (MYP) for Hartlepool we feel that the Children and Young People's Plan is a really good step for all children and young people in Hartlepool. Children and young people have very much been involved through various methods, for example the Diamond nine exercise, the Hartlepool Young Voices Group and the event at the Mayfair in February.

We think the plan will be a great success as it has involved loads of young people and is a very good starting point to base the development of services on.

As the Hartlepool MYP reps we will be more than willing to speak to groups such as the Hartlepool Young Voices and any other youth provisions in the town to make sure young people are kept involved as we feel the Children and Young People's Plan is very important.

- Laura Tarran - Hartlepool MYP
- Jonathan Simpson - Hartlepool Deputy MYP

THE BIG PLAN!

(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

PART 1

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

Introduction

The Children and Young People's Plan is about improving the lives of our children and young people in Hartlepool. They face great opportunities and pressures and we believe that by working together we can improve their lives both now and into the future. The involvement of children and young people in the development of the plan has enriched the process and has ensured that we remain focussed on positive outcomes for each of them.

The responsibility for preparing and publishing a Children and Young People's Plan is given to the Local Authority by the Children Act 2004. The Local Authority is required to "promote co-operation" between itself and its key partners. This Children and Young People's Plan is the over-arching strategic Plan that will cover all services available to the children and young people of Hartlepool. Its main aim is to ensure that all partners engaged in providing services for children and young people do so in a co-ordinated way. In the preparation of this Plan, Hartlepool partners have begun to work even more closely together and will continue to do so as this three-year rolling Plan is reviewed and refreshed.

There has been agreement nationally on the five outcomes that really matter to the lives of children and young people and these are now law in the Children's Act 2004. The five outcomes are:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well-being

Be Healthy refers to physical, mental, emotional and sexual health, with an emphasis on healthy lifestyles and making positive choices not to take drugs.

Stay Safe refers to being safe from maltreatment, neglect, sexual exploitation, accidental injury and death, bullying and discrimination, crime and anti-social behaviour.

Enjoy and Achieve refers to being ready for school, attending and enjoying school, achieving high standards at primary and secondary stages of education, personal and social development and recreation.

Make a Positive Contribution refers to the engagement of children and young people in decision-making and community support activities, positive and law-abiding behaviour, developing positive relationships and self-confidence and dealing with change and enterprise.

Achieve Economic Well-being refers to engagement in further education, employment or training, being ready for employment, living in decent homes and communities, being free from low income and having access to transport and material goods.

This Children and Young People's Plan identifies the high level strategic priorities for the next three years (2006-2009). A number of operational plans provide the detail of how these strategic priorities will be implemented. The relationship of the Children and Young People's Plan to these subordinate plans is shown in the "Bookcase" in Appendix 1. It is important that **all** children and young people benefit from the Plan. This includes those children and young people who use mainly universal services; these are services everyone uses such as maternity services at birth and schools when children get older. Some children and young people need extra support such as if a child has a disability or is fostered. To ensure that this support is available, some themes are tackled in each outcome such as Looked After children and young people and those with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

This Plan is not meant to cover everything, but to concentrate on making things better.

Vision

Our vision is that by enabling all children and young people to achieve their full potential, they will have the confidence and ability to enjoy a fruitful and successful life. Our overarching aim is to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people so that they are healthy and safe, they enjoy themselves and achieve well, they make a positive contribution and they are helped to achieve economic well being. Services to children and young people in Hartlepool should be organised in such a way that they will help all our young people achieve their full potential and maximise their chances in life by providing integrated provision which is of high quality, effective and excellent value for money.

We believe that services for children and young people should be coherent, easily accessible and responsive to needs. Families can best meet the needs of their children when services are locally delivered and available at the right time. The integration of services for children and young people in settings such as children's centres and extended schools is critical in the delivery of this vision. We believe that targeted support may be needed at all ages and stages of a particular young person's development and that early and effective intervention can reduce barriers that prevent success.

This vision is underpinned by some key principles:

- Children and young people, together with parents or carers and other members of the community, are consulted and participate in the identification of local needs and shaping of service delivery;
- Children and young people have access to equitable universal services, alongside targeted and specialist services and these are delivered flexibly to meet individual and local needs;
- There is a shared commitment to integrated working practices which are designed to promote the delivery of the five outcomes for children and young people;
- There is a commitment to partnership working between all stakeholders from both the statutory and community and voluntary sectors;
- Resourcing, planning and commissioning are effective and help to develop sustainable services;
- Evidence based practice is used to develop high quality continuous improvement through monitoring and evaluation;
- Inclusion, both social and educational, together with the recognition of diversity, is central to the Children and Young People's Plan.

The multiple nature of the social problems experienced by a large proportion of the population means that a partnership approach is essential if improvements are to be maintained. The Children and Young People's Plan further contributes to the working arrangements and supports the Hartlepool Partnership's long-term vision:

"A prosperous, caring, confident and outward looking community, realising its potential in an attractive environment."

And its goal:

"To regenerate Hartlepool by promoting economic, social and environmental well-being in a sustainable manner."

The Children and Young People's Plan also contributes to the Council's overall aim, which is:

"To take direct action and work in partnership with others, to continue the revitalisation of Hartlepool life and secure a better future for Hartlepool people".

Priorities for children and young people are embedded in the Hartlepool Community Strategy and aim to help "all individuals, groups and organisations realise their full potential, ensure the highest quality opportunities in education, lifelong learning and training, and raise

standards of attainment.” The aim of the Health and Social Care theme is to “ensure access to the highest quality health, social care and support services, and improve the health, life expectancy and well-being of the community.

Context

Hartlepool, a compact and densely populated town, is located on the North East coast of England at the North Eastern end of the Tees Valley. The population is largely concentrated in the urban area, although the Borough as a whole (9,386 hectares) is predominantly rural, with some distinct villages and attractive countryside. Overall, the population of 90,161 (2003) is projected to decline slightly over the next ten years, with older age groups increasing and younger age groups reducing. The 0-19 age group represent 27% (24,269) of the population which is above the national average (23%), although this is projected to fall by over 12% over the next 13 years. The *ethnic minority population is low (1.9%) but significant.

According to the 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), eight out of Hartlepool's seventeen wards are among the top 10% most deprived in England, with five of these wards being in the top 3%. Unemployment in January 2006 stood at 4.4% compared to 2.6% nationally. The 2001 census indicated that 60.1% of households (22,684) had a car, 8.7% (3,234) were single parent families and 21.4% (7,986) were households with dependant children.

In Hartlepool approximately 390 private landlords are registered on the Registered Landlord Scheme and own 1,500 of the 2,700 homes in the Borough that are privately let. There is a significant shortage of affordable single room accommodation that can be rented by young people.

A quarter (24.4%) of Hartlepool's residents identified themselves as having a limiting long-term illness in the 2001 Census, compared to less than one in five nationally (18.2%). Hartlepool males on average live 2.8 years less than the English average and females live 2.3 years less. There are wide variations in life expectancy in Hartlepool between council wards. For males the difference between the best and worse is 13.3 years and for females 11.8 years.

In Hartlepool, in 2005, there were:

- 606 children in need receiving social care services
- 125 looked after children
- 101 children on the child protection register
- 447 children with a statement of special educational needs

There are six secondary schools, 31 primary schools and 2 special schools in Hartlepool catering for 1,275 nursery children, 8,160 primary pupils and 6,347 secondary pupils. Of these 2.9% had a statement of special educational needs in 2005, which is in line with national averages. Attendance in primary schools is in line with the national average at 94.7% in 2005. In secondary schools it was 92.7%, which is also in line with national comparator (92.18%). 23.5% of primary pupils and 18.9% of secondary pupils were eligible for a free school meal; both figures are in line with national averages.

The proportion of 16-19 year olds in education or training is good and the number of young people classified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) is below that of statistical neighbours. The number of young people classified as NEET has fallen from 14.3% in 2004 to 9.8% in 2005.

* *In this Plan, references to ethnic communities are intended to include references to travellers, asylum seekers and refugees.*

Teenage pregnancy rates in Hartlepool are high (64.1 per 1000 females aged 15-17 in 2004) in comparison with the national average (42.1 per 1000) and regional comparators. This is despite achieving the 2004 interim target of a 15.2% reduction on the 1998 baseline. However, this data needs to be treated with caution, due to the small numbers involved, and any slight increase will have a significant effect on the rates.

In 2004 the number of criminal offences committed by young people for which there was a substantive outcome rose to 602, an increase of 2 from the previous year. 350 young people offended in 2004 which represents 3.4% of the 10-17 years population. During the same period re-offending reduced from 61% to 56%.

Preparation of the Plan

The process of drafting the first Children and Young People's Plan for Hartlepool began formally with a Launch Seminar at Hartlepool Maritime Experience on 7th September 2005. Almost eighty people attended, representing the Borough Council, individual partners and partner organisations. These included Cleveland Police, the Voluntary and Community Sector, Diocesan Authorities, Health Authorities and Trusts, the Learning and Skills Council, the private sector, schools, colleges, trade unions, Hartlepool's UK Youth Parliament Member, and Hartlepool's Member of Parliament,

After the Launch Seminar a number of reference groups were established. Views expressed at the launch event, at Reference Group meetings and by individuals contributed to the first draft of the Plan, produced in November 2005. The draft Plan received wide publicity. Extensive consultation on the first draft followed, including further meetings of Reference Groups, a Road Show, Neighbourhood Forum Meetings and Parent Focus Groups. This led to the production of a second draft in January 2006. The second draft was considered by Hartlepool's Cabinet and Children's Services Scrutiny Forum and was subject to a second round of consultation during February 2006 leading to final agreement by the Council in April 2006. At the same time, partner organisations are consulting on the Plan and seeking agreement through their own governance arrangements.

The involvement of children and young people has been crucial to the preparation of this Plan. We are extremely grateful to Hartlepool's UK Youth Parliament Member for support throughout the process. We have established a young people's reference group and have begun to support the participation of children and young people through their daily contacts with statutory, voluntary, community and private sector organisations, providing them with a first opportunity to consult. This has enabled some engagement with a wide range of children and young people including those that we sometimes experience difficulty relating to. We are satisfied that this process, and the proposed follow up from it, will highlight our intent to put the views of children and young people at the centre of our planning. A number of children and young people will also help to produce a children and young people's version of the final Plan; this will be available separately in April 2006.

We are rightly proud of our involvement with young people in the preparation of the Plan and see this relationship developing in the future, ensuring the effective involvement of young people in the monitoring and review process and the future development of services.

A list of key contributors to the development of the Plan is included at Appendix 3

Summary of Key Outcomes

This next part of the Plan is subdivided into each of the five outcome areas for children and young people and gives an overview of the Current Position, Key Priorities and Main Success Criteria for each outcome.

The summary aims to identify the most significant issues to be addressed during the life of the Plan. Information relating to each outcome area such as “Be Healthy” is referenced within the relevant chapters (2 to 6). The key priorities identified under each outcome have a reference number which links to the highlighted areas within the table in each chapter.

BE HEALTHY

Current Position (from Annual Performance Assessment (APA) May 2005)

Overall, local services make a good contribution to improving children and young people’s health. Services consistently deliver well above minimum requirements for children and young people. There are examples of innovative practice in relation to:

- Smoking cessation, as Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT) had the highest quit success rate in the area;
- Care Coordination for children with severe disabilities which has received very positive feedback from parents.

Key Priorities

- Further improve the reduction in teenage conception rates; (1.1.7), (1.2.4), (1.2.5)
- Engage in further discussion with partner agencies regarding Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS); (1.4.1)
- Further explore the opportunity to extend the care co-ordination process beyond the pre school years; (1.6.2)
- Improve sexual health through better access to Genito Urinary Medicine (GUM) and Chlamydia screening; (1.1.12)
- Increase the uptake of Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) immunisation; (1.7.5)
- Put measures in place to reduce childhood obesity. (1.7.6)

Main Success Criteria

- Reduction in teenage pregnancy conception rate;
- Increased partnership working for children and young people with complex, persistent and severe behavioural disorders;
- Increase in the number of children with disabilities in the care co-ordination process.

STAY SAFE

Current Position (from APA May 2005)

Overall, local services make a good contribution to ensuring that children and young people in Hartlepool remain safe. Services consistently deliver above minimum requirements for children and young people. There are examples of innovative practice in relation to:

- Provision of a therapeutic service for children and young people;
- A Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) has already been established.

Key Priorities

- Develop partnership arrangements to address the concerns of children and young people about bullying; (2.2.2)
- Develop a multi-agency training plan to meet the needs of all staff and volunteers who work with children in any setting in Hartlepool; (2.2.1), (2.4.2))
- Develop the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board to encompass the wider remit of Safeguarding while maintaining a strong emphasis on Child Protection; (2.3.1), (2.4.1))
- Improve the way that referrals and core assessments are measured; (2.6.1)
- Explore the reasons why more initial child protection conferences occur in Hartlepool than in similar councils; (2.6.1)
- Improve the percentage of looked after children for more than 4 years who have been in the same foster placements for 2+ years; (2.7.1)
- Improve the number of looked after children adopted during the year. (2.7.1)

Main Success Criteria

- Reduction in percentage of 11 – 15 year olds who state they have been bullied in the last 12 months;
- Reduction in percentage of children and young people expressing concern about fear of crime and anti-social behaviour (to be confirmed with partners);
- Delivery of a multi-agency training plan;
- Compliance with Local Safeguarding Children Board Child Protection Procedures and requirements;
- Reduction in numbers of initial and core assessments;
- Reduction in numbers of Initial Child Protection Conferences following child protection enquiries;
- Improvement in long-term stability for looked after children;
- Increase in number of looked after children who are adopted.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

Current Position (from APA May 2005)

Overall, local services make a very good contribution to children and young people enjoying and achieving. Nearly all services consistently deliver above minimum requirements and some, such as early years and provision 5-16, deliver well above. (Innovative practice is evident and outcomes are generally improving.)

There are examples of innovative practices in relation to:

- use of regeneration funding to support vulnerable children and young people in education settings;
- establishing learning support centres to disaffected children and young people in school and out of school settings.
-

Key Priorities

- Improve the performance of children and young people across all key stages, but in particular Key Stage 1, Key Stage 3 English, science and ICT and Key Stage 4 English and maths; (3.3.1)
- Improve the performance of boys across all key stages but especially at Key Stage 3 where the gap is widest; (3.3.4)
- Increase the number of excluded pupils who are successfully reintegrated into mainstream settings; (3.5.1)
- Improve the educational achievement of Looked After Children and Young People; (3.7)
- Work more closely with partners, including the voluntary sector, in order to improve the quality and range of recreational activities for children and young people in school and other settings. (3.6.2)

Main Success Criteria

- Performance at Key Stage 1 (% of 7 year olds achieving Level 2 or above) increases faster than the national rate. National averages are achieved by 2008;
- Performance at Key Stage 3 (% of 14 year olds achieving Level 5 or above) improves faster than the national rate in English, science and ICT. Targets agreed with DfES are achieved and national average reached by 2009;
- Percentage of 16 year olds achieving grade A*-G and A*-C increases in English and mathematics. National averages are reached by 2010;
- Percentage of excluded pupils reintegrated into mainstream settings to be improved significantly;
- Performance of Looked After Children (LAC) improves. National expected targets achieved by 2010. All LAC make better than expected progress (positive value added).

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Current Position (from APA May 2005)

Overall, local services make a good contribution to enabling children and young people to make a positive contribution. Services consistently deliver above minimum requirements for children and young people. There are examples of innovative practice in relation to:

- Post-19 support for young people with special education needs. Joint working between the local further education (FE) college and special school has resulted in specific services being targeted on this group;
- Appointment of vulnerable pupils' coordinator for mobile pupils, looked after children, children from ethnic minorities, children with English as an additional language (EAL) and travelling children;
- Hartlepool Ethnic Minority Achievement Team target support for children from black and ethnic minorities;
- Behaviour and Education Support Team (multi-agency) provides emotional literacy programmes for schools;
- Young people in care are involved in the recruitment of social care staff;
- Children's Fund supported the development of a video ('Totally Different') involving local black and minority ethnic community.

Key Priorities

- Ensure we review procedures that are in place to tackle bullying; (4.3.1)
- Develop clear links between participation processes for children and young people, service providers, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the local political process; this will include further development of school councils as well as seeking opportunities to engage with children and young people outside of mainstream services; (4.1.1)
- Continue to divert children and young people away from anti social behaviour and crime, through further development of preventative services; (4.2.1)
- Continue to focus on ensuring that positive outcomes are achieved for looked after children by placing them at the centre of the planning process; (4.3.4)
- Ensure that all children and young people have access to services that support the development of self-confidence, self worth and emotional resilience and that enable them to face significant life changes and challenges with appropriate support; (4.4.1)
- Continue to find innovative ways to engage with and involve children from black and minority ethnic communities in service development; (4.3.2)
- Prevent re-offending and support victims of crime;
- Develop further the process for involving looked after children in their reviews and planning for their future; (4.3.4)
- Develop effective transition arrangements for young people moving from children's to adult care. (1.6.1) (5.7.1) (2.8.1)

Main Success Criteria

- Increase in percentage of children in secondary schools participating in elections;
- Reduction in numbers of children and young people committing offences;
- Reduction in numbers of permanent and fixed term exclusions;
- A participation strategy is in place;
- Increase in percentage of children and young people who are looked after taking part in their reviews;
- Procedures for children and young people moving from children's to adult care are in place.

ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Current Position (from APA May 2005)

Overall, services to children and young people that contribute and support them to achieve economic well-being are good. For 14-19 and Special Educational Needs (SEN), some services consistently deliver above minimum requirements.

There is some innovative practice which is cost-effective:

- make a good contribution to the wider outcomes for the community;
- relation to children and young people who are looked after, services are satisfactory with some good features

Key Priorities

- Reduce the number of young people classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET); (5.3.4)
- Improve the number of young people engaged in education, employment or training from disadvantaged groups; (5.3.3)
- Increase the number of young people having the opportunity to access higher education; (5.3.6)
- Continue to improve the quality of housing to meet the Decent Homes Standard; (5.5.1)
- Increase the number of children and their families accessing Direct Payments; (5.7.5)
- Ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their move to Adult Services. (5.7.1)

Main Success Criteria

- Increase in the proportion of 16–19 year-olds in education or training;
- Reduction in the proportion of 16–18 year-olds not in education, employment or training (NEET);
- Improvement in the retention and success rates for 16, 17 and 18 year-olds on education and training programmes;
- Improvement in the progression rates of young people into further and higher education, training and employment;
- Improvement in the proportion of 19 year olds with qualifications at Level 2 or above;
- Reduction in the proportion of dependent children who live in a home that does not meet the set standard of decency;
- Increase in the proportion of child benefit recipients claiming child tax credit;
- Reduction in the proportion of children living in households where no one is working;
- Increase in the involvement of looked after children in education, employment and training post 16;
- Reduction in the proportion of care leavers who become homeless;
- Reduction in the proportion of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities not in education, employment or training;
- Increase in the number of families who take up direct payments .

Every Child Matters – change for children developments

A range of developments and changes to working practice will be introduced during the lifetime of this plan. These will support the key priorities that have been identified above and include:

- Information Sharing and Assessment - the Common Assessment Framework and Lead Professional together with supporting ICT;

- Targeted and integrated youth offer;
- Children's Centres and Extended Schools;
- Development of a Children's Trust.

Equality and Diversity

One of the principles that the Community Strategy has adopted, and which is embedded in the Children and Young People's Plan, is Equality and Social Inclusion. The plan recognises the importance of meeting the needs of service users, encouraging tolerance, respecting the dignity and worth of individuals and minorities and valuing and protecting local diversity and distinctiveness.

It also endeavours to reduce inequality by increasing opportunities, support, and accessibility to services in disadvantaged communities so that all people and groups are included in the mainstream economy and society. Children and young people in particular must be able to live without fear of persecution because of their personal beliefs, race, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

The plan supports the seventh theme of the Community Strategy – Strengthening Communities – and has a number of objectives related to promoting inclusion and community empowerment, and which is actively seeks to encourage.

CONCLUSION

Part 7 of this Plan provides information on Service Management and the role and purpose of Hartlepool's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, the development of a Children's Trust, the development of a Local Area Agreement and the development of a workforce strategy to underpin the Plan.

Detail is also given on arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the Plan and information is provided on how to comment on the Plan and how to access it electronically.

THE BIG PLAN!

(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

PART 2

BE HEALTHY

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

OUTCOME: *Be Healthy*

Our vision for this outcome in Hartlepool is that children and young people will be physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy, lead healthy lifestyles and choose not to take illegal drugs.

Children and young people tell us:

- that they are aware of the need to be healthy; as one young person noted in feedback from recent consultation - "Being healthy gives me the ability to cope with everyday routine";
- that they are aware of the importance of **fitness and exercise**, particularly in relation to taking part in sport, being healthy enough to work, living life to the full and living longer;
- that they acknowledge that it is important to have a good, balanced **diet**, to drink plenty of water and to have access to healthy foods;
- that they feel very strongly about the issue of **drug taking**, but that of equal concern are the problems of alcohol abuse and cigarette smoking.

Parents / carers and partners tell us:

- that **fitness** is an important issue but that they felt that there was a lack of things to do and that more planned activities were needed to encourage children and young people to become fitter and healthier. One respondent to consultation said that there should be more "Opportunities to take part in exercise and activity out of school to promote leisure/social development as a long term benefit to physical and mental well-being";
- that there is a major issue in the use of the term **substance misuse**, which is considered to be misleading as it covers drug taking as well as alcohol abuse. Through their experience of working in communities, they suggest that there is more prevalence of alcohol misuse than drug abuse in Hartlepool. In addition there are concerns about groups of young people drinking together, on school fields, street corners etc;
- that there should be a strong focus upon children and young people's emotional health;
- that there needs to be a focus on sex and relationships education and services around teenage pregnancy.

The Government's National Priorities are:

1. Ensure that parents and carers receive support to keep their children healthy.
2. Ensure that healthy lifestyles are promoted for children and young people.
3. Take action to promote children and young people's physical health.
4. Take action to promote children and young people's mental and emotional health.
5. Ensure looked after children's health needs are assessed.
6. Ensure the health needs of children and young people with learning difficulties and /or disabilities are addressed.
7. Ensure that the 11 standards of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services are implemented.

Our own assessment tells us:

In relation to physical health:

- that participation in sport is an important part of educating children and young people in the benefits of exercise. All Hartlepool schools are responding well to this national target with 57% of primary schools being judged as very good and 42% being judged as good and 100% of secondary schools being judged as very good. However, only 7 primary and 1 secondary schools were inspected, so these judgments may not be reflective of all schools in Hartlepool.

In relation to mental and emotional health:

- that there is currently 1.3 full time equivalent Social Worker input into CAMHS which, whilst low, reflects the size of the local authority area and the population it serves;
- that overall the response from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) to young offenders is improving.

In relation to sexual health:

- that although the teenage pregnancy rate is up slightly overall, figures continue to fall (64.1 per 1000 females under 18 years in 2004) (national average 42.1 per 1000). Hartlepool continues to address this issue through its Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and linked services. In the last few years the implementation of the strategy has been successful in reducing the conception rates by putting a number of services in place, for example access to contraceptive and sexual health services;
- that as part of the National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP), schools are expected to implement sex and relationships education. 100% of both primary and secondary schools in Hartlepool have responded well to all aspects of the National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) and are deemed as very good.

Things we do well:

- Have good partnerships in place to promote healthy lifestyles.
- Have a high percentage of schools taking part in the Healthy Schools Initiative with 15 out of 22 designated target schools achieving healthy school status. 100% of primary schools are part of the national fruit and vegetable scheme.
- Actively promote physical education and sport, with good provision of sporting activities.
- Have good access to health services for looked after children; 88.8% of looked after children have received a health assessment.
- Have good drug education training and resources in place for school staff.
- Whilst the teenage conception rate has shown a recent increase, the figures vary year on year and there has been an overall downward trend recorded over a period of time. Work is also progressing to further develop sex and relationships training within schools.
- Have a care co-ordination service in place to provide essential and co-ordinated services to children with severe disabilities and their families.

To continue to improve we will:

- ensure that we strengthen our partnership working to work towards more integrated services.
- ensure that health inequalities are reduced by improving the targeting of vulnerable infants, children and young people through, for example, Healthy Schools and a more coordinated response in terms of Domestic Violence.
- ensure that the conception rates for teenagers continue to reduce.
- ensure that we carry on working with schools to achieve the new National Healthy School Status.
- ensure that all partners work together make sure that the National Service Framework (NSF) for Children, Young People and Maternity Services complements the work of the Every Child Matters agenda.
- ensure that all looked after children continue to get the relevant access to health services that they need.
- appoint a Care Coordinator to take forward and further develop the care co-ordination process for those children with severe disabilities.

Things we can do better (Key Priorities) are:

- Further improve the reduction in teenage conception rates; (1.1.7), (1.2.4), (1.2.5)
- Engage in further discussion with partner agencies regarding Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS); (1.4.1)
- Further explore the opportunity to extend the care co-ordination process beyond the pre school years; (1.6.2)
- Improve sexual health through better access to Genito Urinary Medicine (GUM) and Chlamydia screening; (1.1.12)
- Increase the uptake of Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) immunisation; (1.7.5)
- To put measures in place to reduce childhood obesity; (1.7.6)

In order to do our best for all children and young people we will deliver the national priorities and contribute to the delivery of the Hartlepool Community Strategy. In particular we will:

- continue to work in partnership with schools to help them achieve the new National Healthy School Status requirements.
- develop a "Healthy Food in School Strategy" in response to the "Turning the Tables - Transforming School Food".
- develop and implement the Common Assessment Framework and Lead Professional Role.
- implement the 11 standards of the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services.

In recognition of the additional needs of some young people we will:

In relation to children with disabilities:

- ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their move to Adult Services.
- ensure that all children with disabilities have fair and equal access to universal health services.

In relation to looked after children:

- ensure that looked after children continue to get improved access to all relevant health services to increase or maintain their good health.
- ensure that looked after young people leaving care have adequate access to universal health services.

In relation to children from black and ethnic minority communities:

- ensure that all children and young people from the black and minority ethnic communities have equality of access to all services.

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------|--|---|
| BH 1.1 | Parents and carers receive support to keep their children healthy | | | |
| 1.1.1 | Provide timely and consistent information and provide relevant support to promote the positive benefits of breastfeeding. | 2006 – 2009 | North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT) | Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 2 and 5. |
| 1.1.2 | Promote healthy diets for pregnant mothers (inc. Healthy Start). | 2006 – 2009 | North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust Hartlepool PCT | Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 2 and 11 |
| 1.1.3 | Reduce the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol mis-use. | 2006 – 2009 | Regeneration & Planning (Community Safety & Prevention) | Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005-08 Local Safeguarding Children Board Plan National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |
| 1.1.4 | Parents and carers are informed about preventative and treatment provision for their children and are encouraged to ensure that proper use is made of each. | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | Strategic Service Development Plan National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |
| 1.1.5 | Educational programmes are provided to help current and future parents and carers understand the emotional needs of children and young people. | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | Strategic Service Development Plan National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|-------------|--|--|
| 1.1.6 | Reduce incidents of domestic violence and effects on children and families | 2006 – 2008 | Regeneration & Planning (Community Safety & Prevention) | Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005-08 Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) II Local Area Agreement Local Safeguarding Children Board Plan National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |
| 1.1.7 | <i>Parents feel confident and skilled in talking to their children about sex and relationships.</i> | 2006 - 2008 | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT)</i> | <i>National Healthy Schools Programme Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2</i> |
| 1.1.8 | Teenage parents have access to post natal services tailored to their needs to improve the physical and mental health outcomes for them and their children. | 2006 - 2008 | Hartlepool PCT North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust | Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |
| 1.1.9 | Support for young parents to help their children thrive and develop. | 2006 - 2008 | Hartlepool PCT | Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |
| 1.1.10 | All teenage parents are provided with a co-ordinated package of support. | 2006 - 2008 | Hartlepool PCT North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust Children's Services | Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|-------------|---|--|
| 1.1.11 | Develop support for pregnant women and their families to help them quit smoking. | 2006 – 2007 | Hartlepool PCT | Public Health Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 11. |
| 1.1.12 | <i>Improve sexual health through better access to Genito Urinary Medicine (GUM) and Chlamydia screening</i> | 2006 – 2008 | Hartlepool PCT | <i>National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP).</i> |
| 1.1.13 | Develop a pathway of care for mothers experiencing perinatal mental health problems across Teesside. | 2006 | North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust Hartlepool PCT | Common Mental Health Needs Strategy |
| BH 1.2 | Healthy lifestyles are promoted for children and young people | | | |
| 1.2.1 | Further increase the number of schools achieving national healthy school status. | 2006 – 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) 1.2.4, 1.3, 1.4.6, 1.4.7. 2.1, 2.2, 3.3,3.4,4.1, 4.2,4.3 and 4.4. National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 1 |
| 1.2.2 | Respond to the government guidance on "Transforming School Food" by developing a "Healthy Food in Schools Strategy" to encourage and develop more healthy choices for children through school meal service, tuck shops, etc. | 2006 – 2007 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Healthy Food in Schools Strategy. National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP). National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 1 |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------|---|--|
| 1.2.3 | Universal health screening is provided within a common framework at appropriate ages, and reaches groups on whom health services have traditionally not focused. | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | Strategic Service Development Plan Children's Centres and Extended Schools Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 1 |
| 1.2.4 | <i>All young people receive quality Sex and Relationships Education and Drug Education within Personal, Social and Health Education in schools and out of school settings including those in post 16 education.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool PCT</i> | <i>National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP). Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Links to 3.8.5. National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 1. Barnardos Plan</i> |
| 1.2.5 | <i>Ensure that all young people know about sexual health and contraceptive services in their areas.</i> | 2006 - 2008 | <i>Hartlepool PCT</i> | <i>Teenage Pregnancy Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 2 Barnardos Plan</i> |
| BH 1.3 | Action is taken to promote children and young people's physical health | | | |
| 1.3.1 | 75% school-age children accessing 2 hours of PE and school sport per week by 2006. | 2006 - 2008 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Physical Education, School Sports and Club Links Strategy (PESSCL). National Healthy Schools Programme. |
| 1.3.2 | 85% school-age children accessing 2 hours of PE and school sport per week by 2008. | 2006 - 2008 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Physical Education, School Sports and Club Links Strategy (PESSCL) National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP). |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------|---|---|
| 1.3.3 | All school age children have the opportunity to access 4-5 hours of sport per week, 2 hours of which is in curriculum time by 2010. | 2006 - 2008 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Physical Education, School Sports and Club Links Strategy (PESSCL) National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP). Children's Centres and Extended Schools Strategy. 3.6.2. |
| BH 1.4 | Take action to promote children and young people's mental health | | | |
| 1.4.1 | <i>Engage in further discussion with partner agencies regarding improvements in CAMHS.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | Tees and North East Yorkshire NHS Trust Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | <i>CAMHS Strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 9</i> |
| BH 1.5 | Ensure looked after children's health needs are assessed | | | |
| 1.5.1 | Increase access to doctors, dentists and sexual health support services for looked after young people. | 2006 – 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) Hartlepool PCT | Safeguarding and Review Unit Business Plan |
| 1.5.2 | Implement a 'fast track' primary care service for looked after children. | 2006 – 2007 | Hartlepool PCT Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) | Safeguarding and Review Unit Business Plan |
| 1.5.3 | Provide further training to foster carers about good health, emotional health, bullying and attachment issues. | 2006 – 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) | Safeguarding and Review Unit Business Plan Behaviour and Education Support Team development and action plans |
| 1.5.4 | Ensure that all young people preparing to leave care have access to the relevant support through health and associated services in relation to their health needs. | 2006 – 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) Hartlepool PCT | Leaving Care Strategy |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|---|
| BH1.6 | Ensure the health needs of children and young people with disabilities are addressed | | | |
| 1.6.1 | <i>Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services.</i> | 2006 - 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) Adult and Community Services | Transitions policy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 4 and 8. Children with a disability/SEN Strategy |
| 1.6.2 | <i>Consider further developments of the care co-ordination assessment and service provision.</i> | 2006 – 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) | Children with a disability/SEN strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 8 |
| 1.6.3 | Raise awareness and promote the benefits of Direct Payments to parents of children with disabilities and 16/17 year olds who are themselves disabled. | 2006 – 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist) Adult and Community Services | Children with a disability/SEN strategy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 8 |
| 1.6.4 | Children and young people who may be disabled, ill, or injured receive expert referrals and have early access to assessment services. | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | Strategic Service Development Plan National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 8, 5.7.5 |
| BH1.7 | To ensure that health care services for children and young people are developed in line with the Department of Health policies and guidelines, for example the National Service Framework for Children, young People and Maternity Services and the National Service Framework for Diabetes. | | | |
| 1.7.1 | Implement Standard 6 of the NSF – Children and Young People who are ill. | 2006 – 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 6 |
| 1.7.2 | Implement Standard 7 of the NSF – Children and Young People who are in hospital. | 2006 – 2009 | North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust | National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 6, 7 and 10. |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|--|
| 1.7.3 | Implement Standard 10 of the NSF – Medicines for Children and Young People. | 2006 – 2009 | North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust / Hartlepool PCT | National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 10 |
| 1.7.4 | Deliver children's screening programmes in line with the national guidance | 2006 – 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standard 11 Neonatal Screening Programme |
| 1.7.5 | <i>Increase the uptake of Measles Mumps and Rubella (MMR) immunisation</i> | <i>2006 - 2010</i> | <i>Hartlepool PCT</i> | <i>Hartlepool Local Area Agreement</i> |
| 1.7.6 | <i>Implement guidance on childhood obesity.</i> | <i>2006 - 2010</i> | <i>Hartlepool PCT</i> | <i>White Paper, Choosing Health: making healthier choices easier,</i> |
| 1.7.7 | Ensure all children and young people with diabetes receive high quality care. | 2006 – 2013 | Hartlepool PCT | National Service Framework for Diabetes |
| 1.7.8 | Ensure parents, carers and others involved in the day-to-day care of children and young people with diabetes, receive the appropriate support. | 2006 – 2013 | Hartlepool PCT | National Service Framework for Diabetes |

THE BIG PLAN!

(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

PART 3

STAY SAFE

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

OUTCOME: *Stay Safe*

Our vision for this outcome in Hartlepool is that children and young people will live, grow, and learn in safety, where parents, carers and all adults take responsibility for their safety and well-being and they are free from harm, discrimination, harassment and exploitation.

Children and young people tell us:

- that they do not want to be bullied.
- that they do not want to be harassed and assaulted when out in the community.
- that they want to feel safe at home.
- that they want to feel safe in all places.
- that they want to be safe with all adults.

Parents / carers and our partners tell us:

- that children and young people should not be bullied.
- that they should not be discriminated against nor manipulated.
- that all adults, but particularly professionals, are responsible for their safety.
- that the protection of children and young people is essential.

The Government's National Priorities are:

1. Children and young people and their carers are informed about key risks to their safety and how to deal with them.
2. Children and young people are provided with a safe environment.
3. The incidence of child abuse and neglect is minimised.
4. Agencies collaborate to safeguard children according to the requirements of the current government guidance.
5. Services are effective in establishing the identity and whereabouts of all children and young people 0-16.
6. Action is taken to avoid children and young people having to be looked after.
7. Looked after children live in safe environments and are protected from abuse and exploitation.
8. Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities live in safe environments and are protected from abuse and exploitation.

Our own assessment tells us:

In relation to being safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation:

- OFSTED requirements are met by all child care providers.
- schools were judged as either good or very good with regard to pupil's care, welfare, health and safety.
- all primary and secondary schools inspected were judged as complying with the Local Safeguarding Children Board child protection procedures.
- referrals of children in need to social work teams leading to initial assessments were similar to the average for England but lower than for similar councils.
- referrals of children in need to social work teams within 12 months of a previous referral were lower than similar councils.
- the percentage of initial assessments completed within 7 working days was higher than similar councils.
- the number of Initial Child Protection Conferences per 10,000 population under 18 was half as high again as the number for similar councils.
- the recorded number of Core Assessments of children in need was so high as to require further scrutiny.
- 93.8% of Core Assessments were completed within 35 working days, much higher than for similar councils.
- all children and young people requiring a multi-agency child protection plan have a social worker.
- the number of children on the Child Protection Register per 10,000 population under 18 is the same as similar councils.
- first time registrations on the Child Protection Register as a percentage of all registrations were the same as similar councils.
- the percentage of child protection re-registrations during the year has fallen and was 12.1% for the first six months of 2005.
- 96% of children on the Child Protection Register are white.
- all Child Protection Register cases were reviewed within the required timescales.
- the number of de-registrations from the Child Protection Register per 10,000 population under 18 was marginally higher than for similar councils.
- the percentage of de-registrations of children who were on the Child Protection Register for over 2 years was the same as similar councils.
- the percentage of child protection enquiries leading to Initial Child Protection Conferences which were held within 15 days was half as great again as for similar councils.

In relation to being safe from accidental injury and death:

- there has been a steady fall in road casualties (0-16), due to the introduction of preventative safety training in schools.

In relation to being safe from bullying and discrimination:

- in the last 5 years there have been no significant trends with regard to exclusions as a result of bullying, although 84% of excluded boys are excluded because of bullying incidents.

In relation to being safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school:

- Within the Local Area Agreement targets are identified to increase the percentage of residents feeling safe after dark reduce the percentage of residents stating that people being drunk or rowdy in public is a problem reduce the number of personal, social and community disorder incidents reported to Hartlepool Police.

In relation to having security, stability and being cared for:

- the number of children and young people looked after per 10,000 population under 18 is lower than for similar councils.
- all looked after children have an allocated social worker.
- all looked after children have their care plans reviewed within required timescales.
- 96% of looked after children under 10 years of age are in foster placements, much higher than for similar councils.
- 74% of these children are placed within Hartlepool, again much higher than for similar councils.
- the percentage of looked after children placed with parents is only a third of that for similar councils.
- only 10% of all Hartlepool's looked after children are placed in residential accommodation.
- 86.6% of all looked after children and young people are cared for in foster placements, higher than for similar councils.
- 19.3% of looked after children are fostered by relatives or friends.
- the percentage of looked after children with 3 or more placement moves in the year is within the national target.
- the percentage of looked after children for 4+ years who were in foster placement 2+ years needs to improve.
- protocols are in place to safeguard looked after children placed in Hartlepool by other councils.
- the percentage of looked after children placed for adoption is very low and needs to be improved.
- the percentage of looked after children placed for adoption during 2004-05 was also much lower than for similar councils.
- the percentage of looked after children adopted during 2004-05 placed within 12 months of best interest decision being made was also lower than for similar councils.
- all eligible, relevant and former relevant children leaving care have pathway plans and a personal adviser.

Things we do well:

- Have low numbers of children in need referred to social work teams within 12 months of a previous referral.
- Have only 12.1% child protection re-registrations during the first six months of 2005.
- Have a high number of looked after children in foster placements through a quality fostering service.
- Have a percentage of looked after children with 3 or more placement moves in the year, within the national target.

To continue to improve we will:

- ensure that children in need receive an initial assessment within 7 working days of being referred to the social work teams.
- ensure that the percentage of children being referred within 12 months of a previous referral is maintained or reduced.
- ensure that the percentage of child protection re-registrations during the year is maintained or reduced.
- ensure that only children likely to require a child protection plan are taken to Initial Child Protection Conference following a child protection enquiry.
- ensure that the number of looked after children with 3 or more placements during the year is maintained within the national target.
- ensure that the high percentage of looked after young children in foster placements is maintained.
- ensure that the percentage of all looked after children in foster placements is maintained or increased.

Things we can do better (Key Priorities) are:

- Develop partnership arrangements to address the concerns of children and young people about bullying; (2.2.2)
- Develop a multi-agency training plan to meet the needs of all staff and volunteers who work with children in any setting in Hartlepool; (2.2.1 & 2.4.2)
- Develop the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board to encompass the wider remit of Safeguarding while maintaining a strong emphasis on Child Protection; (2.3.1 & 2.4.1)
- Improve the way that referrals and core assessments are measured; (2.6.1)
- Explore the reasons why more initial child protection conferences occur in Hartlepool than in similar councils; (2.6.1)
- Improve the percentage of looked after children for more than 4 years who have been in the same foster placements for 2+ years; (2.7.1)
- Improve the number of looked after children adopted during the year. (2.7.1)

In order to do our best for all children and young people we will deliver the national priorities and contribute to the delivery of the Hartlepool Community strategy. In particular we will:

- ensure that children and young people and their carers are informed about key risks to their safety and how to deal with them.
- provide children and young people with a safe environment.
- minimise the incidence of child abuse and neglect.
- ensure agencies collaborate to safeguard children under the direction of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- ensure that there are effective services to establish the identity and whereabouts of all children and young people under 16.
- support children in need and their families to avoid the need for them to be looked after.

In recognition of the additional needs of some young people we will:

In relation to children with disabilities:

- ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their move to Adult Services.
- ensure that children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities live in safety, free from abuse and exploitation.

In relation to looked after children:

- ensure looked after children live in safety, free from abuse and exploitation.

In relation to children and young people from black and minority ethnic communities:

- ensure that children and young people from black and minority ethnic groups have equality of access to services.
- ensure that children and young people from black and minority ethnic groups are not inappropriately represented within the child protection and looked after children populations.

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescales | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------|---|--|
| SS 2.1 | Children and young people and their carers are informed about key risks to their safety and how to deal with them. | | | |
| 2.1.1 | Ensure parents and carers are advised how to keep children safe, including safety in the home. | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT) National Health Services (NHS) Acute Trust | National Service Framework Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Business Plan |
| 2.1.2 | Ensure children and young people are educated about road safety and how to respond to other environmental hazards. | 2006 - 2009 | Neighbourhood Services | Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit Annual Plan National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |
| 2.1.3 | Ensure children and young people are taught about the dangers posed by some adults and how to minimize them. | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB Business Plan National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |
| SS 2.2 | Children and young people are provided with a safe environment | | | |
| 2.2.1 | <i>Increase the number of staff trained to identify risks of harm and how to manage them.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>LSCB Business Plan – Multi-Agency Training</i> |
| 2.2.2 | <i>Develop partnership arrangements to address the concerns of children and young people about bullying</i> | 2006 - 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration)</i> | <i>Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005-08 National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) ACORN Behaviour and Education Support Team (BEST) HBC Anti-bullying Co-ordinator Post</i> |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescales | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|-------------|--|--|
| SS 2.3 | The incidence of child abuse and neglect is minimised. | | | |
| 2.3.1 | <i>Ensure there is co-ordinated and timely support to children and young people at risk of harm.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB – Child Protection Procedures Youth Justice Plan Children's Fund Plan |
| 2.3.2 | Improve Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and other vetting checks for adults working with children and young people. | 2006 - 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB - Child Protection Procedures |
| 2.3.3 | Improve joint agency arrangements for the management of sex offenders in the community. | 2006 - 2007 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MA PPA) |
| SS 2.4 | Agencies collaborate to safeguard children according to the requirements of current government practice | | | |
| 2.4.1 | <i>Ensure inter-agency policies and procedures are comprehensive and up-to-date.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB Business Plan |
| 2.4.2 | <i>Increase the number of staff, paid carers and volunteers working with children who are provided with guidance and training on how to recognize and raise safeguarding and welfare concerns.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB Business Plan – Multi-Agency Training |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescales | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------|--|--|
| SS 2.5 | Services are effective in establishing the identity and whereabouts of all children and young people 0 – 16 | | | |
| 2.5.1 | Continue to develop the infrastructure for the rollout of Information Sharing and Assessment. | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | Information Sharing and Assessment (ISA) and Common assessment Framework (CAF) Barnardos Plan |
| 2.5.2 | Ensure that there are secure arrangements for sharing information to protect children. | 2006 - 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | LSCB Business Plan – Child Protection Procedures |
| SS 2.6 | Action is taken to avoid children and young people having to be looked after | | | |
| 2.6.1 | <i>Ensure that the decision to look after a child is taken only when there are no appropriate alternatives and with clear accountability.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>Safeguarding and Specialist Services (SSS) Divisional Plan Youth Justice Plan Children's Fund Plan</i> |
| SS 2.7 | Looked after children live in safe environments and are protected from abuse and exploitation | | | |
| 2.7.1 | <i>Improve placement choice and stability for looked after children.</i> | 2006 - 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>SSS Divisional Plan Youth Justice Plan Children's Fund Plan</i> |
| SS 2.8 | Children and Young People with learning difficulties and/or disabilities live in safe environments and are protected from abuse and exploitation | | | |
| 2.8.1 | <i>Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services.</i> | 2006 - 2007 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) Adult & Community Services</i> | <i>Transitions policy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 4 and 8. Children with a disability/SEN Strategy</i> |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescales | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------|--|----------------------------|
| 2.9 | Implement the National Service Framework (NSF) for Children, Young People and Maternity Services | | | |
| 2.9.1 | Implement Standard 1 of the NSF – promoting Health & Wellbeing, identifying needs and intervening early | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | NSF Standard 1 |
| 2.9.2 | Implement Standard 2 of the NSF – supporting parents | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT | NSF Standard 2 |
| 2.9.3 | Implement Standard 5 – Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children and Young People | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Trust | NSF Standard 5 |
| 2.9.4 | Implement Standard 10 of the NSF – Medicines for Children & Young People | 2006 - 2009 | Hartlepool PCT North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Trust | NSF Standard 10 (1.7.3) |

THE BIG PLAN!
(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

PART 4

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

OUTCOME: *Enjoy and Achieve*

Our vision for this outcome in Hartlepool is that children are given the best start in life through high quality early years provision and support for parents and carers. This will ensure that they are well prepared and ready for school, where they will enjoy their education and have opportunities to achieve their potential. We want children and young people, especially those who are vulnerable to develop personally and socially and for them to safely enjoy recreation and leisure time away from school.

Children and young people tell us:

- they want the best for all children and young people.
- they want to attend good schools and enjoy their time there and feel safe from harassment and bullying.
- that children under 5 should have a good education and be well prepared to start school.
- that a good education and getting qualifications is important.
- it is important to work hard at school but that it is also important to have hobbies and have fun in their spare time.
- schools are important places to meet with friends and get involved in different activities such as sport and leisure.
- they value the support they get, for instance, from foster carers and teachers.
- many of them enjoyed doing activities after school and in their spare time in school and in other settings.
- that some disabled children and young people would like further access to leisure activities in school.

Parents / carers and our partners tell us:

- that good quality early learning and play is important.
- to improve play facilities in Hartlepool.
- we need modern high quality school buildings.
- that we need to make better use of school facilities and develop extended schools.
- children and young people need good quality play, social and leisure facilities in settings other than schools.
- we need to develop ICT to assist learning.
- that young people 14-19 need a good choice of courses in terms of their continued education and training.
- to emphasise enjoyment as much as achievement.
- to celebrate the achievements of all children, young people and their schools.
- that we need to be inclusive and ensure all children and young people's needs are addressed.
- we need good quality support for pregnant schoolgirls and young mothers to enable them to be re-integrated into education and training.
- we need good quality youth services.
- that it is important to help boys who generally do not do as well as girls at school.
- to work more closely with the voluntary sector and other agencies to support children and young people.
- to help parents and carers to learn.
- to work in partnership with parents and carers.
- that we should recruit high quality staff to work on behalf of children and young people.
- to emphasise the wider benefits of learning such as personal and social development.

The Government's National Priorities are:

1. Ensure that parents and carers receive support in helping their children to enjoy and achieve.
2. Ensure that early years provision promotes children's development and well-being and helps them meet early learning goals.
3. Ensure that educational provision 5-16 is of good quality.
4. Enable and encourage children and young people to attend and enjoy school.
5. Improve the quality of provision which is made for those children and young people who do not attend school.
6. Ensure all children and young people can access a range of recreational activities including play and voluntary learning.
7. Ensure vulnerable children and young people are helped to enjoy and achieve.

Our own assessment tells us:

In relation to Early Years:

- 93.4% of three year olds attend early education in Hartlepool.
- OfSTED inspections of Early Years provision show that it is at least satisfactory in all schools.
- the percentage of very good judgements on overall quality of nursery provision in full day care is above national averages.
- a 45% increase in providers of childcare is above the national average.
- a 58% increase in childcare places is well above the national average.

In relation to 5-16 provision:

- Key Stage 1 (aged 7) performance was just below national averages in 2005 in reading, writing and mathematics. 83.5% of seven year olds achieved the expected Level 2 or above in reading, compared to 80.7% in writing and 89.5% in mathematics.
- Key Stage 2 (aged 11) performance was above national averages in 2005. 79.6% of eleven year olds achieved the expected Level 4 or above in English and 78.4% did so in maths. At the higher levels, 29.1% of pupils achieved Level 5 or above in English and 32% did so in maths – both above national averages.
- Hartlepool is the most improved local authority (LA) nationally for KS2 outcomes between 2003 and 2005.
- Key Stage 3 performance (aged 14) is improving. For Level 5 and above, which is the expected achievement for fourteen year olds, performance in 2005 in maths at 74.6% is now above national average and the gap between Hartlepool and national average is closing in English and Science. 71.2% of 14 year olds achieved Level 5 or above in English whilst 68% did so in science. Performance in ICT, however, is well below the national average and is a concern.
- attainment gaps are narrowing.
- boys' underachievement is identified as a cause for concern in all key stages. In 2005 girls outperformed boys by 9% in reading and 12% in writing in Key Stage 1 assessments (Level 2 or above). At Key Stage 2 they outperformed boys by 9% in English (Level 4 or above) and by 15% at Key Stage 3 (Level 5 or above) in the same subject. At Key Stage 4 the percentage of girls obtaining 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE exceeded boys by 9% which is broadly in line with the national trend. The underperformance of boys in Key Stage 3 has been identified as a particular concern.

- value added measures for progress between the key stages are satisfactory and broadly in line with national averages.
- OfSTED inspections show a higher proportion of good or very good schools than the national average.
- the number of underperforming schools is falling – from 8 primary schools to 2 in 2005. No secondary school achieved less than 60% at Level 5+ in English, maths and science in 2005.
- the percentage of pupils achieving at least 5A*-C has increased consistently for five years, often above the rate of increase nationally. In 2005 52.5% of Hartlepool sixteen year olds obtained 5A*- C grades at GCSE, compared to just 36% in 2000. Attainment gap between Hartlepool and national performance has narrowed from 13% in 2000 to 4% in 2005. 5A*-C performance is consistently above statistical neighbours.
- the percentage of sixteen year olds achieving 5A* - G grades including English and mathematics increased to 88.3 % in 2005 which is now in line with national averages, but the percentage of pupils achieving 5A*- C including an English and maths GCSE, at 36.4%, is well below the national average.
- performance at 1A*-G is a concern as it is below statistical neighbours and national averages. In 2005, 95.4% of sixteen year olds obtained one pass compared to 96.3% nationally. This represents approximately 60 Hartlepool young people leaving compulsory schooling in 2005 without one GCSE qualification of any description.
- minority ethnic pupils achieve well, although numbers are small.

In relation to enabling children and young people to attend, enjoy and achieve at school:

- In admissions, over 95% of first preferences are met.
- overall attendance has improved from 92.4% in 2001 to 93.9% in 2005. Progress in both primary and secondary schools is good.
- the rate of permanent exclusions is falling. In 2004/05 permanent exclusions were 22 compared to 44 in 2003/04, and are in line with statistical neighbours.
- the number of Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils permanently excluded is too high. 50% of permanently excluded pupils were on the special needs register in 2003/4.

In relation to recreational and voluntary learning:

- there is a very good range of recreational and voluntary learning provision.
- in 2004, 68% of schools provided breakfast clubs, 92% provided lunchtime clubs and activities, 100% provided after school clubs and 42% provided holiday schemes.
- since 1999 there has been a year on year increase in the number of out of hours learning activities available to children and young people.
- by 2004, 67% of schools were involved in a partnership with the University of the First Age compared to 16% in 2003. Student participation is up from 60 to 567.
- children and young people access a wide range of recreational activity in settings other than schools provided by a variety of agencies including the voluntary sector.

In relation to pupils who have special educational needs:

- the percentage of pupils with statements fell by 2.2% between 1999 and 2004 - 4th best amongst statistical neighbours and the percentage of pupils in special schools fell by 0.9% between 2002 and 2004 - best performance amongst statistical neighbours.
- Section 10 inspections show SEN provision and inclusion to be good overall.
- attainment at KS1, 2 and 3 for SEN pupils is in line with statistical neighbours.
- no cases have gone to tribunal. There were no Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST) appeals in 2003/04.
- there were no permanent exclusions from special schools in 2004 and no statemented children or young people were excluded from any school in Hartlepool.
- 100% of statements without exceptions and over 90% of statements with exceptions were completed on time in 2003/4. (Best Value Performance Indicator BVPI 43a/b)
- there is a high level of school satisfaction – Audit Commission survey of schools' views showed that Hartlepool was in the top quartile for 9 out of the 10 areas surveyed for SEN.
- a local authority inclusion project has led to significant gains for children (External evaluation).

In relation to children who do not attend school:

- provision is not satisfactory. The Access 2 Learning (A2L) service is a cause for concern.
- the percentage of pupils receiving alternative tuition because of permanent exclusion was 0.66% in 2004. This is above the national median and statistical neighbours.
- the percentage of pupils who have received alternative tuition for longer than one school year was 38.5%, above statistical neighbours and the national median.
- percentage of pupils re-integrated was 2.2% in 2004 - well below national averages.

In relation to looked after children:

- all LAC have an educational placement; only two are not on a school roll.
- in 2005, 75% of LAC pupils who sat the end of Key Stage 2 test performed as well as their peers, which is higher than national expectations by 15%.
- all Key Stage 2 pupils made some progress from Key Stage 1. 60% of them (3 pupils) made better than expected value added progress in English and maths, given their prior attainment.
- Key Stage 3 results in 2005 showed a significant improvement. In 2002 no looked after pupil aged 14 achieved Level 5 or above in either English, maths or science but in 2005 this improved to 46% in English and science and 38% in maths.
- GCSE results are improving. One LAC obtained 5 A*-C, in 2005, the first in four years to do so. This represents 17% which is above the government target of 15%. 50% did not sit a GCSE or equivalent; this is above the government target of 10% but an improvement on the previous three years.
- two LAC achieved 5A* - G and three achieved 1A*-G.
- attendance of LAC is very good – 96.7% compared to 88.8% nationally in school year 2004/05.

Things we do well:

- Quality of provision in early years.
- Increased provision for childcare.
- Partnership working.
- Progress in tackling absence from school.
- Improvement in standards especially at Key Stage 2 and GCSE 5A*-C.
- Strategy for school improvement.
- Implementation of the Primary and Secondary National Strategies.
- Targeting resources to priority areas.
- Capacity of management in education to improve is good.
- Manage attendance and exclusions.
- Provision of out of school hours learning and recreational activities in school and other settings.
- Provision of recreational activities by the voluntary sector and other providers.
- Provide good value for money.
- Inclusion of children and young people with special needs.

To continue to improve we will:

- develop Children's Centres and Extended Schools as part of an integrated childcare strategy for under 5s.
- provide good quality childcare for all under 3s and target potentially vulnerable families.
- support parents and carers in helping their children to enjoy and achieve.
- ensure that early years provision promotes children's development and well-being and helps them meet early learning goals.
- monitor school performance and challenge and support them to improve the quality of provision through an agreed School Improvement Strategy.
- support schools in developing robust self evaluation in order to ensure continuous improvement.
- monitor underperformance amongst vulnerable and underachieving groups and target resources to meet their needs (eg) LAC, boys.
- enable and encourage children and young people to attend and enjoy school.
- Improve the quality of provision which is made for those children and young people who do not attend school.
- ensure all children and young people can access a range of recreational activities including play and voluntary learning.
- work with the voluntary sector and other agencies to improve the range and quality of recreational and learning opportunities for children and young people.
- ensure vulnerable children and young people are helped to enjoy and achieve.

Things we can do better (Key Priorities) are:

- Improve the performance of children and young people across all key stages, but in particular Key Stage 1, Key Stage 3 English, science and ICT and Key Stage 4 English and maths; (3.3.1)
- Improve the performance of boys across all key stages but especially at Key Stage 3 where the gap is widest; (3.3.4)
- Increase the number of excluded pupils who are successfully reintegrated into mainstream settings; (3.5.1)
- Improve the educational achievement of Looked After Children and Young People; (3.7)
- Work more closely with partners, including the voluntary sector, in order to improve the quality and range of recreational activities for children and young people in school and other settings. (3.6.2)

In order to do our best for all children and young people we will deliver the national priorities and contribute to the delivery of the Hartlepool Community strategy. In particular, we will:

- support parents and carers in helping children to achieve.
- ensure early years provision promotes development and well-being.
- ensure that educational provision 5-16 is of good quality.
- maximise attendance at schools and enable children and young people to enjoy school and to achieve highly.
- enable children and young people to enjoy out of school activities and recreation in a variety of settings and celebrate the learning and development that these provide.
- ensure that provision for those who do not attend school is good and support children and young people in being included in mainstream settings where appropriate.
- make sure that children and young people have access to a wide range of recreational activities including play and voluntary learning in school and other settings.
- further develop the range and quality of recreational activity by drawing upon the skills and expertise of the voluntary sector and other agencies.
- ensure that children and young people who are vulnerable, such as looked after children and those who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities, are helped to enjoy and achieve.

In recognition of the additional needs of some young people we will:

- ensure that for children and young people who are looked after:
 - education and training that meets their needs is provided.
 - effective personal education plans are in place.
 - carers are supported.
 - every school and college is aware of the needs of LAC and has a designated teacher.
 - there is a range of cultural and leisure activities in which to participate.
 - achievements are monitored and celebrated.
 - additional educational support is provided where necessary.
 - attendance at school is maximised and permanent exclusion is avoided.
 - participation in post 16 education and training is a priority.
- ensure that for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities:
 - their needs are assessed and early intervention is in place to address these.
 - protocols across all agencies for assessing needs of children and young people are in place.
 - parents are supported in contributing to the assessment of children and young people.
 - education and training meets needs.
 - progress and achievement is monitored and celebrated.
 - there is access to mainstream provision where appropriate.
 - there is support and encouragement to participate in a range of cultural and leisure activities.

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| E&A 3.1 | Parents and carers receive support in helping their children to achieve | | | |
| 3.1.1 | Provide high quality childcare and advice and support on childcare to parents and carers. | April 2006 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Children's Centres/ Extended Schools Strategy Sure Start Plan Performance & Achievement (P&A) Divisional Plan |
| 3.1.2 | Develop family learning programmes and provide high quality information to parents on school performance. | April 2006 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | Adult Education Plan |
| 3.1.3 | Provide impartial advice and guidance for parents and carers on school admissions. | April 2006 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | School Organisation Plan |
| 3.1.4 | Co-ordinate specialist support for parents and carers of vulnerable children and young people, (e.g.) those with special educational needs, looked after etc. | April 2006 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan SEN and Disabilities Action Plan Multi Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP) Action Plan Carers Strategy |
| 3.1.5 | Develop a multi-agency communication strategy to set the direction for the development of integrated services using new models of service delivery for the best outcome for the speech and language and communication development for all children. | 2006 – 2009 | Hartlepool Primary Care Trust (PCT) | National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services standard 8. |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| E&A 3.2 | Early years provision promotes development and well being and helps Hartlepool children to meet early learning goals | | | |
| 3.2.1 | Ensure there is an integrated strategy for under 5s covering health, childcare and preparation for learning. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Sure Start Partnership Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) | Children's Centres/Extended Schools Strategy Sure Start Plan Hartlepool PCT Local Delivery Plan P&A Divisional Plan |
| 3.2.2 | Develop and implement a strategy for Children's Centres and Extended Schools. | | Children's Services (Planning & Service Integration) | Children's Centres / Extended Schools Strategy Sure Start Plan P&A Divisional Plan |
| E & A 3.3 | Ensure that educational provision 5 – 16 is of good quality | | | |
| 3.3.1 | <i>Challenge and support all schools to improve the quality of educational provision and improve outcomes for all children. Priorities will be on KS1 (all areas), KS3 English, science and ICT and KS4 English and mathematics.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan Hartlepool Community Strategy (Lifelong Learning and Skills Theme) HBC Corporate Performance Plan</i> |
| 3.3.2 | Monitor provision in all schools and implement a strategy for intervention, challenge and support to ensure acceptable standards. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Hartlepool Community Strategy Learning and Skills Theme) |
| 3.3.3 | Support Hartlepool schools in self-evaluation to ensure continuous improvement, especially in the curriculum and the quality of teaching and learning. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 3.3.4 | <i>Monitor patterns of underperformance amongst vulnerable groups in Hartlepool and take action to redress inequalities. Priority groups include Looked After Children and underachieving boys.</i> | <i>April 2006 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan Corporate Performance Plan</i> |
| E&A 3.4 | Enable and encourage children and young people to attend and enjoy school and to achieve highly | | | |
| 3.4.1 | Ensure that Hartlepool children and young people are educated in good quality school buildings and facilities which promote high quality learning and teaching. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Asset Management Plan National Healthy Schools Programme |
| 3.4.2 | Ensure that there are sufficient, suitable and accessible school places and that admission arrangements give priority to the most vulnerable, reflect need and minimise stress. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan School Organisation Plan |
| 3.4.3 | Promote good behaviour and attendance for all pupils and ensure that specialist support is given to parents and carers of difficult to manage children and young people. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities / SEN Action Plan National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |
| 3.4.4 | Monitor the personal and academic development of children and young people and ensure that they are set realistic and challenging targets for improvement. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| 3.4.5 | Work with partners, especially the voluntary sector, to address the needs of vulnerable children and young people in Hartlepool, (e.g.) young carers, underachieving groups, the disaffected and disengaged etc. | April 2006 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Children's Fund Plan Youth Service Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan Children's Centres/Extended Schools Strategy Youth Justice Plan Barnardos Plan CAMHS Strategy MALAP Action Plan |
| E&A 3.5 | Make good educational provision for children who do not attend school | | | |
| 3.5.1 | <i>Ensure that Hartlepool children and young people who have been permanently excluded attend appropriate alternative settings aimed at securing re-integration into mainstream education or work.</i> | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | <i>P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan Access to Learning Operational Plan Barnardos Plan</i> |
| 3.5.2 | Provide suitable education for Hartlepool children who are not able to attend school, (e.g.) for medical reasons, pregnant school girls and young mums. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan Access to Learning Operational Plan |
| 3.5.3 | Ensure that education provided other than by the local authority is at least satisfactory. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

| E&A 3.6 | All children and young people access a range of cultural, recreational activities including play and voluntary learning | | | |
|---------|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| 3.6.1 | Provide safe and accessible places for Hartlepool children and young people to play, socialise and pursue leisure activities. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Play Strategy Community Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme) |
| 3.6.2 | <i>Work with partners, especially the voluntary sector, to provide a range of affordable, accessible, challenging and rewarding recreational activities and identify learning opportunities for children and young people in school and out of school settings.</i> | April 2007 – March 2009 | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan Community Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme) Children's Centres/Extended Schools Strategy Children's Fund Plan Youth Service Plan</i> |
| 3.6.3 | Ensure that recreational and voluntary learning opportunities reflect the needs of individuals and groups, especially those who are socially excluded. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan Community Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme) Children's Centres/Extended Schools Strategy Children's Fund Plan Youth Service Plan |
| 3.6.4 | Ensure that Arts activities are planned more strategically, in order to ensure more effective delivery to priority groups. | 2006/09 | Adult and Community Services | Departmental (and Service) Plan |
| 3.6.5 | Mainstream successful pilot activities aimed at making libraries accessible and attractive to children and young people. | 2006/09 | Adult and Community Services | Departmental (and Service) Plan |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| E&A 3.7 | Children and young people who are looked after are helped to enjoy and achieve | | | |
| 3.7.1 | <i>Ensure that all Hartlepool looked after children (LAC) receive education and training which meet their needs.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan</i> |
| 3.7.2 | <i>Ensure that all personal education plans are effective and implemented. Support carers to ensure that children participate in education and achieve their potential.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan</i> |
| 3.7.3 | <i>Inform schools, colleges and other providers of education about the particular needs and circumstances of LAC and ensure that every school has a designated teacher for LAC.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan</i> |
| 3.7.4 | <i>Encourage and support LAC and their foster carers to participate in a range of cultural and leisure activities and to develop the individual interests of each LAC.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Corporate Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme) Children’s Fund Plan</i> |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 3.7.5 | <i>Monitor and improve the educational achievement, school attendance and cultural experiences of LAC and ensure that additional educational support is provided to those LAC.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Corporate Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme)</i> |
| 3.7.6 | <i>Ensure that the attendance of LAC in schools is maximised and that the permanent exclusion of LAC is avoided.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Corporate Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme)</i> |
| 3.7.7 | <i>Work with partners to encourage the participation of LAC and care leavers in post-16 education and training.</i> | <i>April 2007 – March 2009</i> | <i>Children’s Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan MALAP Action Plan Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Corporate Strategy (Culture & Leisure Theme) Connexions Local Delivery Plan Transition Policy</i> |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| E&A 3.8 | Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are helped to enjoy and achieve | | | |
| 3.8.1 | Ensure that Hartlepool children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are identified, their needs assessed and that early intervention is in place to address those needs. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan |
| 3.8.2 | Establish clear protocols across all agencies for assessing the individual needs of children and young people and for deciding on provision. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan |
| 3.8.3 | Encourage and support parents to contribute to the assessment of children and young people's needs. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan |
| 3.8.4 | Ensure that educational and training provision in Hartlepool schools, colleges and other providers meets the curriculum, staffing, equipment and transport needs of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| 3.8.5 | Monitor and review the progress of individual children and young people in educational, personal, social and emotional outcomes. Ensure this is communicated between agencies and targets are revised accordingly. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |
| 3.8.6 | Monitor and evaluate the impact of policies and provision on the achievement of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan |
| 3.8.7 | Ensure that Hartlepool children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities have their needs met in mainstream settings where appropriate and that these settings provide access for children with disabilities. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan |
| 3.8.8 | Support and encourage children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities to participate in a range of appropriate cultural and leisure activities. | April 2007 – March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan PSI Divisional Plan SSS Divisional Plan Strategy for Children with Disabilities/SEN Action Plan |

THE BIG PLAN!

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April 2006 – March 2009

PART 5

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

OUTCOME: *Make a Positive Contribution*

Our vision for this outcome is to provide all children and young people who live in Hartlepool the opportunity to participate fully in the life of their community. We will work with children, young people and their families to ensure that they are central to our planning and that, through their involvement, we meet the national and local priorities set out in this Plan.

Children and young people tell us:

- they do not want to be bullied.
- they want to celebrate difference.
- they want to be listened to and have the right to a meaningful voice.
- they do not want to be affected by crime.
- they want to take part in making significant life decisions.
- they want access to a wide range of activities.
- they want to be seen positively by others in the community.

Parents / carers and our partners tell us:

- that more provision for supervised and unsupervised play is required as well as activities that divert children and young people from anti social behaviour and crime.
- that there is a shared responsibility in ensuring that children and young people are supported in becoming good citizens and ensuring their children and young people understand rights and responsibilities.
- that Hartlepool has an ideal opportunity to put children and young people at the centre of our planning process and facilitate them having a real voice in developing their town and community.
- that there is a willingness to support all children and young people to have a voice in developing the services they receive.
- that we need to ensure that paths of communications for parents and carers are kept open to senior managers such as headteachers.
- that they believe that we need to have a more strategic approach to supporting young people who wish to volunteer in order to build on the positive culture of volunteering in Hartlepool.
- that we should promote equality and support good relationships between different racial groups in Hartlepool.
- that the majority of children and young people do well and we should celebrate achievement at every opportunity rather than focus on negative incidents.

The Government's National Priorities are:

1. Children and young people are supported in developing socially and emotionally.
2. Children and young people, particularly those from vulnerable groups, are supported in managing changes and responding to challenges in their lives.
3. Children and young people are encouraged to participate in decision-making and in supporting the community.
4. Action is taken to reduce anti-social behaviour by children and young people.
5. Action is taken to prevent offending and to reduce re-offending by children and young people.
6. Children and young people who are looked after are helped to make a positive contribution.
7. Children and young people with learning difficulties and / or disabilities are helped to make a positive contribution.

Our own assessment tells us:

Overall, the Annual Performance Assessment for 2005 showed that local services make a good contribution to enabling children and young people to make a positive contribution. Services consistently deliver above minimum requirements for children and young people.

In relation to engage in decision making and support the community and environment:

- out of 6 Secondary schools all 6 have school councils - 5 involve all pupils in the process and one is working towards this.
- the one secondary special schools has a school council that involves all pupils.
- out of 30 primaries, 14 have school councils with all pupils involved, 9 others have school councils with pupils involved to varying degrees, 6 more have school councils but not with all pupils involved, 1 involves all pupils in open/class forums.
- the borough has an active voluntary sector, though figures for children and young people volunteering are not currently collected.
- Hartlepool Millennium Volunteers works with 16-24 year olds and has had over 400 volunteers so far in 2005/06.

In relation to engage in law abiding and positive and positive behaviour in and out school:

- that we should prevent offending by reducing year on year the number of first time entrants to the youth offending system. This a new measure from April 2005 with a target figure for Hartlepool of under 289; the figure for the period April 2004/05 is 241.
- that we should reduce re-offending rates by 5%.
- in 2004/05 602 young people were brought to justice and had substantive outcomes. This equates to 3.4% of the population of 10-17 year olds.
- there were 23 permanent school exclusions in 2004/05 (academic year).
- there were 677 fixed term school exclusions in 2004/05 (academic year).

In relation to develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate:

- all schools have anti bullying procedures in place.
- we have been collating records of racial incidents in schools since September 2005.
- guidance for schools on the handling and monitoring of racial incidents has been circulated to all schools and training in relation to this guidance commenced in February 2006.

In relation to develop self confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges:

- too few looked after children are involved in contributing to their reviews.
- we have to develop further the transition arrangements for young people from children's to adults' care.
- 29 primary schools are implementing Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning Programme. (SEAL)

In relation to develop enterprising behaviour:

- at the time of the 2001 census 1.1% of 18-24 year olds were Self Employed.
- some schools operate a peer mentoring system.

Things we do well:

- Services consistently deliver above minimum requirements for children and young people.
- Overall, local services make a good contribution to enabling children and young people to make a positive contribution.
- Multi Agency working.
- Performance measures for youth crime have been consistently met in most areas.
- Involvement of children and young people in contributing to the development of service delivery.
- Provision of preventative services aimed at linking those children and young people at risk of offending with appropriate services.

To continue to improve we will:

- ensure we review procedures that are in place to tackle bullying.
- develop clear links between participation processes for children and young people, service providers, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the local political process. This will include further development of school councils as well as seeking opportunities to engage with children and young people outside of mainstream services.
- continue to divert children and young people away from anti social behaviour and crime, through further development of preventative services.
- continue to focus on ensuring that positive outcomes are achieved for looked after children by placing them at the centre of the planning process.
- ensure that all children and young people have access to services that support the development of self-confidence, self worth and emotional resilience that enables them to face significant life changes and challenges with appropriate support.
- continue to find innovative ways to engage with and involve children from black and minority ethnic communities in service development.
- prevent re-offending and support victims of crime.
- further develop the process for involving looked after children in their reviews and planning for their future.
- continue to develop play/activity opportunities for children and young people involving the statutory, voluntary and private sectors in service provision.

Things we can do better (Key Priorities) are:

- Ensure we review procedures that are in place to tackle bullying; (4.3.1)
- Develop clear links between participation processes for children and young people, service providers, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the local political process; this will include further development of school councils as well as seeking opportunities to engage with children and young people outside of mainstream services; (4.1.1)
- Continue to divert children and young people away from anti social behaviour and crime, through further development of preventative services; (4.2.1)
- Continue to focus on ensuring that positive outcomes are achieved for looked after children by placing them at the centre of the planning process; (4.3.4)
- Ensure that all children and young people have access to services that support the development of self-confidence, self worth and emotional resilience and that enable them to face significant life changes and challenges with appropriate support; (4.4.1)
- Continue to find innovative ways to engage with and involve children from black and minority ethnic communities in service development; (4.3.2)
- Prevent re-offending and support victims of crime;
- Develop further the process for involving looked after children in their reviews and planning for their future; (4.3.4)
- Develop effective transition arrangements for young people moving from children's to adult care. (1.6.1), (5.7.1), (2.8.1)

In order to do our best for all children and young people we will deliver the national priorities and contribute to the delivery of the Hartlepool Community strategy. In particular we will:

- research why the issue of bullying is still high on children and young people's agendas despite procedures put in place to tackle it and develop practice based on this research to ensure that children and young people are not bullied.
- ensure that children and young people are central to the development of a participation strategy that sets standards and includes involvement in the democratic process.
- provide services designed to reduce the incidence of social exclusion and offending behaviour by ensuring that effective community responses to early signs of known risk factors are easily accessible to children and young people.
- continue to provide services that support the development of high self-esteem and confidence.
- develop a town wide strategy that enables and ensures all service providers in Hartlepool consult with, and facilitate children and young people to participate in, the development of their services.

In recognition of the additional needs of some young people we will:

- research issues around those young people in care system who are involved in criminal activity and plan action as necessary.
- work with our partners in the police and courts to develop systems that ensure swift administration of justice for young people who enter the juvenile justice system.
- help children and young people who are looked after by the council to get involved in reviewing and developing the services that they receive.
- implement the MALAP action plan.
- review support services to young people to improve level of attendance at statutory SEN reviews.
- support young people from vulnerable groups to respond positively to challenges in their lives.
- develop effective transition arrangements for young people moving from children's to adult care.
- ensure all service providers meet the requirements of the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 by promoting equality of opportunity and good relations between people of different racial groups within Hartlepool.

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-----------|---|---|
| PC 4.1 | Engage in decision-making and support the community and environment. | | | |
| 4.1.1 | <i>Ensure that children and young people are central to the development of a participation strategy that sets standards and includes involvement in the democratic process.</i> | 2006/07 | <i>Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration)</i> | <i>Children's Fund Plan (2005/08) National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) Youth Service Plan Barnardos Plan</i> |
| 4.1.2 | <i>Implement the recommendations on Participation agreed by Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in March 06</i> | 2006/07 | <i>Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration)</i> | |
| PC 4.2 | Engage in law abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school. | | | |
| 4.2.1 | <i>Reduce anti-social and criminal behaviour through improved prevention and rehabilitation activities.</i> | 2006/08 | <i>Regeneration & Planning (Community Safety & Prevention)</i> | <i>Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005-08 Preventative strategy Youth Justice Plan Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO) Strategy Connexions Local Delivery Plan Homelessness strategy Children's Fund Plan 2005/08 National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) Barnardos</i> |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

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|---------------------------|---|------------------|--|---|
| 4.2.2 | Review the working of the joint protocol between Children's Services and the Youth Offending Service in light of the number of offenders who are looked after. | 2006/07 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | Youth Justice Plan |
| 4.2.3 | Continue to develop restorative justice processes and support victims of crime | 2006/08 | Regeneration & Planning (Community Safety & Prevention) | Youth Justice Plan |
| PC 4.3 | Develop positive relationships and choosing not to bully and discriminate | | | |
| 4.3.1 | <i>Research why the issue of bullying is still high on children and young people's agendas despite procedures put in place to tackle it and develop practice based on this research to ensure that children and young people are not bullied.</i> | 2006/07 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) |
| 4.3.2 | <i>Ensure that all children and young people from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME), traveller, asylum seeker and refugee communities have the opportunity to gain full access to services and have a role in service development.</i> | 2006/07 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | Performance & Achievement (P&A) Divisional Plan |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

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|---------------------------|--|------------------|---|---|
| 4.3.3 | Develop a strategy for meeting the needs of all children and young people growing up in an increasingly diverse society, to ensure equality of service provision. | 2006/07 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan |
| 4.3.4 | <i>Children and young people who are looked after are helped to make a positive contribution, in particular those with special needs, placed out of the Authority area or involved in the criminal justice system.</i> | 2006/07 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services)</i> | <i>MALAP Action Plan P&A Divisional Plan Education of LAC Development Plan Dec 04 – March 06</i> |
| PC 4.4 | Develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges | | | |
| 4.4.1 | <i>Ensure that all children and young people have access to services that support the development of self-confidence, self worth and emotional resilience.</i> | 2006/07 | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement)</i> | <i>National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) Behaviour and Education Support Team (BEST) Youth Service Plan Library Plan Barnardos Plan</i> |
| 4.4.2 | Ensure that all children and young people are equipped to face significant life changes and challenges with appropriate support. | 2006/08 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) Strategy and Action Plan for Children and Young People with Disabilities/SEN 2006/2009 BEST Youth Service Plan |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|---------|--|--|
| 4.4.3 | <i>Children and young people with additional needs are helped to make a positive contribution.</i> | 2006/7 | <i>Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration)</i> | <i>Strategy and Action Plan for Children and Young People with Disabilities/SEN 2006/2009. National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) MALAP</i> |
| PC 4.5 | Develop enterprising behaviour. | | | |
| 4.5.1 | Research opportunities for children and young people to take part in volunteering and develop opportunities based on the outcomes. | 2006/08 | Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency | Community Strategy Library Plan |
| 4.5.2 | Develop opportunities for peer mentoring. | 2006/08 | Children's Services (Planning and Service Integration) | National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP) Library Plan |
| PC 4.6 | Children and young people with learning difficulties and / or disabilities are helped to make a positive contribution | | | |
| 4.6.1 | <i>Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services.</i> | 2006/07 | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) Adult & Community Services</i> | <i>Transitions policy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 4 and 8. Children with a disability/SEN Strategy</i> |

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PART 6

ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

OUTCOME: *Achieve Economic Well-Being*

Our vision for this outcome in Hartlepool is that children and young people will achieve the qualifications, develop the skills and be given the necessary life experiences to enable them to lead full and active adult lives. Also, that all services will work collaboratively to ensure children and young people will have opportunities to succeed in their chosen career and live in households free from poverty.

Children and young people tell us:

- that education should be interesting and relevant.
- going to college and university is important to young people.
- that you should do well in school – “the best you can”.
- that being in control of your own future is important.
- having a good job is important to young people.
- that help should be provided to allow access to a wider range of job opportunities.
- that things which make your life better are important.
- having a driving licence is valued by young people, helping them become independent.
- that young people should be supported to manage issues relating to personal relationships.
- “Care leavers“(looked after children) should be supported in accessing decent housing.

Parents / carers and our partners tell us:

- that we should recognise and value the work of our partners.
- help should be provided for young people when they enter post 16 education, training and employment.
- young people should be prepared for looking after a home.
- we should monitor the DfES target for the number of young people whose economic/learning outcome is unknown.
- help should be provided for Looked After Children to enable them to progress to higher education.
- young people with a disability should be supported in exploring work and training opportunities as part of the transition process.
- parents with disabled children should be supported to enable them to work.

The Government's National Priorities are:

1. Action is taken by partners to support families in maximising their economic well-being.
2. Young people 11-19 are helped to prepare for working life.
3. Action is taken to ensure that 14-19 education is planned and delivered in a coordinated way and to ensure that education and training (16-19) is of good quality.
4. Community regeneration initiatives address the needs of children and young people.
5. Action is taken to ensure that young people have decent homes.
6. Children and young people who are looked after are helped to achieve economic well-being.
7. Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are helped to achieve economic well-being.

Our own assessment tells us:

- that the services that contribute and support children and young people to achieve economic well-being in Hartlepool can be judged to be good. Within the phase of 14-19 and for SEN provision, some services consistently deliver above minimum requirements. There is some innovative practice, which is cost-effective and makes a good contribution to the wider outcomes for the community. In relation to children and young people who are looked after, services are satisfactory with some good features.

In relation to engaging in further education, employment or training on leaving school our own assessment found that Hartlepool was making good progress and was above statistical neighbours :

- the proportion of 16–19 year-olds in education or training is good and the number of young people classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET) is below statistical neighbours.
- in Hartlepool there was a 31% reduction in NEET between 2002-2004 compared to 23% in the Tees Valley and 14% nationally. The number of young people classified as NEET has fallen from 14.3% in 2004 to 8.5% in 2005
- in Hartlepool in January 2006 20 young people from a cohort of 135 classified as having learning difficulties were recoded as NEET
- of the 156 teenage mothers known to the Department of Health in Hartlepool during 2004-05, 73 are known to Connexions with 9% actively engaged in education or training.
- the proportion of young offenders in education or training in Hartlepool (April-September 2005) is 85%. This is well above the North East average of 75.3, the Youth Offending Service (YOS) Family Group average of 76.4%. and the National average of 75.2%, but below the government target of 90%.
- Tees Valley Local Learning and Skills Council (TVLLSC) data indicates improved retention rates for 16, 17 and 18 year olds on education and training programmes in Hartlepool between 2000-01 (81%) and 2003-04 (88%).
- the success rates of 16–19 year-olds in education or training In Hartlepool has improved from 61% in 2000-01 to 71% in 2003-04.
- performance of young people not included in the Forvus returns for 16-19 year olds shows continued improvement. The combined success data for short and long courses

has improved from 71% in 2001/02 to 75% in 2003/04.

- the perception of 16–19 year olds of how well they are learning at Hartlepool Sixth Form College for 2004-05 indicates a high level of student satisfaction with 90% of students stating that they would recommend the college to a friend and 98% stating that they had a good relationship with tutors.
- 84% of students at Hartlepool College of Further Education agreed or strongly agreed that support given by teachers for assignments and examinations was helpful and 86% found teachers and support staff helpful and friendly.
- the number of young people applying to higher education has increased by 23% in the last four years. The number of young people attending Higher Education Institutions (HEI) has increased from 1,076 in 2001 to 1,332 in 2005, which is in line with increases nationally.

In relation to looked after children achieving economic well-being:

- the number of care leavers in education, employment and training is good and there are plans to further strengthen multi-agency support.
- a specialist team (Leaving Care Team) has been established which has impacted positively on the number of looked after young people entering further and higher education. All eligible, relevant and formerly relevant young people have pathway plans and are allocated a personal adviser.
- the number of young people in employment, education or training at age 19 has improved from 45.3% in 2001/02 to 67.3% in 2004/05. This is above the national average.
- strategies to engage young people in education are good. 82% of eligible pupils (16-17 year olds) are in education settings.
- strategies to support young people in further and higher education are good. 26% of former relevant young people were supported into further and higher education in 2004. 31% of eligible, relevant and former relevant young people are NEET. This is unsatisfactory and improvement plans are being implemented.

In relation to children and young people with learning difficulties and /or disabilities achieving economic well-being, children and young people in Hartlepool make good progress.

- all year 9 pupils with statements participate in a transition review involving Connexions, Health and Children's Services. 100% of pupils with statements have a transition plan.
- all mainstream secondary schools are developing accreditation for SEN pupils for whom GCSE is not appropriate/accessible.
- quality of education at Catcote School is good.
- there is a strong emphasis on work related learning in Catcote School, which has introduced facilities for hairdressing, horticulture, and office practice and retail/customer service. This allows all students access to in-house work experience.
- all pupils in mainstream schools classified as having SEN have access to work experience.
- we recognise the need to increase the number of children and their families accessing Direct Payments and to ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their move to Adult Services.

In relation to being ready for employment, children and young people in Hartlepool make good progress:

- the quality of 14-19 year olds education is good with average point scores for students entering GCSE, A/AS and vocational education well above statistical neighbours and in line with national averages.
- performance of schools, colleges and training providers is improving. OfSTED Section 10 inspections of all secondary schools found their provision to be at least satisfactory and often good. OfSTED and ALI reports indicate that partner organisations had good or very good leadership and management with good levels of achievement and teaching.
- the percentage of 16 year olds achieving 5A*-C has risen consistently above national rate of increase for the last four years. The attainment gap for Hartlepool, compared to national averages, narrowed from 13% in 2000 to 4% in 2005.
- the percentage of 16 year olds achieving 5A*- G and 1A*- G is just below national averages.
- Forvus data shows at least satisfactory improvement during the period 2001-2004. The two major providers of A Level courses consistently perform higher than national averages for average points score per student.
- value added (16-19) performance is good. In 2003/04 Hartlepool College of Further Education recorded value added for 31 of the 43 students aged 16-19 who took A Levels. At Hartlepool Sixth Form College the overall Advanced Level Information System (ALIS) value added data for the college shows that students achieve a full grade above predicted performance based on GCSE outcomes.
- all partner organisations have robust and rigorous quality assurance mechanisms, e.g. school self-evaluation, business excellence models etc.
- the peer review of the Excellence in Cities programme graded the overall quality of the programme as grade 2 (very good).
- there has been an expansion of vocational education pre-16, e.g. 396 14-16 year olds were engaged in the Increased Flexibility Programme in 2004-05 compared to 309 in 2003. A Young Apprenticeships (pilot) Programme has been developed and the target for recruitment to the programme (20) has been achieved. Work-related learning and enterprise education is well established in schools and the quality is at least good.
- permanent exclusions of 14-16 year olds have fallen dramatically since 2002 and the number of days lost to fixed term exclusion for the same age group has fallen from 2,079 in 2002 to 1,756 in 2004/05.
- secondary school attendance improved from 90.5% in 2000/01 to 91.9% in 2003/04.
- the Local Learning and Skills Council and the Local Authority work collaboratively to ensure 14-19 education is planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way. The Assistant Director of Children's Services with responsibility for School Improvement chairs the Hartlepool 14-19 Strategic Board.
- all partners have agreed a 14-19 strategy. The strategy identifies six key challenges for developing education and training into the future; there is increasing coherence to the planning of the 14-19 curriculum as a result of an Area Wide Action Plan (2001-2005) and a 14-19 Operational Plan (2005 onwards) which takes forward the 14-19 Strategy. All schools, colleges and other partners have shared their strategic plans and to improve coherence and synergy the LA has mapped each partner's priorities to the 14-19 Strategy.

- the Local Authority has audited and mapped all 14-19 provision in Hartlepool, which has led to improved knowledge and better co-ordination of the pre-16 offer to pupils by post-16 providers. For example, all colleges and work-based training providers have offered a joint menu and a shared pricing policy for 2005/06.
- actions are taken to ensure 14-19 provision is of good quality, including involving young people in evaluating the quality of provision and collaborative activity, e.g. Quality Data Processing (QDP) questionnaire to evaluate the Increased Flexibility Support Programme.
- a wide range of support to improve education and training has been provided, such as Level 2 Initiative Funding, focused on retention and achievement.
- measures have been implemented which will ensure improvements in the quality of teaching and learning: a key priority in the 14-19 Operational Plan.
- rigorous monitoring of the performance of schools has taken place, leading to subsequent intervention and support action to improve pupil outcomes.

In relation to children and young people living in decent homes and sustainable communities, Hartlepool has taken positive action to improve housing and communities:

- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) and New Deal for Communities (NDC) initiatives (£53.8 million over 10 years) are targeted at the most needy areas with £5.5 million allocated to address educational and employability themes. Two Community Learning Centres have been developed on school premises.
- residents, including children and young people, are involved at all stages in the identification of need and the planning, management and review of community regeneration initiatives e.g. Café 177.
- a Work Related Learning (WRL) co-ordinator promotes vocational curriculum at Key Stage 4 and has developed new programmes for students in NDC wards.
- action has been taken to maximise the proportion of children and young people living in homes that meet the Decent Homes Standard by planning new accommodation and the demolition of substandard stock.
- in the last two years only one incident was recorded of a family staying in bed and breakfast accommodation.
- in the last two years there were no incidents of a family being placed in hotel accommodation.
- teenage parents, unable to live with family or partner, are offered supervised, semi-independent housing with support at Anna Court in Hartlepool, subject to availability.
- a floating support service is available to assist clients of the teenage pregnancy unit.
- young people leaving care are assisted in finding suitable accommodation.

In relation to the number of children and young people having access to transport / material goods and those living in households free from low income, Hartlepool is below national and local averages:

- in Hartlepool 33.3% of children live in families who receive key benefits; this is above the Tees Valley average of 30.1% and 9.5% above the national average of 23.8%.
- in Hartlepool the proportion of children living in households where no one is working is

25.9%; this is above the Tees Valley average of 23.7% and 8.3% above national average of 17.6%.

- parents and carers are informed about the range of childcare facilities available.
- planned and affordable childcare is available to all Hartlepool residents including Sure Start provision.
- in 2004-05 all OfSTED Inspections found childcare to be at least satisfactory or above.

Things we do well:

- The quality of education for 14-19 year olds is good.
- Average point scores for students entering GCSE, A/AS and vocational education are well above statistical neighbours.
- The number of care leavers in education, employment and training is good.
- 14-19 education is planned and delivered in a co-ordinated way.
- Significant increases in young people accessing higher education.
- Good progress made in reducing the number of young people classified as NEET.
- Quality of SEN provision including vocational education.
- Innovative practice in developing vocational education.
- Strategies to support teenage parents.
- Community improvement initiatives.
- The range of childcare provision available.

To continue to improve we will:

- ensure that education and training is planned in a co-ordinated manner involving all partners.
- ensure that childcare opportunities are available for all residents of Hartlepool.
- ensure that all Key Stage 4 pupils have opportunities for vocational studies and work experience.
- ensure that all young people aged 13-19 have impartial careers advice and guidance.
- ensure that all young people are prepared for working life.
- continue to support regeneration initiatives which support the needs of children and young people.
- continue to take action to improve the quality of housing.
- continue to support looked after children to achieve economic well-being.
- continue to support children who have learning difficulties and or disabilities to achieve economic well-being.

Things we can do better (Key Priorities) are:

- Reduce the number of young people classified as not in education, employment or training (NEET); (5.3.4)
- Improve the number of young people engaged in education, employment or training from disadvantaged groups; (5.3.3)
- Increase the number of young people having the opportunity to access higher education; (5.3.6)
- Continue to improve the quality of housing to meet the Decent Homes Standard. (5.5.1)
- Increase the number of children and their families accessing Direct Payments. (5.7.5)
- Ensure that all children with disabilities aged 14+ have a transition plan to support their

move to Adult Services. (5.7.1)

In order to do our best for all children and young people we will deliver the national priorities and contribute to the delivery of the Hartlepool Community Strategy. In particular we will:

- Implement the Hartlepool Lifelong Learning 14-19 Operational Plan.

In recognition of the additional needs of some children and young people we will:

- ensure provision is planned which is sensitive to race and equality.
- continue to plan education and training to ensure any underachieving groups receive targeted support.
- ensure all young people in care are encouraged and supported in engaging in education training and employment.
- ensure that personal and welfare support are available to all looked after children and care leavers.
- continue to provide financial support for looked after children and care leavers aged 16-19 and up to 24 if in higher education.
- ensure young people supervised by youth offending are engaged in education, training or employment.
- continue to ensure that care leavers are provided with suitable accommodation.
- ensure that a multi agency transition takes place for all year 9 pupils with special educational needs and /or disabilities and that a transition plan is produced.

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| AEWB 5.1 | Action is taken by partners in Hartlepool to support families in maximising their economic well-being | | | |
| 5.1.1 | Parents and carers are informed about the range of childcare facilities available to them. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | Performance & Achievement (P&A) Divisional Plan Sure Start Hartlepool Implementation Plan (SSHIP) |
| 5.1.2 | Parents and carers are encouraged to take up, in and out of work, benefit and tax credit entitlements. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Sure Start Hartlepool Implementation Plan (SSHIP) |
| 5.1.3 | Partners are aware of and minimise the financial stress of childhood activity on families, such as cost of school trips, transport, and entry to libraries and sports facilities. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | Local Authority Strategic Plan P&A Divisional Plan Sure Start Hartlepool Implementation Plan (SSHIP) |
| 5.1.4 | Planned and affordable childcare provision is available to all residents in Hartlepool. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) and (Planning and Service Integration) | P&A Divisional Plan Sure Start Hartlepool Implementation Plan (SSHIP) |
| 5.1.5 | Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is widely publicised. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| AEWB 5.2 | Young people 11-19 in Hartlepool are helped to prepare for working life. | | | |
| 5.2.1 | Young people are supported in developing self-confidence, team working skills and enterprise. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions Learning and Skills Council (LSC) | P&A Divisional Plan Institutional Work Related Learning (WRL) and Enterprise Plans BEST NHSP |
| 5.2.2 | Steps are taken to ensure that young people are financially literate. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions LSC | P&A Divisional Plan Institutional WRL and Enterprise Plans Credit Union Forum |
| 5.2.3 | Opportunities for vocational studies are available for all Key Stage 4 pupils. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) LSC | P&A Divisional Plan Lifelong Learning Partnership 14-19 Strategic Plan Institutional Operational Plans |
| 5.2.4 | All Key Stage 4 pupils undertake work related learning and useful work experience. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Learn to Work | P&A Divisional Plan Lifelong Learning Partnership 14-19 Strategic Plan Institutional WRL and Enterprise Plans learn2work Plan |
| 5.2.5 | Careers education and guidance is provided to all pupils in Key Stage 3 and 4. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions | P&A Divisional Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan School Development Plans |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 5.2.6 | Impartial information, advice and guidance on education, training and employment opportunities is available to all 13-19 year olds. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions LSC | P&A Divisional Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan |
| 5.2.7 | Personal, financial, welfare and advocacy support is available to 16-19 year-olds to support their education or training. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Hartlepool Connexions Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) LSC | Connexions Local Delivery Plan Institutional Development Plans |
| AEWB 5.3 | Action is taken to ensure that 14-19 education and training in Hartlepool is planned and delivered in a coordinated way, and to ensure that education (16-19) is of good quality. | | | |
| 5.3.1 | 14-19 Strategic Board works collaboratively in response to the needs of young people and supports the work of voluntary agencies. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency | P&A Divisional Plan 14-19 Operational Plan Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency Plan Barnardos Plan |
| 5.3.2 | Provision is planned which is sensitive to race and equality. | April 2006 - March 2009 | 14-19 Strategic Board Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) | P&A Divisional Plan 14-19 Operational Plan Barnardos Plan |
| 5.3.3 | <i>Provision is planned to ensure underachieving groups of young people receive targeted support.</i> | <i>April 2006 - March 2009</i> | <i>14-19 Strategic Board Children's Services (Performance and Achievement)</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan 14-19 Operational Plan MALAP Barnardos Plan</i> |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 5.3.4 | <i>Provision is planned to ensure the number of young people classified as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) is reduced.</i> | <i>April 2006 - March 2007</i> | <i>14-19 Strategic Board Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions</i> | <i>P&A Divisional Plan 14-19 Operational Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan DfES target Barnardos Plan</i> |
| 5.3.5 | Progression routes are available for all Adult Learning Inspectorate (ALI) areas of learning. | April 2006 - March 2009 | 14-19 Strategic Board Tees Valley Local Learning and Skills Council (TVLLSC) | 14-19 Operational Plan Tees Valley Local Learning and Skills Council (TVLLSC) Strategic Plan |
| 5.3.6 | <i>Provision is sufficiently flexible to enable young people to review and revise the choices they have made and will increase opportunities to access to higher education</i> | <i>April 2006 - March 2009</i> | <i>14-19 Strategic Board Aimhigher</i> | <i>14-19 Operational Plan Tees Valley Local Learning and Skills Council Strategic Plan Tees Valley Aimhigher Strategic Plan</i> |
| AEWB 5.4 | Hartlepool community regeneration initiatives address the needs of children and young people. | | | |
| 5.4.1 | Initiatives are targeted at the most needy areas and address the broad range of family needs in an integrated way. | April 2006 - March 2009 | New Deal for Communities Hartlepool Borough Council (Regeneration and Planning) | Local Authority Strategic Plan New Deal for Communities Plan Neighbourhood Regeneration Plan |
| 5.4.2 | Residents, including children and young people, are involved at all stages in the identification of need and the planning, management and review of community regeneration initiatives. | April 2006 - March 2009 | New Deal for Communities Hartlepool Borough Council (Regeneration and Planning) | Local Authority Strategic Plan New Deal for Communities Plan Neighbourhood Regeneration Plan |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------|---|--|
| AEWB 5.5 | Action is taken in Hartlepool to ensure that young people have decent housing | | | |
| 5.5.1 | Action is taken to maximise the proportion of children and young people living in homes that meet the Decent Homes Standard. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Hartlepool Borough Council (Strategic Housing) | Local Authority Strategic Plan The Housing Strategy The Housing Renewal Strategy |
| 5.5.2 | Support is available for families and young people seeking to transfer within, or enter, the social housing market. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Hartlepool Borough Council (Strategic Housing) | Local Authority Strategic Plan The Housing Strategy The Housing Renewal Strategy |
| 5.5.3 | The use of temporary accommodation for families with children and young people is minimised (NSF 1). | April 2006 - March 2009 | Hartlepool Borough Council (Strategic Housing) | Local Authority Strategic Plan The Housing Strategy The Housing Renewal Strategy Homelessness Strategy |
| 5.5.4 | Teenage parents unable to live with family or partner are offered supervised, semi-independent housing with support. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Hartlepool Borough Council (Strategic Housing) | Local Authority Strategic Plan The Housing Strategy The Housing Renewal Strategy |
| AEWB 5.6 | Children and young people in Hartlepool who are looked after are helped to achieve economic well-being | | | |
| 5.6.1 | All young people over the age of 16 to have completed pathway plans. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) and (Performance and Achievement) | SSS Divisional Plan P&A Divisional Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan MALAP STRB Plan |
| 5.6.2 | All young people in care are encouraged and supported in engaging in education training and / or employment. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) and (Performance and Achievement) Hartlepool Connexions | Safeguarding and Specialist Services (SSS) Divisional Plan P&A Divisional Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan MALAP |

| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 5.6.3 | Personal and welfare support are available to all looked after children and care-leavers, aged 16-19 to support their education, training or employment. Financial support extended up until 24 if in higher education (degree). | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) Hartlepool Connexions | SSS Divisional Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan MALAP STRB Plan |
| 5.6.4 | Provision is made to ensure young people supervised by Youth Offending Service are engaged in education, training or employment. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Youth Offending Service Hartlepool Connexions | Youth Offending Service Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan |
| 5.6.5 | Care leavers are provided with suitable accommodation, including residential or sheltered provision. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) | SSS Divisional Plan MALAP |
| AEWB 5.7 | Children and young people in Hartlepool who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities are helped to achieve economic well-being. | | | |
| 5.7.1 | <i>Improve arrangements for transition between settings and from children's to adult services.</i> | <i>April 2006 - March 2009</i> | <i>Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) (Safeguarding and Specialist Services) Hartlepool Schools Hartlepool Connexions</i> | <i>Transitions policy National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF), standards 4 and 8. Children with a disability/SEN Strategy</i> |
| Priority Reference | Actions | Timescale | Lead Organisation | Linkages |

| | | | | |
|-------|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 5.7.2 | Children and young people receive the advice they need for education, employment and training post-16, are properly prepared and given support they need. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) LSC Hartlepool Connexions | P&A Divisional Plan SEN/Disability Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan |
| 5.7.3 | Information and support is provided on welfare and benefit entitlement. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) LSC Hartlepool Connexions | P&A Divisional Plan SEN/Disability Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan |
| 5.7.4 | Health, advice, guidance and support is provided for all Hartlepool children with disabilities as part of the transition process. | April 2006 - March 2009 | Children's Services (Performance and Achievement) LSC Hartlepool Primary Care trust Hartlepool Connexions | P&A Divisional Plan SEN/Disability Plan Connexions Local Delivery Plan Primary Care Trust Local Delivery Plan |
| 5.7.5 | <i>Direct payments are available and promoted for families with disabled children and/or disabled 16 and 17 year olds.</i> | <i>April 2006 - March 2009</i> | <i>Children's Services (Safeguarding and Specialist)</i> | <i>SEN/Disability plan 1.6.3</i> |

THE BIG PLAN!

(Children and Young People's Plan)

A Strategic Plan for the Provision of Services to the
Children and Young People of Hartlepool

April 2006 – March 2009

PART 7

**SERVICE MANAGEMENT &
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

DRAFT 3 MARCH 2006

Introduction and main aims

This Children and Young People's Plan identifies the high level strategic priorities for the next three years (2006-2009). A number of operational plans provide the detail of how these strategic priorities will be implemented. The relationship of the Children and Young People's Plan to these subordinate plans is shown in the "Bookcase" in Appendix 1. It is important that **all** children and young people benefit from the Plan. This includes those children and young people who use mainly universal services; these are services everyone uses such as maternity services at birth and schools when children get older. Some children and young people need extra support such as if a child has a disability or is fostered. To ensure that this support is available, some themes are tackled in each outcome such as Looked After children and young people and those with Special Educational Needs and disabilities.

Our vision is that by enabling all children and young people to achieve their full potential, they will have the confidence and ability to enjoy a fruitful and successful life. Our overarching aim is to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people so that they are healthy and safe, they enjoy themselves and achieve well, they make a positive contribution and they are helped to achieve economic well being. Services to children and young people in Hartlepool should be organised in such a way that they will help all our young people achieve their full potential and maximise their chances in life by providing integrated provision which is of high quality, effective and excellent value for money.

Arrangements for Monitoring and Evaluating the Plan

Each of the outcome areas of the Children and Young People's Plan has a lead officer who is responsible for ensuring that appropriate action plans are developed to deliver the priorities. Each action has a responsible officer who is designated to ensure the programme is delivered. The actions are part of the service planning cycle and delivery is monitored via the individual organisation's performance management processes, where the actions and priorities are key deliverables for individual officers.

Monitoring the progress of the Plan is undertaken twice a year with outcome lead officers presenting a report on progress to the Children's Services Planning and Evaluation Group. Evaluation is undertaken once a year with analysis based on the success criteria in the Plan. Monitoring reports are half yearly in October and March. Evaluation is designed to coincide with the review of the Plan, the annual self-assessment cycle and the Annual Performance Assessment. Evaluation reports are to be presented to the Planning and Evaluation Group in January to allow them to inform the Plan's review and to be considered by the agencies involved. The diagram in Appendix 5 indicates the process involved.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP)

The Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership's was established in 2005 and its primary purpose is to provide a forum within which consideration will be given to the way in which children and young people's services could be developed and improved, and to make recommendations to the Executive Board. The remit of the CYPSP includes:

- the promotion of positive outcomes for all children and young people and to seek to prevent children and young people experiencing negative outcomes and social exclusion;
- contribute to a multi-agency, strategic approach to the commissioning of services;

- lead and promote effective consultation with service providers (statutory and non-statutory), users of services and carers.

The Development of a Children's Trust

There is a statutory duty on agencies and bodies delivering children's services to cooperate in arrangements to improve the wellbeing of children and young people in their area. This duty is expected to manifest itself in the establishment of children's trusts designed to improve outcomes for all children and young people through integration at all levels: frontline delivery; processes; strategies; and all supported by inter-agency governance arrangements.

A critical element of service integration will be the pooling of budgets and resources under the powers of either Section 31 of the Health Act 1999 or the Children Act 2004. Through the use of these powers partners will have the ability to be more flexible in targeting funding to where children and young people's needs can best be met. There is an expectation that all areas will have a children's trust in place by 2008.

The development of a children's trust in Hartlepool is a crucial element of the Children and Young People's Plan for Hartlepool. Whilst working within the current government timeframe for the establishment of children's trusts by April 2008, there are however, a number of issues that may have an effect upon the establishment of a trust locally, these include:

- The newly established Children's Services Department (August 2005), which is developing revised working practices and opportunities for the integration of service delivery, which include Children's Centres and Extended Schools;
- The impact of the proposed restructure of primary care trusts, which may have an impact on the pace of change in the short term and could delay new partnership arrangements;
- Partnership working has been recognised as one of the many strengths of Hartlepool and this will be strengthened further with the implementation of the Local Area Agreement in April 2006.

Local Area Agreements

Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are aimed at delivering a better quality of life for people through improving performance on a range of national and local priorities.

Hartlepool's LAA was agreed in March 2006 and signifies a new way of working to build a more flexible and responsive relationship between central government and Hartlepool on the priority outcomes that need to be achieved at a local level.

The LAA will be overseen by the Hartlepool Partnership. The Hartlepool Partnership is the town's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and brings together all of the town's partnerships delivering local services. The Hartlepool Partnership has established the strategic framework for service delivery in the town through the Community Strategy process.

The LAA is structured in line with the seven themes of Hartlepool's Community Strategy:

- Jobs and the Economy
- Lifelong Learning and Skills
- Health and Care
- Community Safety

- Environment and Housing
- Culture and Leisure
- Strengthening Communities

These seven themes provide alignment with established priorities in the Community Strategy and provide the flexibility to accommodate cross cutting agendas including services for children and young people. These themes are, however, not intended to be rigid blocks, rather a convenient and locally appropriate structure to organise activity, accountability and performance management.

The Hartlepool Partnership has sought flexibility to allocate resources to priorities, providing opportunities for working across organisational boundaries enabling co-ordinated approaches to delivery of the Every Child Matters five outcome areas, as well as those sought by our community.

The establishment of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and the requirement for the production of a Children and Young People's Plan have led to proposals for a review by the Hartlepool Partnership, to ensure that policy documents, partnership structures and governance arrangements are in place and fit for purpose. Detailed proposals will be brought before the Partnership during 2006.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership will work with the Hartlepool Partnership during 2006 and 2007 to develop appropriate commissioning and contracting strategies for providers from across all sectors.

Children's Workforce Strategy

In implementing the Children and Young People's Plan, careful consideration needs to be given to the workforce implications arising from needs analysis and service delivery plans.

The impact of services for children and young people is largely dependent on the hard work, commitment, competence, quality and skills of the workforce who provide these services.

Critical to the success of reforms to improve outcomes for all children and young people is increasing the skill, confidence, competence and stability of the workforce so that it makes as much difference to children's life chances as possible.

The Government's vision for the children's workforce is that the people in it:

- Are competent, confident and safe to work with children and young people;
- Aspire to be part of and want to remain in it, where they can develop their skills and build satisfying and rewarding careers;
- Are trusted and respected by parents, carers and children and young people.

Workforce variability and instability would pose a significant risk to successfully delivering the Children and Young People's Plan and in supporting the integration of services and workforce reform. The workforce strategy will, in conjunction with national strategies and initiatives, seek to:

- ensure consistency of approach in workforce development across the wider children's workforce and that the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge for all who work with children and young people is integral to the development of staff;

- analyse workforce numbers and skills;
- introduce drives to strengthen standards of leadership, management and supervision;
- simplify the complex array of qualifications and awards which impedes the flexibility of the workforce leading to better workforce deployment;
- bring coherence and renewed focus to training and development activities to eliminate any unnecessary duplication and wastage;
- ensure workforce planning takes into account strategic development opportunities and commissioning of services;
- support the introduction of the Common Assessment Framework, multi-agency and more integrated working to strengthen safeguarding, make children's services more preventative and reduce demands on the social care workforce, for example, by remodelling job roles and providing new career opportunities;
- establish a more professional workforce in the early years;
- improve recruitment and retention measures;
- work towards resolution of issues surrounding pay and conditions of employment;
- address locally identified priorities arising from the Hartlepool Children and Young People's Plan.

Further Information

This Plan can be accessed electronically at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/childrensservices and is also available in a variety of formats.

For more details contact:

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“The Bookcase”

Appendix 1

The table below details examples of the different plans at work in Hartlepool that will affect children, young people, parents and carers and should be considered as work in progress.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|---|--|
| Planning Level 3 | Hartlepool Community Strategy | | Corporate Performance Plan | | |
| Planning Level 2 | <u>Children and Young People’s Plan</u> | | | | |
| Planning Level 1 | Community Safety Strategy | Children with a disability/ SEN Strategy | Children’s Centres/Extended Schools Strategy | Primary Care Trust Local Delivery Plan | Education Development Plan |
| | Local Policing Plan | Transitions Policy | Play Strategy | Public Health Strategy | Lifelong Learning Partnership 14-19 Strategy |
| | Youth Justice Plan | Corporate Parent Forum Action Plan | Children’s Fund Plan | Child and Adolescent Mental Health Strategy | Youth Service Plan |
| | Young Person’s Substance Misuse Plans | MALAP Action Plan | Hartlepool Housing Strategy | Healthy Schools Programme Plan | Connexions Local Delivery Plan |
| | Probation Area Annual Plan | Carers Strategy | Local Transport Plan | Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit Annual Plan | ICT Strategy |

Service Specific – Implementation and Action Plans (Business Plans)

Glossary of acronyms used in this Plan

| | | | |
|------------|---|---------|--|
| A (Level) | Advanced (Level) | LA | Local Authority |
| A2L | Access to Learning | LAA | Local Area Agreement |
| AEWB | Achieve Economic Well-Being | LAC | Looked After Children |
| ALI | Adult Learning Inspectorate | LPSA | Local Public Service Agreement |
| ALIS | Advanced Level Information System | LSCB | Local Safeguarding Children Board |
| APA | Annual Performance Assessment | MALAP | Multi Agency Looked After Partnership |
| AS (Level) | Advanced Subsidiary (Level) | NDC | New Deal for Communities |
| AVC | Advanced Vocational Certificate | NEET | Not in Education, Employment or Training |
| BEST | Behaviour and Education Support Team | NHS | National Health Service |
| BH | Be Healthy | NHSP | National Healthy Schools Programme |
| BME | Black and Minority Ethnic (Community) | NRF | Neighbourhood Renewal Fund |
| BVPI | Best Value Performance Indicator | NSF | National Service Framework |
| CAF | Common Assessment Framework | OFSTED | Office for Standards in Education |
| CAMHS | Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service | PC | Make a Positive Contribution |
| CF | Children's Fund | PCT | Primary Care Trust |
| CRB | Criminal Records Bureau | PE | Physical Education |
| CYPSP | Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership | PESSCL | Physical Education School Sports and Club Links Strategy |
| DfES | Department for Education and Skills | PPO | Prolific and Priority Offenders |
| E & A | Enjoy and Achieve | QCA | Qualifications and Curriculum Authority |
| EAL | English as an Additional Language | QDP | Quality Data Processing |
| EDP | Education Development Plan | SEAL | Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning |
| EMA | Educational Maintenance Allowance | SEN | Special Educational Needs |
| FE | Further Education | SENDIST | Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal |
| GCSE | General Certificate of Secondary Education (normally at 16) | SS | Stay Safe |
| HBC | Hartlepool Borough Council | SSHIP | Sure Start Hartlepool Implementation Plan |
| HEI | Higher Education Institution | STRB | School Teachers Review Body |
| ICT | Information and Communications Technology | TVLLSC | Tees Valley Local Learning and Skills Council |
| IMD | Index of Multiple Deprivation | WRL | Work Related Learning |
| ISA | Information Sharing and Assessment | YOS | Youth Offending Service |
| KS1 | Key Stage 1 (Ages 5-7) | | |
| KS2 | Key Stage 2 (Ages 7-11) | | |
| KS3 | Key Stage 3 (Ages 11-14) | | |
| KS4 | Key Stage 4 (Ages 14-16) | | |

Partner organisations that have significantly contributed to the preparation of this Plan include:

The Children and Young People of Hartlepool

The UK Youth Parliament Representative

Parents and Carers

The staff of the Children's Services Department as well other agencies and organisations

Hartlepool Police

Durham Diocesan Board of Education

North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust

Headteachers

Learning and Skills Council Tees Valley

Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency

Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations

West View Project

UNISON

Barnardos North East

Hartlepool Governors Association

Tees & North East Yorkshire Mental Health NHS Trust

Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

New Deal for Communities

Connexions Hartlepool

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service

Hartlepool Sure Start Partnership

Hartlepool Primary Care Trust

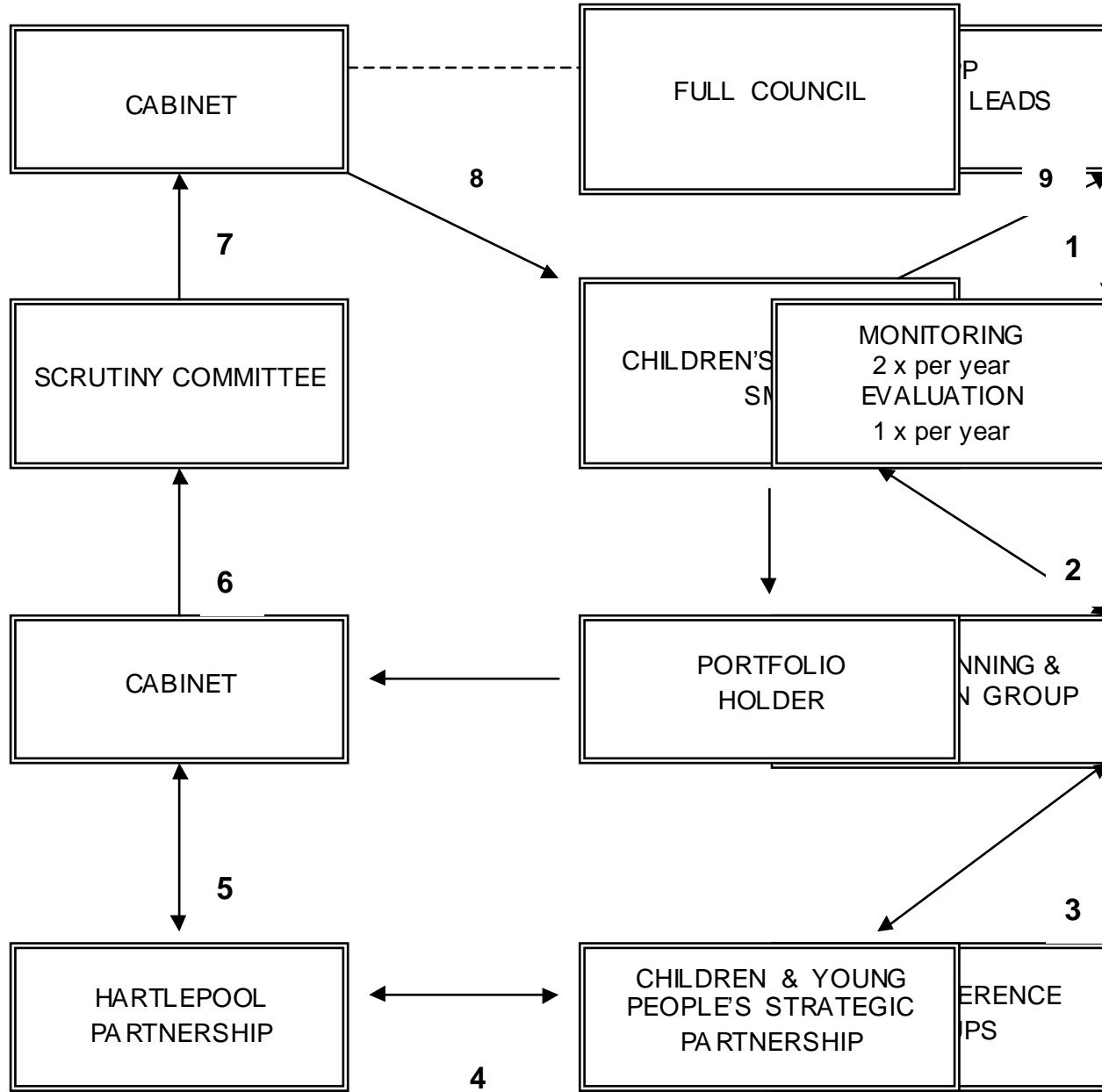
Cleveland College of Art and Design

Local Safeguarding Children Board

National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services – Standards

- Standard 1 – Promoting Health and Well-being, Identifying Needs and Intervening Early.
- Standard 2 – Supporting Parents and Carers.
- Standard 3 – Child, Young Person and Family Centred Services.
- Standard 4 – Growing up into Adulthood.
- Standard 5 – Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children and Young People.
- Standard 6 – Children and Young People who are ill.
- Standard 7 – Children and Young People who are in hospital.
- Standard 8 – Disabled Children and Young People and those with Complex Health Needs.
- Standard 9 – The Mental Health and Psychological Well-being of Children and Young People
- Standard 10 – Medicines for Children and Young People
- Standard 11 – Maternity Services.

Appendix 5



CABINET REPORT

29th March 2006



Report of: The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2006- 2007

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the Youth Justice Plan 2006-2007.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

Five sections detailing:

- a) Summary
- b) Local Planning Environment
- c) Drivers of Performance
 - Governance and Leadership:
 - Performance and Quality Systems
 - Resources
 - People and Organisation
 - Partnership Working
- d) Delivery Plan
- e) KPI Performance Measures.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

Budget and Policy Framework
Youth Justice is of concern to the Council and the community of Hartlepool

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Part of the Budget and Policy Framework

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

- Cabinet 27th February 2006
- Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee 10th March 2006
- Cabinet 29th March 2006
- Council 13th April 2006

6. DECISION (S) REQUIRED

Approval of the Youth Justice Plan 2006-2007

Report of: The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

Subject: YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2006-2007

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval for the Youth Justice Plan 2006-2007.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 An Issues paper highlighting the current performance of the Youth Offending Service has been developed. This was considered and approved by Cabinet on 27th February 2006.

2.2 The Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee considered the draft delivery plan section of the Youth Justice Plan on 10th March, which comprises the details on the key themes for the Youth Offending Service (eg, prevention, reduce reoffending).

2.3 A consultation event on the Youth Justice Plan has also been undertaken with partner agencies through the Young Peoples Group of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Youth Offending Service staff.

2.4 The Youth Justice Plan 2006-2007, attached as **Appendix 1**, has incorporated all of the comments and suggestions raised during the process.

2.5 Each year the Youth Justice Board requests Youth Offending Services to complete an annual plan. The annual plan examines performance over the past year and seeks to improve on that performance. The plan should also demonstrate the future direction of the service.

2.6 The Corporate Performance Assessment excellence rating for the authority means that the Youth Justice Board does not require an annual plan, but the authority's constitution requires completion as part of the Budget and Policy Framework. Good practice would dictate that one should be produced in order to inform the service for next year

2.7 YOS Performance contributes to the assessment of the overall local authority performance via the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) process. The overall score from this assessment and the accompanying performance data will inform the final score for the Children and young People service block of the CPA.

3. THE YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2006-2007

- 3.1 The 2006-2007 Youth Justice Plan covers the performance for April-Dec2005 to meet the timescales for the Annual Performance Assessment.
- 3.4 The YOS continues to perform well against the Youth Justice Boards performance measures being one of only three YOS's to achieve level 5 (highest).
- 3.5 Re-offending rates have reduced by 7% when comparing the 2002 co-hort with the 2003 co-hort after 24 months and by 14.75% comparing 2001 to 2003. Less than 5% of the 2003 co-hort offended as frequently or more frequently .
- 3.6 The delivery plan focuses on sixteen key themes.
- 3.7 The Safer Hartlepool Partnerships Young Peoples Group is the partnership responsible for the performance management of the Youth Justice Plan.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to approve the Youth Justice Plan for 2006-2007.

CONTACT OFFICER: Danny Dunleavy, Youth Offending Service

Background

Youth Justice Board Guidance



Hartlepool Youth Justice Plan

2006 – 2007

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A. SUMMARY

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Please have the **chair of the steering group** provide an **overview** how the Yot delivers youth justice services in its area including a review of performance over the preceding year, making reference to Asset data, information on the performance measures, the results of EPQA self assessments, action on EPQA improvement plans and the main findings arising from the analysis of the re-offending cohort evaluation.

Please summarise the **key objectives for the forthcoming year**.

Overview :

I am pleased to report on the continued progress made by the Hartlepool Youth Offending Service (YOS) in preventing and reducing offending by Young People. The overall re-offending rate has been reduced from 56% for the 2002 cohort to 52% for the 2003 cohort after 24 months representing a 7% reduction. A 14.75% decrease has been achieved when comparing 2001 cohort (61%) to the 2003 cohort.

The 2003 cohort also showed that less than 5% offended as frequently or more frequently.

The YOS have continued to perform well against the YJB basket of Performance Measures achieving level 5 for the April – December period. There are still challenges and some areas of performance need to improve with priority given to the Education, Training and Employment target.

Work with partner agencies to identify and intervene early with those Young People at risk of Crime, anti social behaviour or social exclusion has been ongoing throughout the year, and will continue during the coming year with linkages being made through Neighbourhood policing. This work supports the work of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, particularly the prevent and deter strand of the Prolific and Priority Offender Scheme.

Funding has been obtained from the YJB and matched by partners to develop a Youth Inclusion Programme (YIP) in two of the wards with high levels of crime and anti social behaviour.

Data from the ASSET assessment at the stages of Youth Justice system identifies the key factors that contribute to offending these are:

1. Final Warning

Average Score

Thinking and Behaviour

1.60

Education, Training and Employment

1.53

Lifestyle

1.33

2. Community Penalties

Lifestyle

1.41

Thinking Behaviour

1.39

Family and Personal Relationships

1.38

3. Intensive Supervision & Surveillance Programme

Lifestyles

3.50

Thinking and Behaviour

3.25

Family & Personal Relationships

2.75

4. Custodial Sentences

Lifestyles

3.17

Thinking and Behaviour

2.83

Education, Training and Employment

2.17

The EPQA self assessment for resettlement and Remand Management were undertaken during the year with Action Plans being developed to improve the ratings from 2 to 3.

YOS Performance Indicators

Prevention

Reduce year on year first time entrants into the Youth Justice system

GREEN

Intervene Early

80% of Final Warnings with Intervention

GREEN

Reduce Offending

Achieve 5% reduction in re-offending rates in respect of each of the following four populations

Pre Court

RED

First Tier entrants

RED

Community Penalties

AMBER

Custody
GREEN

Overall
GREEN

Reduce the use of custody
Remands to 30%

Custodial Sentencens 6%
RED

GREEN

Pre Sentence Reports
90% of PSR's prepared to National Standards
GREEN

Effective Planning and Supervision
Asset completed for all young people (5 stages)
Detention and Training Plans completed to National Standards
GREEN

GREEN

Education, Training and Employment
90% of Young People supervised by YOS in full time ETE
RED

Accommodation
Named accommodation officer
YP having satisfactory accommodation
GREEN

GREEN

Mental Health

Acute difficulties – CAMHS assessment within 5 working days

Non Acute – CAMHS assessment within 15 working days

GREEN

GREEN

Substance Misuse

All Young People screened for Substance Misuse

Those screened with identified needs receive assessment within 5 working days

Access early intervention and treatment services within 10 days

GREEN

GREEN

GREEN

Restorative Justice

75% victims of Youth Crime referred to YOS offered opportunity to participate in restorative process

75% of victims are satisfied

GREEN

GREEN

Parenting

Achieving Target – Green

Almost Achieving - Amber

Not Achieving – Red

ve parenting intervention
fied

Ensure Equal Treatment regardless of Race
Action Plan in Place
GREEN

B. LOCAL PLANNING ENVIRONMENT

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pages 7 &
10

Please describe your **local planning environment** focusing on those elements that support or perhaps hinder delivery of Yot objectives. Please outline how the Yot currently links with other partners and partnerships that have complementary targets / objectives as well as those areas where there may be some conflict and how these conflicts can be addressed, focusing specifically on how equivalent links are maintained with partners in Children's Services, partners in Community Safety/ Criminal Justice and Public Protection (MA PPA). Please outline how the Yot has been involved in the development of the Children's and Young People Plan (if applicable).

Local planning environment particularly looking at how the right balance is being achieved between children's services and crime and disorder / community safety:

The YOS sits in the Local Community Safety and Prevention Division of the Regeneration and Planning Department in the Local Authority.

Within the current structure the YOS is connected directly to the Strategic Partnership responsible for Community Safety, Drug Action Team, Prolific and Priority Offender strategy and Anti Social Behaviour.

The YOS Manager is a member of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and sits on the Prevention of Offenders Task Group (PPO) as well as the Anti Social Behaviour Task group and chairs the underage drinking 'Straightline' project. Along with the Children's Fund Manager developed the Family Support Panel to provide early interventions for those Young People at risk of becoming involved in Anti Social Behaviour or Social Exclusion.

The Tees Valley Youth Offending Service (south Tees, Stockton, Hartlepool) are represented on the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board by the Head of South Tees YOS. The Stockton YOS Manager represents the three YOS's on the Communications group whilst the Hartlepool YOS Manager sits on the Performance Group overseeing the Persistent young Offenders pledge of 71 days from arrest to sentence and the new end to end enforcement targets for breaches of community orders.

The YOS is represented at all levels of the Children's Safeguarding Board. The YOS Manager sits on the Safeguarding Board and chairs the Operational Sub group and is a member of the Performance and Quality sub group, whilst the YOS team manager is a member of the Training and Development sub group.

The YOS is a member of the Children and young People Strategic Partnership and the Information Steering Group (ISA) and works closely

with Children Services to deliver services to young people at risk of becoming involved with crime, anti social behaviour and social exclusion. The Family Support Panel will pilot the Common Assessment Framework alongside the ONSET assessment during 2006. The Offending rate for Looked After Children has reduced from 23% to 6% in the year upto 31st December 2005. The accommodation needs of 16-18 year olds remains an issue for the YOS and the Young Persons Team of children's Services who work closely with the local authorities homeless section to secure suitable and affordable accommodation.

The CYPP has been developed during 2005, the YOS has mainly been involved in making a positive contribution outcome, young people at risk of offending and those in the Youth Justice System were involved in a consultation process for the Plan. The YOS Manager is a member of the Planning and Evaluation group for the CYPP.

Education, Training and Employment targets are shared with connexions who work closely with the YOS to support young people into Education, Training or Employment. The YOS Manager is a member of the Connexions local management committee and the Connexions locality manager is a member of the Safer Hartlepool Young Peoples Group (YIP and PAYP).

The Hartlepool YOS Manager represents the three Tees Valley YOS's on the Tees wide MAPPA strategic board, and chairs the Procedures Sub Group.

C. DRIVERS OF PERFORMANCE

C.1 GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

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Please provide an overview of the strategic direction of the Yot. Please also complete **Table A** on the composition of the Management Board.

Overview particularly looking at strategic management and leadership arrangements:

The Chief Executive of the Local Authority retains accountability through regular liaison meetings and linkage of the Youth Offending Service with the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

During 2004/05, a more coherent and integrated approach to community safety was implemented bringing together the Crime Reduction and Disorder Partnership, the Drugs Action Team and the Youth Offending Service steering group to form the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership Young People's group links to the emerging Children and young People's strategic Partnership, with both the chair and YOS Manager attending meetings. Again, it is likely there will be changes to the composition of the Partnership groups, when the Children and Young People's plan is finalised, particularly as the 'Stay Safe' outcome from Every Child Matters is placed within the Community Safety section of the Local Area Agreement.

A Specific focus on Young People is maintained through the Young People's Group. This is chaired by the Head of Community Safety and Prevention at Hartlepool Borough Council, who is also the Safer Hartlepool Partnership co-ordinator and line manager of the YOS Manager. The membership of the Young Peoples group includes a range of voluntary sector organisations who provide services for Young People. This works well at an operational level, but strategic direction, particularly from partner agencies outside the Local Authority, is diminished. The Youth Offending steering group had previously worked well together to ensure efficient and effective delivery of services by the YOS. Generally in Hartlepool there is excellent co operation, both strategically and operationally between agencies and the new Safer Hartlepool Partnership builds on this experience and established relationships.

However, members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership have recognised that the Partnerships Priorities are changing, and initiatives such as the Prolific and Priority offender scheme bring more of a focus onto the prevention agendas specifically preventing Youth Offending and anti social behaviour being committed by Young People.

The Partnership is therefore committed to reviewing its Partnership structures during 2006/07, with one possible outcome the introduction of a strategic management board for YOS.

The Performance of the Youth Offending Service is overseen by the Young People's group who receive regular progress reports relating to the outcomes against the Performance Measures.

The Tees Valley Youth Offending Service Managers continue to meet to oversee the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme and collaboration in training matters across the Tees Valley.

Table A: Composition of Management Board

| Name | Agency representing | Post in agency | Ethnicity | Gender |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|---------------|
| Chair: Alison Mawson | Regeneration and Planning | Head of Community Safety and Prevention | W | F |
| Phil Warrilow | Childrens Services | Interim | W | M |
| Peter Burnett | National Probation Service (Teesside) | | W | M |
| Steve Lawson | Police | | W | M |
| Peter Price | PCT | Director of Public Health | W | M |
| Jean Bell | Hartlepool Magistrates Court | Principal Legal Advisor | W | F |
| Danny Dunleavy | Youth Offending Service | Manager | W | M |
| Lorraine Hollis | DISC | Manager HYPED | W | F |
| Peter Davies | Childrens Services | Youth Service Principal Officer | W | M |
| Ian Merritt | Children's Service | | W | M |
| Ken Fox | Youth Provision | Voluntary Sector Representative | W | M |
| Miriam Robertson | Connexions | Locality Manager | Mixed | F |

| Name | Agency representing | Post in agency | Ethnicity | Gender |
|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Louise Hurst | YOS | Team Manager | W | F |
| Hazel Brunton | Barnardos | Practice Manager B76 | W | F |
| John Robinson | Childrens Services | Childrens Fund Manager | W | M |
| John Phillipson | Hartlepool Magistrates | Chair Youth Bench | W | M |
| Chris Hart | Drugs Action Team | Planning and Commissioning Manager | W | F |

C.2 PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY SYSTEMS

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page 12

Please describe the systems in place for **managing performance and ensuring quality of practice**, including arrangements to ensure **data accuracy**.

Overview particularly looking at performance management and data quality:

The Careworks Information system has been operational since 2003 and is fully embedded into practice. The system has enabled the YOS to effectively collect management information and respond to performance issues as they arise. Information from the system is used by the team manager during supervision to ensure correct recording of data. Issues relating to the system are raised by staff in the management and team meetings as well as the monthly development meetings. All staff have received training in Careworks .

The Information Officer validates the data produced from Careworks monthly by running secondary reports to cross match and check the data

The quarterly performance data is reported to the Young People's Steering Group and to the Director of Regeneration and Planning with actions to address any areas where performance is not being met.

The EPQA action plans are reviewed quarterly within the team and with the steering group.

C.3 RESOURCES

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Please provide a **summary of the financial and programme resources** available for the coming year. Please complete **Table A1, Table A2, Table A2a and Table A2b.**

C3 a Financial resources

Overview of financial resources including any particularly significant changes in resources:

Contribution from Partner Agencies for 2006-07 is similar to the previous year with inflation added.

The YOS Budget has increased due to the YJB Prevention Funding.

During 2005 additional funding was received from the Children's Fund to support the work of the family support panel with an additional worker. This funding will continue until March 2008.

Ring fenced funding has been developed in the relevant areas.

Table A1: Services planned for the financial year 2006 – 2007

Where services straddle different stages, the budget allocation should reflect the extent resources are used in each stage of the process.

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| Core activity | Budget expenditure (£) |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Preventive services | 342649 |
| PACE Services | 16084 |
| Pre-court services | 147943 |
| Court-based services | 103834 |
| Remand services | 144828 |
| Community-based services | 426866 |
| Through care / after care (including RAP) | 93204 |
| Other orders | 80086 |
| Total: | |

Table A2: Youth Offending Team Budget Financial Year 2006 – 2007 – Sources

When completing this table 'payments in kind' should include charges for shared equipment, the use of accommodation and management costs etc.

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| Agency | Staffing costs (£) | Payments in kind – revenue (£) | Other delegated funds (£) | Total (£) |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Police | 41540 | | 23100 | 64640 |
| Probation | 37448 | | 8853 | 46310 |
| Children's Services | 340071 | | 30000 | 370071 |
| Health (from Table A2b) | 40986 | | 23100 | 64086 |
| Local Authority Chief Executive | 131280 | | 165456 | 296736 |
| Additional Funding (from Table A2a) | 241885 | | 272135 | 514020 |
| Total | 833210 | | 522644 | 1355854 |

Table A2a: Additional sources of income

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| Additional source | Amount (£) |
|--|---------------|
| Single Regeneration Budget | |
| European Funding | |
| Youth Justice Board | 446182 |
| Other | 67838 |
| Total (for inclusion in Table A2) | 514020 |

Table A2b: Health service contributions to the Youth Offending Teams

The total of A2b should be equal to the role in table A2 called 'health.'

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| Health contribution: Funding source | Amount (£) |
|--|-------------------|
| Source 1: | 64086 |
| Source 2: | |
| Source 3: (etc) | |
| Total (for inclusion in Table A2) | 64086 |

C3 b PROGRAMME RESOURCES

Overview of programme resources including services to meet specialist needs:

Hartlepool YOS meet the Youth Justice Board Core Objectives in terms of basic and specialist programmes.

- Hartlepool Young Peoples Substance Misuse Service (HYPED) provide tier 2 & 3 interventions. The YOS also fund a Substance Misuse Nurse who is seconded to HYPED and works directly with young people who misuse alcohol and illegal substances.
- The YOS Health/ CAMHS Worker provides direct links to specialist services which offer; counselling, self esteem building, bereavement and victim of abuse work.
- The Health worker also provides advice for both young men and women in terms of family planning and sex education.
- The Health worker and the Substance Misuse Nurse are currently receiving training in
- The Children's Society provide Victim Offender Mediation.
- The Health Worker, along with a PCT nurse, provide 'straight line programme' offering early interventions to young people on the periphery of alcohol misuse.
- Eight members of staff are currently receiving training to deliver 'Pathway Plus'. This programme forms a key plank in the Effective Practice strategy in providing modular training in to address key factors in offending.
- All case managers are trained to deliver 'Teen Talk'. Which is a package of cognitive offending based worksheet.
- Young people can also access Resettlement and Aftercare Programme. (RAP) – an intensive programme of support for young people have substance misuse or mental health difficulties. The programme can include; accommodation, counselling, education/training/employment, construct use of leisure, family support, substance misuse, mental health, health and life skills issues.
- The YOS have part funded an accommodations officer post. This worker is based at Hartlepool Housing Department and provides valuable links for the service.
- The YOS also have the advantage of having 3 remand foster carers – these carers often plug the gap in provision for difficult young people with accommodation problems.
- The service has access to Barnardo's Bridgeway Project which provides specialist interventions and therapeutic work with young people who have sexually abused. Bridgeway also provides a service for young people who are also the victims of abuse.
- The YOS also has two workers who have received intensive training in working with young people who sexually abuse and 8 team members

are undergoing basic assessment skills in working with young people who sexually abuse.

- Barnardo's Heartbeat Project provide mentoring programmes and sessions in; anger management, offending behaviour, self esteem and victim awareness. They also undertake the Lets Talk Parenting Programme and a programme to support parents of children and young people with ADHD.

C3 c INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Overview of the use of IT as an enabler to delivery of services (covering secure email, case management systems, IT to support engagement of young people, any other IT enablers, and barriers to IT use and how these will be overcome):

The Carewoks case management system is embedded into the work of the case managers. The system has been running since 2003 and the information obtained from the system is now being used to develop the services of the YOS. The web based version of the system will be implemented across the Tees Valley in November 2006. Data from the Asset information identifies the risk factors that need to be addressed to prevent further offending and the resources required.

A number of tablet computers have been purchased for staff to use in their recording and as a means of engaging young people to give their views. The Tees Valley YOS's have purchased the Viewpoint What Do You Think for use with young people to assist the worker in undertaking an intervention and to allow further analysis of the data.

We are looking to make use of digital pen technology during the coming year in relation to Asset forms and will pilot the use of the Common Assessment Framework and ONSET through the Family Support Panel using digital pens.

The Secure Email is live and being used to send Asset, Risk of Serious Harm and Vulnerability information to the YJB Placement Team, Assets and PSR information transferred between YOS's.

Video conferencing is available through South Tees YOS, however take up has been slow as many of the young people only see their families when reviews take place and the use of video conferencing would cut the contact between the young person and family, greater use can be made of the facilities by other agencies (Housing, Connexions etc) involved with the young person.

C.4 PEOPLE AND ORGANISATION

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page 15

Please consider both **workforce planning** issues (e.g. how many staff are in post, any plans for recruitment or reduction in staff numbers) and **workforce development** plans (e.g. leadership skills development for managers, specialist staff, general training and development). Remember to include volunteers in this analysis, particularly recruitment and training.

Please include an organisation chart for the Yot at Appendix A.

C4 a WORKFORCE PLANNING

Overview of workforce planning including volunteers and staff in agencies providing service under contract:

Hartlepool YOS has a current staff group of 64, this includes 12 outreach workers in the voluntary sector (Barnardo's, Children's Society, and Families First), 13 Referral Panel volunteers, 7 sessional workers, and 3 remand carers. The remaining 29 staff are managers, practitioners and admin staff.

There are 3 full time vacancies,

- A YOS worker which is currently being recruited
- A Reparation Officer which is being covered on an acting up basis whilst the post is revised.
- A Remand Carer which is subject to review due to the low demand in respect of remands to the Local Authority accommodation in Hartlepool. Discussions are ongoing with Stockton YOS as to the joint use of the Hartlepool Remand Carers.

There are also 2 part time vacancies.

- A RAP Worker which is currently being recruited.
- SLA was agreed for the education arrangements within the YOS but this proved to be problematic in its operation. A part time 0.5 education secondee is to be recruited.

A further three posts Prevention Manager and two YIP workers are to be recruited for the YOS to deliver Preventative Services with the implementation of a Youth Inclusion Programme, which will be jointly delivered with connections staff and the commissioning of services from the voluntary sector.

Table A3: Staff in the Youth Offending Team (by headcount)

Please ensure the two Totals are the same, and that all data entered here is consistent with that entered into Themis

| | Managers Strategic | Managers Operational | Senior practitioners (FT) | Senior practitioners (PT) | Practitioners (FT) | Practitioners (PT) | Administrative | Sessional | Students/trainees | Volunteer | Total |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Permanent | 1 | | | | | | 3 | | | | 4 |
| Fixed Term | | 2 | | | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | | 13 | 28 |
| Seconded Social Services | | 2 | | | 5 | 2 | | | | | 9 |
| Seconded Probation | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Seconded Police | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Seconded Health | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Seconded Education | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seconded Connexions | | | | | | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Seconded Other | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outsourced | | 2 | | | 10 | | | | | | 12 |
| Temporary | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vacant | | | | | 3 | 2 | | | | | 5 |
| TOTAL | 1 | 6 | | | 23 | 8 | 6 | 7 | | 13 | 64 |
| Gender/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White Male | 1 | 1 | | | 8 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 8 | 23 |
| Black Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asian Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mixed Race Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chinese/Other Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White Female | | 5 | | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 4 | | 5 | 36 |
| Black Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asian Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mixed Race Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chinese/Other Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 1 | 6 | | | 20 | 6 | 6 | 7 | | 13 | 59 |

C4 b Workforce development

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page 15

Overview of workforce development including volunteers and staff in outsource agencies:

Overview of workforce development including volunteers and staff in outsource agencies:

All staff have been actively encouraged to reflect upon professional development in regard to the Youth Justice Board Professional Qualification Framework.

As a result, 5 members of staff have completed and passed the Professional Certificate of Effective Practice and there are 7 currently undertaking the training. (6 in the February cohort and 1 in the March) Three of the trainees are from partner agencies. (7 members of staff completed the 'Study Skills Module'.

We also have 3 members of staff who have committed, and have applied, to undertake the PCEP but are awaiting confirmation of available cohorts.

In addition to this we have had 8 people undertake the Effective Practice Unit Award. (Three passes and five awaiting results) 2 trainees from partner agencies, 1 volunteer and 1 sessional worker.

Two members of staff have expressed interest in undertaking the Foundation Degree in Youth Justice.

Key Elements of Effective Practice (KEEPs) are being addressed and all team members have participated in APIS and Mental Health training and two members of Staff have completed Risk Assessment training with the aim of, along with a professional trainer, cascading the training to other team members. Most team members have completed Substance Misuse training. Two staff members have had intensive training in working with Young People who Sexually Abuse and training in basic assessment skills using the AIM model is currently being undertaken by 8 case managers and support workers. We have initiated practitioner training in many of the other KEEP areas.

All staff have undertaken 'Care Works' training.

Individual needs are identified during staff supervision and we have initiated an HR and Learning group who meet monthly to address individual or team training needs. The group is currently forming a service training plan

In addition to this we hold monthly team development days where individual and team development issues are addressed.

Two team members attend the regional HR and learning group and have taken advantage of regional training that has been on offer such as DTO chairing, substance misuse, APIS, Risk Management, Care Works, video conferencing and secure email training.

Admin staff have all achieved NVQ level 2 or 3 and two members of admin have completed intensive Care Works training.

Volunteers and sessional workers receive induction training and regular enhanced training.

All new staff members receive formal and 'shadow' induction training. There are also plans to implement regional induction and management training.

Four 'operational management staff' are undertaking making the difference Hartlepool Management Development Programme.

The Health Worker and the Substance Misuse Nurse are currently undertaking a PSHE certificate which will be completed in April. The Health Worker has this year undertake and successfully completed the Independent and Supplementary nurse prescribing course and team members from partner agencies (Police, Probation and Health) are actively encouraged to participate in their service training.

C.5 PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Please provide a summary of the **support from partner agencies** and plans to develop links with partners – statutory and non-statutory.

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Overview of partnership working including complementary and conflicting targets:

There continues to be a strong emphasis on partnership working with the Police and the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit and Children's Services to address those young people at risk of or involved in crime and anti-social behaviour or at risk of social exclusion. Work is ongoing to identify young people early and arrange appropriate support. Police officers and Community support Officers are to receive briefings on the work of the Family Support Panel and the importance of identifying and referring young people at an early stage.

The partnership between YOS and Connexions has been effective working to the targets of both services. The partnership is to be built upon further with the effective pooling of resources to ensure effective and complimentary working for the benefit of the young people that will be targeted for the Youth Inclusion Programme. (YIP)

Working arrangements to deliver parenting interventions and mentoring will continue with Barnardo's, whilst the Families Accessing Support Team (FAST) managed by Barnardo's will become the delivery arm of the Family Support Panel.

The Children's Society, Stockton and Hartlepool YOS's will continue to work in partnership to deliver restorative services to victims and young offenders.

The development of a YIP in the Dyke House and Owton Manor areas will increase the opportunities to work with the non-statutory sector to deliver services to young people and their families.

The Tees Valley YOS managers will continue to meet monthly to monitor ISSP performance and look at opportunities for collaborative working i.e. Implementation of Viewpoint and Web based version of Careworks

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service

DELIVERY PLAN

D. DELIVERY PLAN

PREVENT OFFENDING

The Family Support Panel (FSP) consisting of representatives from Children’s Services (Education, Social Care, Children’s Fund), Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Local Authority Housing, Housing Hartlepool, Police, Community Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour, Connexions, Barnardos, Families First and the Youth Offending Service (YOS) has continued to be the main mechanism for the delivery of preventative services through the identification, assessment and planning of interventions for those young people and their families at risk of becoming involved in crime, anti-social behaviour or social exclusion.

A Key worker for the panel was appointed during the year to undertake assessments and draw up individual intervention plans with the young person and their family through family focus groups.

Work with the Police and Anti-Social Behaviour Unit is ongoing to ensure the early identification and referral of those young people at risk to the FSP.

Funding has been obtained through the YJB Prevention Funding to establish a Youth Inclusion Programme (YIP) which will work in two of the towns estates which have been identified as having high levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. The YIP will be delivered in partnership with Connexions and Voluntary Sector organisations.

The Straightline Project continues to deliver an alcohol awareness programme to young people found in possession of alcohol by the police. An additional £13000 to support the assessment of young people and increase the delivery of the programme has been obtained from the Proceeds of Crime Fund through Government Office North East.

During 2005 the Youth Service took delivery of a new mobile unit which operates four nights per week providing access to young people in areas where there are issues with anti-social behaviour.

The YOS has continued to support the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme operated by the Youth Service and delivered by Manor College and the YOS.

Data: Number of first time entrants into the youth justice system.

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual | <u>155</u> |
| Target | <u><289</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u><275</u> |

INTERVENE EARLY

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and progress against EPQA improvement plans, and highlights of plans for the coming year:

Hartlepool YOS has continued to meet the performance target in respect of Final Warnings.

Interventions are related to the Asset assessment and relevant to the young persons needs and therefore the new target of 100% interventions when Asset score is 12 or more, concerns of risk or serious harm are present or any section scores 4 or more is welcomed by the YOS.

A Prison Me No Way Programme continues to be delivered at the same time as the Final Warning. Interventions are carried out by the YOS officer or through the mentoring programme with Barnardo's and include an element of restorative justice.

Data: Final Warnings

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (old KPI) | <u>87.2%</u> <u>80%</u> | EPQA: 03 rating | <u>1</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target (new KPI) | <u>100%</u> | EPQA: 05 result | <u>2</u> |

PROVIDE INTENSIVE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Overview: including review of the past year and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP) continues to be delivered across the Tees Valley. Numbers in Hartlepool remained low during the first two quarters but increased in the third quarter. There has been no increase in the use of custody.

Due to the low numbers ISSP staff have been redeployed across the Tees Valley to where numbers are high, this resulted in a reduced service to Hartlepool and a lack of confidence by YOS staff in ISSP as young people were not receiving the appropriate service. The temporary appointment of a case manager in Hartlepool has renewed confidence in the programme but this needs to be maintained.

REDUCE RE-OFFENDING

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The overall re-offending rate after 24 months has reduced from 56% for the 2002 co-hort to 52.2% for the 2003 co-hort a percentage reduction of 6.79%. Less than 5% of the co-hort offended as frequently or more frequently than they had before the intervention.

Whilst there was a decrease in the re-offending rate overall there were increases in the pre-court and first tier penalties of 2.7% and 13.2% respectively the community penalties and custody re-offending rates decreased by 3.6% and 42.6% respectively.

The first tier penalties was influenced by those outcomes where no work is undertaken by YOS conditional discharges and fines which had re-offending rates of 75%.

Numbers in the co-hort are small producing large % variations.

More detailed analysis of re-offending and the reasons for it will be undertaken as part of the reporting for the Prevention of Offending Task Group for those young people identified under the deter element of the Prevent and Deter Strand of the PPO Strategy.

Ensure that Intervention Plans are linked to the risk and protective factors identified in the Asset assessment.

Data:

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| KPI: 05/06 actual (Oct – Dec cohort) and % against target* | <u>52.2%</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>49.59%</u> |

(*If 2005 actual data is not available refer to 2004 data)

REDUCE THE USE OF CUSTODY

Overview : including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

Remands: the locally agreed target for 2005-06 was 24.2% which equated to 8 young people, whilst the actual for April - Dec is 57.1% this equates to 4 young people. Two of the remands were for offences of a serious nature where alternatives although offered were not considered appropriate. The YOS court officers are pro-active in promoting alternatives to custodial remands including bail with conditions. The YOS is fortunate to have available remand carers, and a bail support scheme including ISSP.

Custodial sentences: locally agreed target of 4.5% equating to 11 young people the actual of 3% relates to 6 young people.

The YOS court officers have a good relationship with the court and are positive in putting forward support packages for young people to remain in the community where this is possible.

The YOS manager meets with the chair of the Youth Court Panel to discuss issues and attends the quarterly meeting of the Panel to report on YOS issues and performance in relation to remands and custodial sentences as well as parenting and restorative justice.

Data:

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|-------------|---|----------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (remand) | <u>57.1%</u> 24.2% | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (custody) | <u>4.5%</u> | EPQA: 05 rating (where applicable) | <u>2</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>30%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | <u>3%</u> | EPQA: 07 target | <u>3</u> |

ENSURE THE SWIFT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The YOS continues to achieve the target in relation to Pre-Sentence Reports being submitted within National Standards timescales.
Court Officers continue to highlight any adjournments in the Youth Court which are beyond National Standards

Data:

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target | <u>95%</u> <u>90%</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>90%</u> |

ENFORCEMENT AND ENABLING COMPLIANCE

Overview: including review of the past year and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The Local Criminal justice Board target of 35 working days from relevant unacceptable absence to resolution and to resolve 50% of cases within 25 working days is being met.

ENSURE EFFECTIVE AND RIGOROUS ASSESSMENT

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and progress against EPQA improvement plans, and highlights of plans for the coming year. This must include steps to improve risk assessment and management:

100% completion of Asset at all stages continues to be achieved. Detention and Training Order training plans are drawn up within national standards timescales.

All staff have received training in Asset and intervention plans.

Risk Management training has been identified as a priority within the service for the coming year.

Data:

| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (ASSET) | <u>100%</u> <u>100%</u> | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (DTO) | 100% 100% | EPQA: 03 rating | <u>1</u> |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>100%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | 100% | EPQA: 05 result | <u>2</u> |

SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGING IN EDUCATION TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and progress against EPQA improvement plans, and highlights of plans for the coming year:

Performance continues to be below the target. Majority of those not in ETE were 17 year olds who did not attend training placements or were the subject of short term final warning interventions and in the transition from statutory education to training and employment.

There have been problems in relation to Health and safety with the alternative education provision for those young people excluded from mainstream education, an action plan is now in place to address these issues and a multi-agency panel is to review all placements and co-ordinate support to assist with the integration of young people back into mainstream education.

The education provision to the YOS has been reviewed and appropriate arrangements are to be made to ensure the best service for young people.

Connexions Placement Support Officer continues to work closely with the YOS to secure training places and support education placements where there are difficulties.

Stockton YOS on behalf of the Tees Valley YOS's have gained funding through the Local Skills Council to run the It's Going to Work Programme which prepares young people for training or employment over the next 3 years Hartlepool have 60 places on the programme.

Data:

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target | 72.7% 90% | EPQA: 03 rating | 1 |
| KPI: 06/07 target | 90% | EPQA: 05 result | 2 |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The named accommodation officer for the YOS is the multi-agency funded Homeless Strategy Officer whose remit is to increase the accommodation available to young people aged 16-25. The funding arrangements for the post are changing in 2006-07 and a greater emphasis will be placed upon addressing the needs of 16-18 year olds.

When accommodation is available it is either unsuitable (Bed & breakfast) or the cost is prohibitive to the young person. This is being taken up through Children's Services and the Homeless section of the local authority.

A new complex of 10 beds to support vulnerable young people is to be opened during 2006

Remand carers will continue to be used to support young people on a short term basis where no appropriate accommodation is available to them.

Support to parents will be offered to maintain young people in the family home.

Data:

| | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|-------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (named officer) | <u>100%</u> 100% | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (suitable accommodation) | 95.9% |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>100%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | 100% |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Overview : including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

To meet the needs of young people who offend and require support from the CAMHS service the YOS health worker works jointly with CAMHS and undertakes the formal health assessment. Relevant training, support and supervision is given to the health worker by CAMHS. Training in solution focussed therapy has been completed during the year.

The PCT funding arrangements for forensic referrals has in the past been problematic but a referral pathway has now been developed and agreed which will create speedier access to services.

Data:

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|----------------------|--|--|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (Acute) | <u>100%</u> 100% | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (non-acute) | 100% 100% | EPQA : 05 rating (where applicable) | |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>100%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | 100% | EPQA : 07 target | |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

The 100% target of those with identified needs receiving a specialist assessment within 5 working days has not been met with an actual outcome of 92%. All young people requiring an assessment have been offered appointments within 5 working days however, despite support and transport being offered they have failed/refused to attend the appointment.

The YOS works closely with the Hartlepool Young Peoples Drug Team to support young people with substance misuse problems. The main areas of concern remain the use of alcohol and cannabis.

Treatment for those accessing assessment is undertaken within the prescribed timescales.

All young people scoring 2 or more for substance misuse in Asset are referred to the YOS Drugs worker for assessment and to the RAP team for support.

Data:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|---------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (Assessment) | | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (specialist assessment) | 92% 100% | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (early access to intervention) | <u>100%</u> <u>100%</u> | EPQA: 05 (where applicable) | |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>100%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | 100% | KPI: 06/07 target | <u>100%</u> | EPQA: 07 target | |

SUPPORT RESETTLEMENT INTO THE COMMUNITY

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

All young people in custody are referred to RAP and workers are involved from the initial planning meeting to support the young person through the custodial phase and on release into the community with an emphasis on education, training and employment and accommodation needs. Placement with remand carers is used if appropriate accommodation is not available upon release.

Data: Resettlement

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|----------|
| EPQA: 05 rating | 2 | EPQA: 07 target | <u>3</u> |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|----------|

PROVIDE EFFECTIVE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and highlights of plans for the coming year:

Victim offender mediation and victim impact work are delivered in partnership with Stockton YOS and the Children's Society. Whilst victims are offered the opportunity to partake in a restorative process there is a low take up in terms of direct mediation. The Partnership was evaluated during 2005 with a positive outcome.

The availability of reparation projects within the community increased during 2005 with a number of projects being undertaken with local voluntary organisations and the local authority.

Data:

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (intervention) | 88.5% 75% | KPI: 0405/06 April – December actual and % against target (satisfaction) | 100% 75% |
| KPI: 06/07 target | <u>75%</u> | KPI: 06/07 target | 75% |

SUPPORT PARENTING INTERVENTIONS

Overview: including review of the past year, performance against KPIs and progress against EPQA improvement plans, and highlights of plans for the coming year:

Parenting interventions are addressed at the Asset assessment stage, these include interventions undertaken directly by the case managers, those requiring a more intense intervention or where a parenting order has been made a referral to Barnardo's Parenting programme is made.

The majority of interventions are agreed with parents on a voluntary basis with parenting orders being requested when appropriate.

Interventions are delivered individually, within a group work setting or to couples depending upon the needs of the parent.

The satisfaction rate for parents completing an intervention remains high.

A parenting programme to support parents of children and young people with ADHD has been introduced during the year.

Data:

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|---|---------------------|------------------------|----------|
| KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (Interventions) | 37.5% 10% | KPI: 05/06 April – December actual and % against target (Satisfaction) | 100% 75% | EPQA: 04 rating | 2 |
| KPI: 06/07 target | 10% | KPI: 06/07 target | 75% | EPQA: 05 result | 2 |

ENSURE EQUAL TREATMENT REGARDLESS OF RACE

Overview: including a review of the past year, performance against last year's race action plan, and highlight actions for the coming year:

Monitoring the ethnicity of offenders and the outcomes they receive has been undertaken with no differences in conviction rates being noted.

Numbers are small 1 in the period.

Staff training in diversity to be organised and undertaken during 2006.

KPIs

Below please provide historical data against the KPIs associated with the themes.

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr-Dec Outturn | 2006/07 Target |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Prevent offending (target since 05/06): Reduce year on year the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system by identifying children and young people at risk of offending or involvement in anti-social behaviour through a YISP or other evidence-based targeted means of intervention designed to reduce those risks and strengthen protective factors as demonstrated by using ONSET or other effective means of assessment and monitoring</p> | | 155 | |
| <p>Prevent Offending (old target): At least 200 young people are identified and targeted for support each year</p> | 60 | NEW TARGET | |
| <p>Intervene early (new target): Ensure that 100% of young people on a final warning are supported by an intervention if: - their Asset score is greater or equal to 12, or - there are any concerns of risk of serious harm to others, or - their score is less than 12 but any sections score 4</p> | | | 100 |
| <p>Intervene early (old target): Ensure that 80% of all final warnings are supported by an intervention programme</p> | 91% | 87.2% | |
| <p>Reduce re-offending: Achieve a reduction in re-offending rates by 5% in 2006-07, when compared with the 2002-03 re-offending cohort, with respect to each of the following four populations:</p> | 2002/03 cohort % reoffending after 24 months: | 2003/04 cohort % reoffending after 24 months (if available): | 2004/5 cohort % reoffending after 24 months: |

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr-Dec Outturn | 2006/07 Target |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Pre-court | 37% | 38% | Reduction of 5% |
| First tier penalties | 53% | 60% | Reduction of 5% |
| Community penalties | 95% | 91.6% | Reduction of 5% |
| Custody | 71% | 50% | Reduction of 5% |
| Reduce the use of custody (secure remands): Reduce the number of remands to the secure estate (as a proportion of all remand episodes excluding conditional / unconditional bail) to 30% | 30.7% | 57.1% | 30 |
| Reduce the use of custody (custodial sentences): Reduce the number of custodial sentences as proportion of all court disposals to 5% | 4.49% | 4.5% | Reduce to 5% |
| Ensure the swift administration of justice: Ensure that 90% of pre-sentence reports are submitted within 10 days for PYOs | 90% | 95% | 90 |
| Ensure that 90% of pre-sentence reports are submitted within 15 days for general offenders | 90% | 95% | 90 |
| Ensure effective and rigorous assessment, planning and supervision Ensure that 100% of assessments for community disposals are completed at assessment stage | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Ensure that 100% of assessments for community disposals are completed at closure stage | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at assessment stage | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at transfer stage | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at closure stage | 100% | 100% | 100 |

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr-Dec Outturn | 2006/07 Target |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Ensure that all initial training plans for DTOs are drawn up within 10 working days of sentences being passed | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Support young people engaging in education, training and employment: Ensure that 90% of young offenders who are supervised by the Yot are either in full-time education, training or employment | 83% | 72.7% | 90 |
| Support access to appropriate accommodation: Ensure that all Yots have a named accommodation officer and that 100% of young people subject to final warnings with intervention, relevant community based penalties or on release from the secure estate have suitable accommodation to go to | 97% | 95.9% | 100 |
| Support access to mental health services: Ensure that all young people who are assessed by ASSET as manifesting acute mental health difficulties are referred by YOTs to the CAMHS for a formal assessment commencing within five working days of the receipt of the referral with a view to their accessing a tier 3 service based on this assessment | N/A No Referrals | 100% | 100 |
| Ensure that all young people who are assessed by ASSET as manifesting non-acute mental health concerns are referred by the YOT for an assessment and engagement by the appropriate CAMHS tier (1-3) commenced within 15 working days | 100% | 100% | 100 |
| Support access to substance misuse services: Ensure that all young people are screened for substance misuse | 100% | | 100 |
| Ensure that all young people with identified needs receive appropriate specialist assessment within 5 working days of assessment | 71% | 92% | 100 |
| Ensure that all young people access the early intervention and treatment services they require within 10 working days of assessment | 96% | 100% | 100 |
| Provide effective restorative justice services: Ensure that 75% of victims of youth crime referred to Yots are offered the opportunity to participate in a restorative process | 97% | 88.5% | 75 |

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr-Dec Outturn | 2006/07 Target |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Ensure that 75% of victims are satisfied | 100% | 100% | 75 |
| Support parenting interventions: Ensure that 10% of young people with a final warning supported by intervention or a community disposal receive a parenting intervention | 13% | 37.5% | 10 |
| Ensure that 75 % of parents participating in a parenting intervention are satisfied | 100% | 100% | 75 |
| Ensure equal treatment regardless of race (new target): Yots must deliver targeted activity that substantially reduces local differences by ethnicity in recorded conviction rates, by March 2008 | | | |
| Ensure equal treatment regardless of race (old target): All YOTs to have an action plan in place to ensure that any difference between the ethnic composition of offenders on all pre-court and post-court disposals and the ethnic composition of the local community is reduced year-on-year | | | NEW TARGET |

EPQA

| Theme and measure | Initial score | Predicted score | Actual score |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Prevention: post 07 | | | |
| Early intervention: Final warning interventions | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Intensive supervision: ISSP post 07 | | | |
| Managing demand for custody: Remand management 05 – 07 or 06 – 08 | 2 | 3 | |
| Swift administration of justice: post 07 | | | |
| Restorative justice and victims: post 07 | | | |
| Race (n/a) | | | |
| Recidivism (n/a) | | | |
| Assessment, planning interventions and supervision | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Education, training and employment | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Substance misuse: 05 – 07 or 06 – 08 | | | |
| Mental health: 05 – 07 or 06 – 08 | | | |
| Accommodation (n/a) | | | |
| Resettlement | 2 | 3 | |
| Parenting | 2 | 3 | 3 |

CABINET
29th March 2006



Report of: The JVC Steering Group

Subject: CONSTRUCTION, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
AND HIGHWAYS PARTNERSHIP

SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider options for future service delivery and decide on the way forward.

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report provides an assessment of the current position with regard to the outline business case for the potential of establishing a strategic service delivery partnership and considers other options.

3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER

Potential to affect the way the Council will work in the future.

4.0 TYPE OF DECISION

Key Decision - test (i) applies

5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet 29th March 2006

6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Cabinet's direction on the next steps is sought.

Report of: The JVC Steering Group

Subject: CONSTRUCTION, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
AND HIGHWAYS PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider options for future service delivery and decide on the way forward.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 At its meeting on the 23rd November 2005 the Cabinet considered a report from the Steering Group and agreed to:-

- Complete the Outline Business Case for a Joint Venture Company (JVC) with in-house provision (secondment).
- Consider the potential of framework agreements and public – public collaboration.

The Steering Group were to report back to Cabinet in March 2006 for a decision on the way forward.

2.2 The Outline Business Case for a JVC is virtually complete. The intention from Cabinet and the Steering Group was to complete it and then put the exercise on hold, concentrating on the other options agreed by Cabinet. The outline business case will be useful for any future feasibility studies.

3. OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE: OBJECTIVES

3.1 The Cabinet has already established its key objectives, which address what the Council would require in the case of a strategic partnership.

The key objectives as a threshold:-

- Located in Hartlepool
- Job protection for existing staff on HBC Terms and Conditions
- Strategic Service-delivery Partnership (SSP) embodying the principle of the National Procurement Strategy for Local Government

With other objectives:-

- Existing service delivery to be maintained and improved
- Additional job opportunities within the SSP
- Regeneration within Hartlepool - provision of other employment from additional business
- Overall financial benefits for the Council with some percentage of profit made by SSP
- Training and development programme

A key requirement for the Contract will be to set up an “intelligent client” role to monitor the contract.

3.2 In considering other options our aim should be to achieve as many of our original objectives as possible.

4. NO CHANGE OPTION

4.1 Current Business Position

- Within the Corporate Risk Register the position of the Building Consultancy has been identified as red / red, i.e. extreme impact and likely to occur without taking further action. There are resource issues in Technical Services in future years. The risks identified have proven a reality with a £350k shortfall in workload predicted for 2006/07 in the Building Consultancy.
- Staff retention and recruitment problems are increasing e.g. Asset and Estates Manager, Senior Architect.
- Reductions in income are being countered by reduction in staffing resources.
- Recovery of fixed costs, e.g. accommodation costs, and Central Overheads costs, relies on a minimum value of rechargeable work being undertaken.
- If we do nothing current indications are that the reduction in value of work predicted for 2006/7 will necessitate an increase of around 11% in rechargeable rates to ensure that fixed costs are fully recovered.
- If such an increase were applied it would effectively drive away customers and result in lower income.
- Critically at least 75% of the rechargeable works undertaken are based on fixed contract fees. In such instances it is impossible to increase recharge rates.
- Whilst the work levels appear satisfactory in the Engineering Consultancy at present there is a risk in future years around revenue funding. There is also some reliance on work undertaken on behalf of the Building Consultancy therefore adding to the risk.

4.2 Potential remedies

- Actively pursue additional work. Assistance could be given through Inter Departmental co-operation. Client Departments could direct work to the in-house team rather than use external consultants.
- Reduce fixed overheads. Extremely difficult as a, high proportion of fixed costs relate to Central Recharges.
- Seek corporate financial support by way of an increased budget for corporate work. Extremely difficult given current financial climate.

4.3 Potential Impact on the Council

- £250k of Central recharges would not be recovered. Should economies not follow then these costs would need to be borne by remaining departments.
- Leadbitter Buildings could potentially become a non-operational building.
- Loss of market influence. External suppliers would know that there was no internal competition and prices could potentially rise.
- Potential redundancies.

5 PUBLIC-PUBLIC COLLABORATION

5.1 Strategic Fit

The focus of the initial assessment has been on the use of collaboration with other local authorities. In future there could be further opportunities for collaboration with other public bodies. It is considered that many of the benefits could be achieved by the use of a Service Level Agreement rather than the formation of a formal public-public partnership. By its nature, this arrangement would not meet all of the Council's original objectives in 2.1. E.g. Work would not be carried out in Hartlepool but there is a strategic fit in working with public sector bodies.

5.2 Option Assessment

The advantages of a public-public collaboration route to supplement provision of services are:-

- Shared local authority ethos and objectives.
- Commonality of processes / work etc.
- Commonality of aims set at national level, e.g. national procurement strategy.

The disadvantages of a public-public collaboration are:-

- Difficult to control priorities, e.g. other local authority priorities may be assumed to be higher priority.

- No additional work, e.g. no new business areas will be brought to Hartlepool, as other local authorities will have similar work areas.
- Limited additional training/development, e.g. no additional training opportunities as other local authorities will have similar training schemes.

5.3 Selection of a Partner

Contact has been made with a number of authorities across the Tees Valley and North East generally. Interest has been shown for collaboration for specific service areas and there may be some one-off opportunity in buying-in services / staff from other authorities.

Many authorities however have similar workload and recruitment issues to the Council and have therefore entered into framework agreements. e.g. Darlington, Stockton, Durham.

6. FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS

6.1 Strategic Fit

The rationalisation and more coordination of framework agreements could lead to opportunities for improved efficiencies in the overall procurement of services. By its nature, this type of arrangement would not meet all of the Council's original objectives in 2.1. E.g. Work would not be carried out in Hartlepool but there is an opportunity to gain from working with framework partners.

6.2 Option Assessment

The Council could consider a single partner for all specific works across engineering and building services, or possibly more than one partner to cover specialist areas. The main consideration is the amount of work that can be anticipated by the partner may affect the degree that benefits can be achieved, and economies of scale may provide a better value solution and a variety of opportunity.

Some Advantages of Single-Partner Framework Agreements are:-

- Partners can have more stake in it
- Commitment to training / development
- Potential to bring other work into the Council
- Good relationship builds and workload is attractive
- Simple to manage a single partner

Some Disadvantages of Single-Partner Framework Agreements are:-

- A single partner can present a potential monopoly situation, and would require continuous market testing as part of the arrangement.
- Not all of the Council's original objectives from a partnership are achieved.

Some Advantages of a Multi-Partner Framework Agreement:-

- Better fit / expertise for projects in specialist areas
- Project-by-Project call off from the individual Partners would be simple.

Some Disadvantages of Multi-Partner Framework Agreements:-

- Inefficiencies in procurement
- Less workload per agreement
- Less training / development
- Relationships diluted
- More difficult to bring new work into the Agreement

Length of contract affects all of the framework options:-

- The longer the contract the greater the benefits that can accrue.
- EU Regulations state a maximum of 4 years.

Contract Issues:-

- Call-off contract – no guarantee of income to partner
- Sharing of savings / partnering ethos
- Training / development encouragement
- Continuous benchmarking to ensure competitiveness through contract
- Good contract management

6.3 Learning from Experience

Investigations have been made with both Private sector companies and other local authorities engaged in a variety of types of agreement.

Examples in Durham and Darlington in particular show some encouraging flexible working that could give benefits for staff and the Council in cross working training and development.

New pieces of work / projects from outside the authorities has been identified in some arrangements examined.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The use of collaboration with other public authorities could be pursued but may only prove suitable in selected cases.
- 7.2 Framework agreements give a flexible option for top up support for the in-house team. The agreements could be via single or multi partners. Any framework agreement procurement could give options for bidders across the variety of services. A Framework Agreement provides an effective and efficient procurement process to formalise all requirements for external consultancy support.
- 7.3 These conclusions have Trade Union support.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet are asked to consider the following:-

- 8.1 That a framework agreement be pursued as the short-term solution to provide service support for construction, property management and highways services. This would involve rationalisation of existing framework agreements.
- 8.2 That the framework be set-up such that it allows it to be built upon to develop a partnering arrangement.
- 8.3 That small-scale specific collaboration be continued with other local authorities where appropriate.

CABINET REPORT

29TH MARCH 2006



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: JOINT COMMISSIONING WITH HARTLEPOOL PCT

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To outline the proposals for the development, between Hartlepool Borough Council and Hartlepool PCT, of joint commissioning of 'out of hospital services'.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

- 2.1 The report outlines the agreements in place between Hartlepool Borough Council and Hartlepool PCT in respect of the Vision for Care proposals, which focus on services being provided in a flexible way, by integrated teams of staff as close to the persons own home as possible. The Council and PCT have previously agreed to develop aligned and joint commissioning for some areas of service. This report describes progress in areas of service, such as mental health and learning disability services, where the move towards a single commissioning lead, on behalf of both organisations, has been agreed and is beginning to take shape.
- 2.2 The report also identifies the current policy context that both the Council and the PCT are working within. In particular, that includes the use of Local Area Agreements to identify and focus on local priorities and the new White paper for health and social care services, Our Health, Our Care, Our Say. Within the body of the report, progress is highlighted on other initiatives, such as Commissioning a Patient Led NHS (CPLNHS), which considers the future shape of local health provision and its impact on commissioning.
- 2.3 A proposed framework for future joint commissioning is presented which identifies the steps that need to be taken to continue to embed the principles of joint commissioning within Hartlepool.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

- 3.1 The proposed framework for the provision and commissioning of local health and social care services is of utmost importance if Hartlepool's Adult and Community Services are to achieve the objectives agreed within the LAA and to respond to and meet the recommendations and actions outlined in the White Paper: Our Health, Our Care, Our Say.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

- 4.1 Key Decision, Test (ii).

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

- 5.1 Cabinet

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

- 6.1 Cabinet are asked to note the contents of the report and confirm their commitment to the further integration of planning and commissioning processes between Adult and Community Services and the PCT.

Report of: Director of Adult and Community Services

Subject: JOINT COMMISSIONING WITH HARTLEPOOL PCT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the proposals for the development of joint commissioning of 'out of hospital services' between Hartlepool Borough Council and Hartlepool PCT.

2 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 2.1 Hartlepool's 'Vision for Care' was developed jointly by the PCT and Hartlepool Borough Council's Social Services Department (HBC SSD) on behalf of the Health and Care Strategy Group (H&CSG) of the Hartlepool Partnership. It has been endorsed by the PCT Board, HBC Cabinet and the Hartlepool Partnership and describes how local services will be developed and delivered in the future. Tackling deprivation and, in particular, reducing health inequalities requires greater co-ordination and integration of the planning, commissioning and delivery of local services.
- 2.2 A fundamental element of this vision is the development of multi-disciplinary, multi-agency teams working together, focusing on a person's whole needs, sharing information and budgets and using the same systems and procedures. This will ensure that services are increasingly patient centred/client focused.
- 2.3 In 1999, the Government introduced the Health Act which sought to promote collaborative working between local authorities and NHS bodies by removing legal and other barriers. The Government has expectations that local authorities and PCTs will make use of the Health Act flexibilities which enable the delegation of commissioning to a single lead organisation, the pooling of budgets and the integration of service delivery. One, two or all three flexibilities can be used simultaneously or in succession.
- 2.4 At the meeting of the Joint Forum in February 2004, members took an 'in principle' decision to work towards developing a collaborative commissioning approach in respect of Mental Health and Learning Disability services by April 2005 and for Older People's and Children's services by April 2006. As a result the PCT appointed to a joint commissioning post, the Head of Mental Health, reporting to the PCT's Director of Planning. Additionally, the Council's Social Services Department appointed the Head of Business Unit – Disabilities, leading on learning disability on behalf of both organisations.

3. LOCAL AND NATIONAL DRIVERS FOR CHANGE

3.1 ‘Commissioning a Patient led NHS’ (CPLNHS) sets a framework for how PCTs will commission services in the future. The outcome of the consultation process on the future configuration of PCT’s will not be known until April 2006 at the earliest but it is clear that PCTs will be required to have robust processes and procedures in place to commission acute and community healthy services and to support Practice Based Commissioning. In this context, PCTs will need to have mechanisms for ensuring that the health and care needs of local communities are being met and that services are developed to reflect the needs of local people.

3.2 Local Area Agreement (LAA) - The Council is leading on the production of Hartlepool’s first Local Area Agreement (LAA). The Hartlepool Partnership agreed at its meeting in September to structure the LAA in line with the seven themes in the Community Strategy:

- Jobs and the Economy
- Lifelong Learning and Skills
- Health and Care
- Community Safety
- Environment and Housing
- Culture and Leisure
- Strengthening Communities

The Health and Care Strategy Group has agreed outcomes and indicators as part of the LAA outcomes framework.

3.2 Hartlepool Partnership - The Council is leading the review of the Hartlepool Partnership including structure and the supporting partnership groups. Within this context the Health and Care Strategy Group is planning to review the current LIT/Planning Group arrangements to support the delivery of the LAA and to reflect the changes in the Council’s structure. The current LIT/Planning Group arrangements are attached as **APPENDIX 1**.

3.3 The White Paper ‘Our health, our care, our say’ launched on 30th January 2006, sets a new direction for community services. The White Paper sets out the Government’s vision of more effective health and social care services outside hospitals. To deliver this vision, it identifies five clear areas for change:

- More personalised care
- Services closer to people’s homes
- Better co-ordination with local councils
- Increased patient choice
- Focus on prevention as much as cure.

The White Paper sets a framework of underpinning reforms including:

- Developing outcomes which apply to both NHS and social care implemented through Local Area Agreements
- Aligning health and social care performance measures, assessments and inspection.
- Aligning planning and budget frameworks between health and local authorities.
- Strengthening local commissioning including joint commissioning between PCT's and local authorities, Practice based commissioning.

4. PROPOSED COMMISSIONING AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 The future of adult social care services and community based health services are inextricably linked. Hartlepool has already recognised this as demonstrated by the agreed way forward in "Vision for Care". It is important to build on this foundation to ensure that decisions about commissioning services in Hartlepool are made with both health and social care needs being jointly identified and agreed.
- 4.2 The following proposal identifies how Hartlepool Borough Council and the PCT could move forward on the commissioning of services together. The process described would create a joint commissioning team who would work and manage on behalf of both organisations. The team would work to ensure organisational outcomes were achieved in an integrated manner although budgets would be aligned, rather than pooled, and therefore remain ultimately the responsibility of each agency.
- 4.3 In order to manage the Vision for Care partnership, which includes both integrated provision and the commissioning framework, it is proposed that a formal Partnership Board be developed, between the PCT and the Council. This Board could be part of the governance arrangements for the developing Local Area Agreement which will be further developed following the outcomes of PCT reconfiguration and the Local Area Agreement plans. Such arrangements would ensure high level agreement and effective performance management of strategic plans and commissioning activity. The board would agree and allocate resources from each agency, ensuring that appropriate quality measures, workforce plans and audit trails are established.
- 4.4 A joint commissioning team would be created who would be responsible for the development and implementation of the joint strategic commissioning plans. The commissioners within the team would work within defined service user group areas which link clearly to the LSP planning groups.
- 4.5 The framework will encompass service development in all settings and will cover mental health, learning disabilities, physical disabilities and sensory support, and older people. This framework includes the commissioning of all aspects of mental health services, nursing care and continuing care issues.

- 4.6 The team will be led by a jointly funded and appointed post of Head of Commissioning which will be hosted within the local authority but who will be accountable to both the PCT and the Council. The remainder of the team will be formed from existing roles that have been identified in both organisations.
- 4.7 Although its focus will be commissioning, the team, due to the size and nature of the two organisations, will work very closely with the integrated /provider services of both organisations and, in some cases, it may hold a dual responsibility both for commissioning and provision of some services e.g. learning disability.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Discussions between the PCT's Chief Executive and the Director of Adult & Community Services have identified the need for a 'step' change in joint working. Such a change is necessary in order to deliver Hartlepool's 'Vision for Care', to achieve the outcomes of the LAA, to meet the requirements of the White Paper and to ensure that robust locality arrangements are in place in the context of PCT reconfiguration and CPLNHS. Subject to the agreement of the Council's Elected Members and the PCT Board, the establishment of a joint commissioning team, working across both organisations would ensure the development and implementation of joint strategic commissioning plans.
- 5.2 The decision on the reconfiguration of PCTs will be known in April 2006, with a view to any changes being implemented in July 2006. Therefore any potential structural changes required to create a joint commissioning team, would need to be enacted after that date.
- 5.3 In the meantime, it is proposed that, initially, the Council and the PCT work to develop agreed commissioning intentions for all adult service user groups and to develop a process for the development of joint commissioning strategies including contracting, contract management and performance monitoring.
- 5.4 An initial draft action plan has been developed that outlines some of the main tasks that need to be completed to create the joint team, this action plan is not intended to cover all tasks but is to give an indication of the key issues that would need to be addressed.
- 5.5 The draft action plan (**APPENDIX 2**) covers the following key objectives:
- To create a joint commissioning team working cross the two organisations by April 2007. This will include agreement of the governance arrangements for the partnership and establishing the links and accountabilities to the Practice Based Commissioning Group.
 - To have agreed commissioning intentions in place for all adult services user groups and a process and timescale agreed for the development of joint commissioning strategies.

- To develop the supporting infrastructure needed to establish the joint commissioning process, from the current collaborative approach to commissioning, through to the more formal joint structures. This will include resolving any issues around HR, IT, governance and the defining of budgets.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

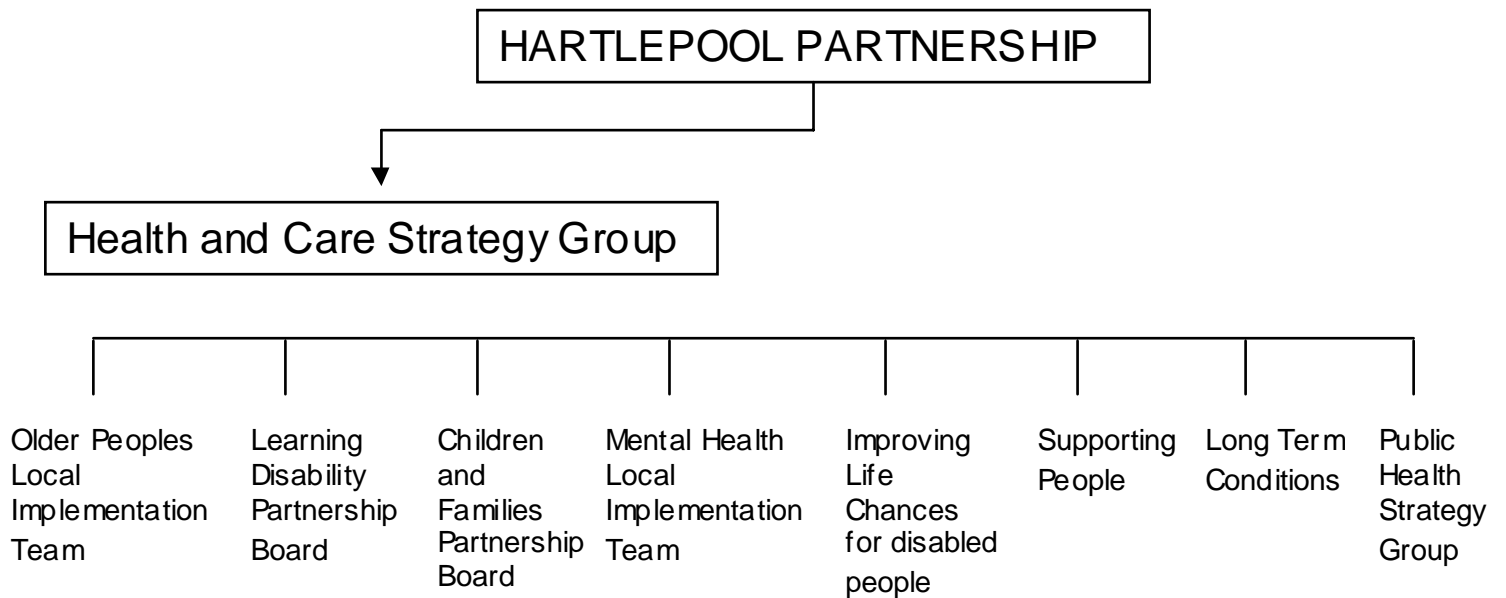
- 6.1 The revenue funding required to create the joint commissioning team would come from current budgets held by both organisations. It is anticipated that the team would be made up of staff currently in similar posts in both organisations. The health and social care budgets required for service commissioning are already in place in both organisations. Those budgets would be identified and aligned to ensure ease of planning and transparency.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Cabinet are asked to note the contents of the report and confirm their commitment to the further integration of planning and commissioning processes between Adult and Community Services and the PCT.

APPENDIX 1

LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAMS/PLANNING GROUPS



APPENDIX 2

JOINT COMMISSIONING ACTION PLAN

| Objective | Action | Lead | Timescale |
|--|---|------|-----------|
| Create joint team by April 2007 | Agreement on framework | | |
| | Recruitment of Head of Commissioning post | | |
| | Define governance arrangements | | |
| | Define remit of team and individuals | | |
| | Consult on proposals with proposed team | | |
| | Resolve and HR issues | | |
| | Identify accommodations options | | |
| | Agree infrastructure required | | |
| Agree joint intentions and process for development of commissioning strategies | Agree accountability to PBC group. | | |
| | Review existing strategies | | |
| | Update needs assessments in consultation | | |
| | Identify joint user focussed outcomes | | |
| | Agree joint objectives/intentions | | |
| | Agree priorities | | |
| | Draft joint commissioning plans | | |
| | Agree performance management framework | | |
| | Agree strategies through relevant stakeholder groups/planning groups | | |
| | Present to Board and Cabinet for approval | | |
| Develop the supporting infrastructure needed to establish the joint commissioning processes and team | Present to LSP for approval | | |
| | Agree funding, job description etc for Head of Commissioning | | |
| | Analyse current budgets and processes to determine how they re defined and allocated and respective budget responsibilities in each organisation. | | |
| | Agree budget to be managed by Joint Commissioning Team | | |
| | Agree responsibilities and accountability for budget management in each organisation inc PBC Group | | |
| | Identify and resolve any HR issues including drafting new job descriptions, slotting in process etc. | | |
| | Identify and resolve any IT issues. | | |
| | Agree support services required for team to function. | | |
| | Develop longer term HR strategy for the team. | | |
| Identify accommodation issues and options. | | | |

CABINET REPORT

29 March 2006



Report of: The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services,
and the Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: NEW DEAL FOR COMMUNITIES COMMUNITY
HOUSING PLAN – THORNTON STREET

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Members in respect of proposals for Thornton Street within the New Deal For Communities (NDC) Housing Plan, and to seek in principle agreement to these.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report summarises the background to the Community Housing Plan with specific reference to Thornton Street, and confirms the current position in respect of taking this part of the Plan forward.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

This project has strategic relevance across a range of portfolios, and is key to both Regeneration & Planning and Liveability.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Key. Tests (i) and (ii) apply.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet will make the decision at it's meeting on 29 March 2006.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is recommended to:-

- 1 Support in principle the proposals to create a linear park to the north side of Thornton Street (within a boundary still to be determined but which is broadly defined within the plan attached as Appendix A) in the interests of the general improvement and enhancement of this area; and
- 2 Agree in principle to the use of housing market renewal (HMR) resources available for the period 2006-8 to acquire the remaining properties required to fully assemble the site for redevelopment, subject to the necessary funding being confirmed and overall HMR budgetary management requirements.

Report of: The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services,
and the Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: NEW DEAL FOR COMMUNITIES COMMUNITY
HOUSING PLAN – THORNTON STREET

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members in respect of proposals for Thornton Street within the New Deal For Communities (NDC) Housing Plan, and to seek in principle agreement to these.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following the completion of a substantial body of work around explaining and understanding the dynamics and characteristics of housing markets in Hartlepool and the increasingly visible manifestation of problems associated with declining demand for primarily older, private, terraced dwellings in the town, Hartlepool NDC undertook an ambitious, comprehensive and inclusive programme of public consultations with residents and others within the New Deal area throughout 2002 in order to develop and secure support and agreement on a Community Housing Plan (CHP).
- 2.2 The major housing market difficulties the Plan seeks to help address include low relative house prices, high levels of empty property, high levels of poorly managed privately rented property, a concentration of older, poorer quality housing and a relatively poor quality environment and lack of open space amenity. At national, regional and sub-regional levels there is a clear recognition that dealing with such problems effectively is a key priority and fundamental to ensuring the long-term sustainability of some of our communities.
- 2.3 The Community Housing Plan was officially launched in May 2003, and includes proposals for the acquisition and demolition of residential and non-residential property with 'homeswaps' and relocation grants for affected residents, the development of new homes targeted toward local people, improvements to existing housing, the creation of community parks and other landscaping and environmental improvements. Hartlepool Revival was established at this time to deliver the Plan on behalf of NDC and the Council.

- 2.4 For Thornton Street, the original CHP made a variety of proposals, including partial demolition of the south side of Thornton Street and the provision of new bungalows, and various supporting environmental improvements. As reported to the then Town Management Portfolio Holder in June 2003, the CHP has no formal planning or legal status and therefore it was necessary at that time to have the proposals independently tested to ensure they could be supported as part of the proper planning of the area, and be practically delivered.
- 2.5 This piece of technical work (called ‘area assessments’) was completed during 2004. This included a rigorous planning assessment of the various elements within the CHP, a wide range of stakeholder consultation and analysis together with a critique of the CHP in terms of the likelihood of it being successfully deliverable through a Planning CPO. In respect of Thornton Street, the conclusions were that the proposals within the CHP would not contribute to the proper planning of the area for a variety of reasons, and therefore Cabinet resolved to receive further reports in due course following further consultations with local residents, businesses and other stakeholders with a view to building some alternative and deliverable proposals.
- 2.6 The area assessment report concluded that in planning the way forward for this area it is important to recognise its locational attributes and intrinsic qualities. For example in that it provides a key linkage between the town centre and the Grange Conservation Area. The report suggested one potential means of achieving this could be to retain the south side of Thornton Street for possible improvements/ refurbishment, and pursue some demolition to the north side to create a linear park, which could then act as such a link, as well as contribute toward an uplift of the immediate street environment. This idea received strong community support during consultations on the outcomes of the area assessments later in 2004. The New Deal For Communities Steering Group therefore agreed to amend demolition proposals for Thornton Street within its Community Housing Plan accordingly in September 2004, resolving to work up further and more detailed land use proposals in due course.

3 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Since this time NDC and Hartlepool Revival have expended considerable energies and resources moving forward practical implementation of other proposals within the CHP, most particularly those for proposed housing redevelopment in the Mildred Street and Mayfair Street areas, and in respect of which Members have received various previous reports.
- 3.2 Whilst acknowledging this, and the good progress that has been made to date, there is a clear need to begin to make progress with proposals in other areas, including Thornton Street, not least because of ongoing resident concerns and the negative impact the concentration of empty property has on

the town centre. The Hartlepool Revival Board therefore considers this issue to be a key priority within their programme moving forward.

4 THORNTON STREET LINEAR PARK

4.1 In summary, the overall strategy that has emerged for the Thornton Street area is to:-

- Create a linear park.
- Increase owner occupation.
- Improve housing stock.
- Involve the community.
- Attract new residents into the area.
- Generate local training / employment opportunities and encourage local investment for NDC residents.
- Create a sustainable community.

4.2 In order to make progress with the linear park, a Thornton Street project group comprising local residents, Hartlepool Revival, NDC and HBC officers was established in 2005, and has produced a draft work programme to progress the consultation and design of the proposed park. This includes clear information on the various approvals that would be ultimately required, including funding, planning permission, further acquisitions and the potential need for the use of compulsory purchase powers to ultimately deliver the project. One element of the work programme will include establishing a final defined boundary for a proposed park. Whilst still to be exactly determined, this indicative boundary is set within the plan attached as Appendix A.

4.3 The project group has prepared and agreed a formal development brief for the linear park project, and this was issued to various interested landscape architects in February 2006. Interviews took place on 14 March 2006, and Anthony Walker & Partners (AWP) have been provisionally appointed to take forward the work.

4.4 The services provided by the Landscape Architect will (subject to funding availability) involve a 2 Stage Plan. The initial appointment will cover **Phase 1: consultation and design works** including:-

- Consultation with residents over the design of the linear park and associated works noted in this brief
- Consultation with HBC regarding statutory permissions eg. Road Closures, Planning and Building control Applications
- Providing an outline design of the linear park and associated works, and
- Preparation of tender documents

Subject to funding and other approvals, the landscape architect would continue onto **Phase 2: contract management**, including:-

- Providing full contract management including tender & contract preparation and management
- Associated technical and survey work
- The generation of employment opportunities for local people proposals covering the use of local contractors and suppliers
- Providing advice to local residents & Hartlepool Revival, and
- Any other reasonable support required to deliver the project.

5 FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 New Deal For Communities has set aside an element of its budget for priority projects such as this which, subject to appraisal and approval (scheduled May 2006) could cover proposed landscaping, pathway improvements, necessary highways alterations, other associated works, and property demolitions.
- 5.2 Within the indicative boundary as set within Appendix A, Hartlepool Revival owns all but 10 of the property interests within the area proposed for the linear park. Currently no resources have been identified to support the acquisition of these properties.
- 5.3 In terms of resources available to support housing market renewal generally, the Council has a confirmed funding allocation from the Regional Housing Board through the Single Housing Investment Pot (SHIP) for the period 2006-8, and also an in principle allocation from the ODPM's Housing Market Renewal Fund (subject to formal approval) for the same period. Whilst a large element of this resource is required to meet outstanding commitments in terms of fully completing site assembly and property acquisition on existing housing clearance sites in central Hartlepool where the Council has made Compulsory Purchase Orders (particularly in 2006-7), there is potentially some funding available to support additional activity over this period, subject to satisfactory resolution of cash flow and other budgetary management issues associated with a 2 year funding allocation. There are a number of emerging and existing schemes which could potentially be in competition for such resources, and decisions regarding priorities will need to be made in the near future. Without prejudice to that process, Cabinet is requested to agree to the principle of supporting this project, subject to confirmation of the availability of resources.
- 5.4 Hartlepool Revival confirm that existing 'Homeswap' property already in their ownership is available to support relocations for several of the remaining residents without the need for additional subsidy. Funding to support the acquisition of the remaining property interests would therefore need to be identified to allow this project to be formally progressed.
- 5.5 Agreement in principle to seek to acquire these outstanding property interests carries some degree of financial risk in that all of the funding allocation as outlined in 5.3 has yet to be confirmed, as do issues relating to timing of spend within fixed yearly grant allocations. Such funding would need to be in place should the Council resolve at some future date to progress a CPO to

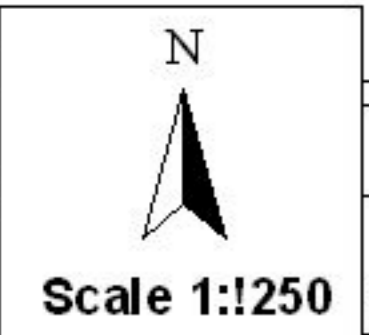
acquire the properties compulsorily, although at this stage this is not being proposed and discussions are being held with owners with a view to acquiring them by agreement. The ability of Hartlepool Revival to potentially accommodate around half of the acquisitions required through the use of other property already in their ownership significantly reduces the current funding gap for the project.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Cabinet is recommended to:-


1 Support in principle the proposals to create a linear park to the north side of Thornton Street (within a boundary yet to be determined but which is broadly defined within the plan attached as Appendix A) in the interests of the general improvement and enhancement of this area; and

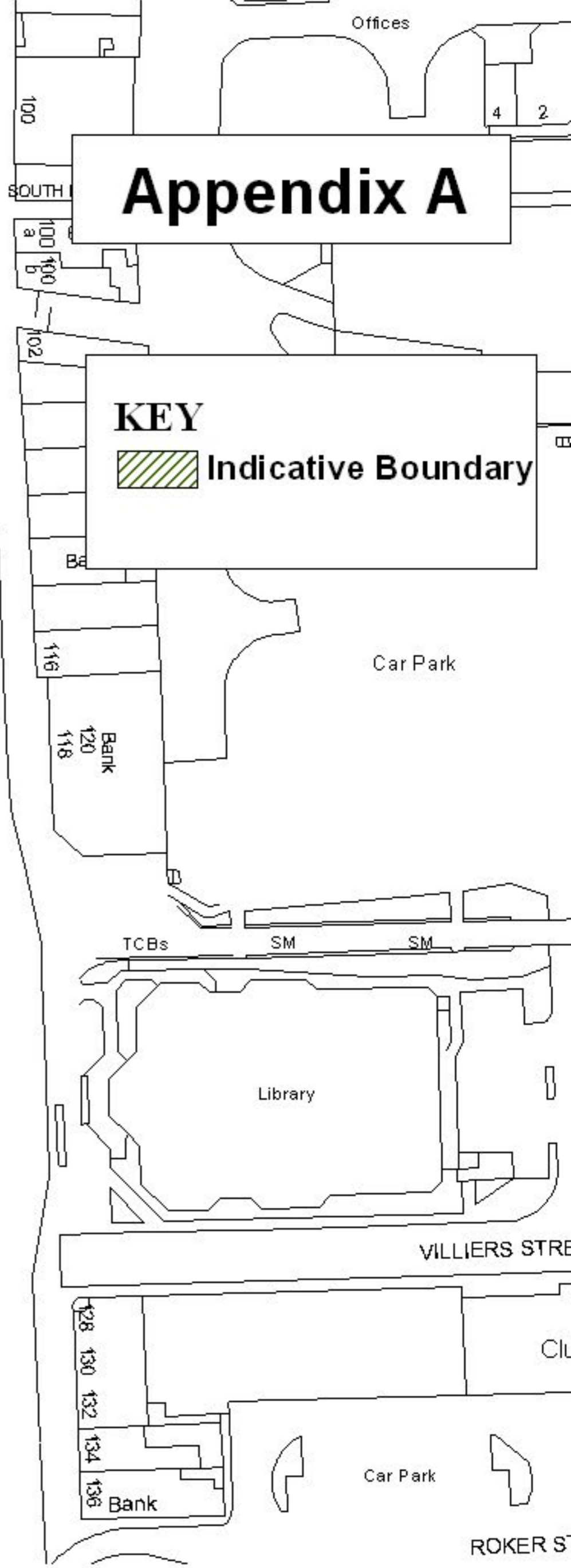
2 Agree in principle to the use of housing market renewal (HMR) resources available for the period 2006-8 to acquire the remaining properties required to fully assemble the site for redevelopment, subject to the necessary funding being confirmed and overall HMR budgetary management requirements.



Appendix A

KEY

 Indicative Boundary



Proposed Linear Park - Thornton Street

CABINET REPORT

29th March 2006



Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning & Economic Development)

Subject: COMMITTEE ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (CORWM)

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report outlines the work to date of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CORWM) and draws attention to the anticipated opportunity for the Council to comment in May on the Committee's recommended option(s) for the long term management of solid radioactive waste.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report summarises the work to date by CORWM, in producing an inventory of the relevant categories of materials and a shortlist of potential options for their management, comprising:

- Long term interim storage (above or below ground, at a central location or at the current locations of the wastes)
- Near-surface disposal of short-lived wastes (under consideration for reactor decommissioning wastes)
- Deep geological disposal (using an engineered repository, deep underground)
- Phased deep geological disposals (as above, but with the repository designed to function as a store with access and monitoring for an interim period until it is finally closed at some future date)

The report indicates that following an assessment of these options CORWM will be producing outline recommendations on the preferred option, or combination of options, in late April and will be seeking responses during May, prior to finalising recommendations to Government by July.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

The subject has relevance to the Cabinet given the range of environmental, economic and social implications of this matter, having regard to the presence of the Nuclear Power Station in the borough.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet, 29th March, 2006.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That the Cabinet notes the position, indicates its view on representation at the intended national seminar on the subject and considers means of raising awareness and understanding of the issues in readiness for the May consultation exercise.

Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning & Economic Development)

Subject: COMMITTEE ON RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (CORWM)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report outlines the work to date of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CORWM) and draws attention to the anticipated opportunity for the Council to comment in May on the Committee's recommended option(s) for the long term management of solid radioactive waste.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 CORWM was appointed jointly by Ministers of the UK Government and the administrations of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, to oversee a review of options for managing solid radioactive waste in the UK and recommend the option(s) that can provide a long-term solution, providing protection for people and the environment.

2.2 The Committee has taken a phased approach to its work:

- i) producing an inventory of wastes requiring management
- ii) identifying a long-list and then a short-list of options for managing the wastes in the long term
- iii) producing detailed criteria for assessing options

In the coming months CORWM will

- iv) assess the short-listed options against the criteria
- v) produce recommendations on how to manage the wastes and advice on how these could be implemented.

2.3 It is important to stress that CORWM is considering different types of long term storage or disposal but is not assessing specific locations.

3. OUTCOMES OF CORWM's WORK

3.1 CORWM produced initially an inventory of the categories of waste in the UK which currently have no long-term management route:

- high level waste
- intermediate level waste
- low level waste
- plutonium
- uranium
- spent nuclear fuel.

- 3.2** CORWM then produced a long-list of potential options for managing these wastes, extending to some 15 options, some of which had sub-options. These ranged from long-term interim storage in purpose-built facilities to deep geological disposal and much more radical options such as disposal in ice sheets or in space.
- 3.3** Short-listing from these options led to the identification of the following for detailed assessment:
- long term (i.e. for 300 years or more) interim storage – packaging wastes and storing them in purpose-built facilities as a key stage of a longer-term management strategy. Such facilities could be above or below ground and could be at a central location or at the current locations of wastes.
 - near-surface disposal of short-lived wastes (under consideration for reactor decommissioning wastes) – burial below ground in a facility with engineered barriers, at or near reactor sites.
 - deep geological disposal – placing packaged wastes in an engineered repository, deep underground
 - phased deep geological disposal – this differs from the previous option in that the repository is designed to function as a store with access and monitoring for an interim period until it is finally closed at some future date.
- 3.4** CORWM has produced a set of criteria to assess these short-listed options, including public safety, worker safety, security, environmental impacts, the burden on future generations, “implementability” and costs. CORWM has also been considering the weighting to be applied to these criteria.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1** CORWM will be producing outline recommendations on the preferred option, or combination of options, in late April and will be seeking responses from specialists, stakeholders and the public during May, prior to finalising their report for submission to Government in July.
- 4.2** Whilst, as indicated, the outline recommendations will not refer to specific sites, the Council may well wish to express a formal view on them. CORWM's work has inevitably covered a wide range of technical matters, reflected in the production of over 1400 documents and reports, available on the CORWM web site (www.corwm.org.uk). It is expected that the outline recommendations will be presented clearly and openly by CORWM and that there will be an opportunity for the Council to be represented at a national seminar on the recommendations during May. Consideration, however, will need to be given to ways in which awareness and understanding of the relevant issues can be enhanced in readiness for the May consultation exercise.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1** That the Cabinet notes the position, indicates its view on representation at the intended national seminar and considers means of raising awareness and understanding of the issues in readiness for the May consultation exercise.

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| <h1>CABINET REPORT</h1> <p>29 March 2006</p> |
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Report of: Chief Financial Officer

Subject: EFFICIENCY STRATEGY

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider and approve the Efficiency Strategy.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report considers the background to the strategy, the efficiency workstreams, the detailed projects that constitute the strategy, the position regarding the annual efficiency statements and consideration of risks.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

The strategy will directly impact upon the way the Council operates and the way that services are delivered over the next five years. In addition the strategy will be an important part of the annual Use of resources assessment made by the Audit Commission

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet 29 March.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

Cabinet is asked to: -

- Approve the detailed Efficiency Strategy together with the work plan set out in Appendix A to this report.
- Note the position in relation to the 2005/6 Annual Efficiency Strategy.
- Approve the inclusion of those items detailed for the 2006/7 Annual Efficiency Statement.
- Note the risk factors and mitigation actions included above.
- Agree quarterly monitoring to Cabinet.

Report of: Chief Financial Officer

Subject: EFFICIENCY STRATEGY

1. Introduction

The purpose of this section is to set out the background for the consideration and development of an efficiency strategy for the Council. It follows from the allocation by Government of detailed targets to be achieved as part of the Gershon Efficiency review. Equally important however is the new Corporate Performance Assessment framework in which the Council is annually assessed on the Use of Resources, which includes a sub assessment specifically for value for money. Previously the Council has scored at level 3 for these, but the Council is at some risk, particularly in relation to the Value for Money assessment, if it does not take measures to ensure that future efficiencies are achieved.

The Council is facing continued shortfalls in funding and if services are to be protected and developed then it is critical that efficiencies continue to be made. It is imperative that the Council can therefore robustly demonstrate that it is providing high levels of service and satisfaction whilst managing its costs effectively.

2. Background

The Annual Efficiency Target was introduced in March 2005. The Council has been given an efficiency target of £2.2m of which at least half must be in a cashable form, the remainder can be non cashable, this target was based upon a baseline year of 2003/4. These together with a preliminary report on Efficiency were reported to Cabinet in summer 2005. The critical issue for the targets is that they are annual and cumulative. Thus by the end of 2007/8 efficiencies of £6.6m must have been achieved. There is currently no sanction for not achieving the targets however the Council's budgetary position in particular and the CPA assessment place a considerable pressure to deliver.

Whilst the Efficiency Targets were only applied to Local Government in April 2005, the Council had been progressing in advance of this a number of underlying policies and projects, which represent basic but critical building blocks. These included: -

- Council Re-structure and Cultural change agenda;
- ICT Strategy; and
- Business Process Re-engineering.

In addition to the above the Council will need to review and extend its Human Resource policies to underpin and develop the Efficiency Strategy.

3. **Framework**

At a national level the Gershon Efficiency agenda concentrated upon a number of workstreams. These were driven largely from the perception of where Government needed to make efficiency improvements. The workstreams are: -

- Procurement
- Productive Time
- Transactions
- Corporate Services
- Construction.

These workstreams have been used as a template for the various projects the Council has considered. This is useful, as the Government has also invested significantly in Regional Centres of Excellence that are equally concentrating on the differing workstreams. These streams do not necessarily reflect the local conditions and the equal need to increase the level of efficiencies and quality directly within services. Accordingly for Hartlepool purposes a further category covering Services has been included to reflect the considerable work undertaken directly within services, which does not easily fit within the Gershon framework.

4. **Current Position**

Workstreams

The above framework has been used to develop a detailed work programme, which is attached at appendix A. The initial period up to March 2008 concentrates upon: -

- The implementation of the Council's ICT strategy – the main projects being the Contact Centre, Document management and workflow, Financial Management system and Portal development.
- Improvements in productive time through sickness management, mobile and flexible working.
- Procurement – spend analysis looking at achieving reductions in the cost of goods and services received. In 2006/7 this is likely to concentrate upon Stationary, transport, Energy and Advertising.
- Partnership development of existing arrangements e.g. Cleveland Fire Authority, Housing Hartlepool and Northgate and feasibility work into new partnerships e.g. Construction with both public and private sector bodies. In the next two years this is likely to concentrate more the consolidation of existing arrangements pending opportunities for expansion.
- Improvements in service delivery
 - E.g. Elderly Extra Care and Fostering. These are key areas for development of service provision and particularly in relation to Elderly Care will require the detailed development of a number of cross cutting projects with External partners. Cabinet have already considered a preliminary policy on this to address the demographic changes which are occurring based upon the scheme progressing in partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Trust. Ultimately this will link with the Council's Capital

Strategy and partnership working with other Sheltered Housing providers and the Supporting people programme.

- o Value for Money reviews highlighted through the Annual Value for Money Assessments.

Included in the savings proposals for Cabinet consideration during the budget process were a number of efficiency measures. Many of the schemes over the next two years will progress from the investigatory/planning stage through to the delivery stage. As work progresses through detailed Business Re engineering processes detailed targets will become possible. These will ultimately depend upon the speed at which the Council can absorb changes within its normal staffing turnover. Progress at a faster rate will impact upon the Council's capacity to deliver the improvements whilst maintaining service delivery and managing any downsizing.

Although not included as a specific project the Council will need to review the business processes it uses to deliver services. This needs to be focused on those areas where major transformations are planned. As such business process re-engineering has been included as a specific stage that needs to be considered against each of the relevant projects.

The shorter term ie the period covered by the current spending review and the existing efficiency targets (end 2007/8) concentrates on developing proofs of concepts for the technologies included in the Council's ICT strategy and the subsequent improvements in efficiencies of the Council's current services and general methods of service provision. The longer term 2008-2011 expands and continues those work streams but reflects the need to look at:-

- The adequacy and cost of the Council's Building Stock through the Asset Management Plan the need to consider School Renewal/planning issues in the light of the Building Schools for the future programme.
- Shared Service models for service provision, which covers greater internal integration of administrative and back office functions.
- Increased Partnering with other bodies where added value can be obtained.
- Value for money reviews.

Annual Efficiency Statements

Attached at Appendix B is a summary of the Council's current Annual Efficiency Statement for 2005/6. Also shown is the status of the draft statement for 2006/7 on the basis of the Budget work done and already approved.

In relation to the 2005/6 statement members will see that additional efficiencies of £0.457m have been identified over the allocated target of £2.2m although at this stage those savings have not been declared to central government (I hasten to say that the savings have however been reflected in the Council's Budget!). This is because detailed guidance is still awaited and may not allow the substantial saving from debt rescheduling that has been included. If this is not allowed then the Council should still just be on target, assuming all other measures satisfy the guidance (yet to be issued!)

In relation to 2006/7 the current position reflecting the cashable issues identified during the budget process but not yet reflecting non-cashable issues shows a

marginal shortfall of £0.142m. This represents a considerable increase in the value of cashable savings identified compared with 2005/6 reflecting the work done on identifying efficiencies but also the budgetary pressure that the Council faces. The delivery of the efficiencies in relation to children's placement flowing from the changes in the fostering and respite service has been addressed as a priority to improve cost effectiveness but also improve quality.

Regional Centres of Excellence

The Government has set up a number of these and provided grant funding to assist in the development of projects on a regional basis. Hartlepool is involved together with the other Tees Valley authorities in a vehicle fleet procurement exercise. Other projects cover all types of authority and most service areas. Whilst some of the projects will provide deliverables in 2006/7 it is relatively unlikely that the Council will benefit from such projects before 2007/8. In looking forward however it is important to ascertain the potential future benefit to be gained from these pathfinder projects, and reflect these in the strategy as part of the ongoing monitoring exercise.

Efficiency Group and Departmental Efficiency Groups

The Council has had a corporate Efficiency team for the past year, supplemented on a pilot basis by a Departmental Efficiency Group within Neighbourhood Services, allowing the concept and issues to be embedded in depth to a much greater extent. This is critical if the Council is to continue to achieve Cashable efficiencies and perhaps more so if the Council is to make similar progress on Non Cashable areas. This requires greater involvement by service managers. Given that this pilot is achieving greater involvement of operation managers it suggested that this model be rolled out across all departments. This has the support of the Corporate Management Team. Departmental Efficiency Groups should continue to report into the Corporate Group and then through Cabinet.

In addition the current Corporate Efficiency Team has no representation from the Trade Unions although some representation is included within some of the detailed work streams. Given the scale of the impact it would be appropriate for the Trade Unions to be included within the Corporate Efficiency Team.

5. Risks

Measurement

Although the Government stated at the outset that it did not want to set up an industry for the measurement of efficiency the detailed regulation of what is allowable is gradually taking shape. It is not however proceeding fast enough to give authorities adequate time to plan and implement as detailed regulations often are not being issued until late in the year they apply or in the case of Treasury Management after the year (hopefully). Regarding Non cashable efficiencies the guidance is even sparser! This requires some flexibility in the completion of the annual efficiency statements.

Capacity

The scale and scope of the projects included in appendix A is considerable and requires considerable management capacity. This capacity given the other changes that are impacting on the Council is finite. The Council has been working to wards

enhancing capacity through additional training in particular the Hartlepool Manager Programme. However capacity will continue to be an issue and will require prioritisation as reflected in the timetables included in Appendix A if delivery is to be achieved.

Evolving and Iterative Process

The needs of the Council and the environment that the Council works within continue to change. The Efficiency Strategy needs to reflect these. Equally it needs to take account of the development of the various projects as they progress through their life cycle and the changing requirements of the Value For Money Assessment. Accordingly it is suggested that Cabinet monitors and adapts the Strategy on a Quarterly basis to ensure that the strategy is kept focused and relevant for the Council's needs whilst achieving its objectives.

Economies of Scale

This is an issue that the Council has faced repeatedly since it became a Unitary Council in 1996 and it continues to be one. On the one hand the Council faces varying degrees of diseconomies of scale in its services but on the otherhand has considerable flexibility in being able to change service delivery because of its size (eg Fostering). The Efficiency agenda concentrates substantially on the benefits of economies of scale through greater partnership working and the concept of regional contracts and processing centres. Flexibility, local choice and decision-making are not so evident. The strategy through to 2008 aims to continue to improve the effectiveness of the Councils arrangements and services whilst maintaining its flexibility. The next spending review, which will determine the Council's three-year settlement from 2008/9 and the consequent efficiency targets, are likely to impact to a greater extent at that time.

Staffing Concerns

However the greatest risks are likely to be on staffing and the greater uncertainty that the increasing rate of change will bring. Processes will require revision to get the most benefit from the new Technologies being implemented through the Council's ICT Strategy. These will require changes in the way that staff work, the departmental structures they work in and the places they work (eg Homeworking). These will require new skills, training and support. The changes are likely to be compounded, as they will be incurred over a sustained period of time before all aspects are implemented.

Notwithstanding the above the goodwill and continued motivation of all staff are critical. To address these issues greater communication and the involvement of the Trade Unions are essential.

The possibility of job loss is a substantial factor and in addressing this it is important to:

- Stress the intention that whilst efficiencies are required all endeavours will be made to manage any staffing reductions through normal turnover. If this is not possible then redeployment/retraining will be used. Redundancies, whilst possible, are neither being planned nor considered as part of the Efficiency Strategy.

- Where possible action will be taken to identify additional functions in existing role or area of work that can be undertaken. It may be necessary to quantify the added value of these functions.
- Identify de minimus quantification of workload re consideration for redeployment.
- Apply standard redeployment process/policy as applicable.
- Identify retraining options/requirements as these may arise.
- Consideration of the establishment of a staffing pool for supernumerary Officers.
- Utilise redeployment to reduce future levels of agency staff usage.
- Maximise use of natural wastage as least cost option and best for staff.
- Close involvement of Trade Unions.

6. **Conclusion**

Considerable work has already begun and is delivering considerable efficiencies. Work has concentrated to date more so on cashable efficiencies, which is benefiting the Council's budgetary position. It is however important to also address the non cashable aspects which will result in improved levels of service standards and satisfaction. This latter is particularly important when the Council may also need to reduce the quantum of services in other areas. The Council has put in place a number of plans and projects to assist in the delivering of Efficiencies but now needs to formalize an overarching strategy to guide those projects to implementation and allow the planning of subsequent projects to ensure that year on year improvements are achieved in a sustained manner.

7. **Recommendations**

Cabinet is asked to: -

- Approve the detailed Efficiency Strategy together with the work plan set out in Appendix A to this report.
- Note the position in relation to the 2005/6 Annual Efficiency Strategy.
- Approve the inclusion of those items detailed for the 2006/7 Annual Efficiency Statement.
- Note the risk factors and mitigation actions included above.
- Agree quarterly monitoring to Cabinet.

| Project | Project Description | Sub Project Description | Gershon Type | Department | Lead Officer | Phase | Planning | Business Case | Design | Implementation | Business Process Re-eng | Delivery | Cashable | Amount £ | Due Date | Non-Cashable | Amount £ | Date |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|-------|--------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10 | Spend Analysis | Agency | Procurement | CE | Wally Stagg | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | N/A | N/A | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 |
| 20 | Spend Analysis | Transport Vehicles | Procurement | NS | Ian Parker | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | N/A | N/A | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | Y | £120,000 | 2006/07 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 |
| 30 | Spend Analysis | Advertising | Procurement | CE | Graham Frankland | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | Reported to Portfolio holder 18/10/2005 | Project team evaluated Nov 2005 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | Y | £5,000 | 2006/07 | Y | To be quantified post BPR project | 2006/07 |
| 40 | Spend Analysis | Stationery | Procurement | CE | Graham Frankland | 1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Reported to Portfolio holder 18/10/2005 | Project team evaluated Nov 2005 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | Y | £150,000 | 2006/07 | Y | £50,000 | 2006/07 |
| 50 | Mobile Working | Benefits | Productive Time | CE | John Morton | 1 | 2005/06 - Q2 | N/A | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q2 (Pilot) | N/A | 2006/07 - Q4 | Y | £200,000 | 2006/07 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 60 | Mobile Working | Occupational Therapy | Productive Time | AS | Alan Dobby | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q2 | Y | TBD | 2007/08 - Q1 | Non-Cashable | £0 | 0 |
| 70 | Sickness Management | HR Analysis | Productive Time | CE | Wally Stagg | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N | N/A | 0 | Y | £0 | 0 |
| 80 | Sickness Management | Sickness Champion | Productive Time | Corp | Ian Parker | 1 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 0 | 2006/07 - Q1-Q3 | N/A | 2006/07 - Q1 onward | N | TBD | 2006/07 - Q1 onward | Y | £90,000 | 2006/07 - Q1 onward |
| 90 | Productive Time - Homeworking | - | Productive Time | NS | Keith Smith | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | £0 | 0 |
| 100 | Overtime/Standby Review NS | - | Productive Time | NS | Keith Smith | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | Y | Target of 10% need to be quantified | 2006/07 - Q2 | N | Nil | 0 |
| 110 | Financial Management System | Costing NS | Transaction | NS | Keith Smith | 1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2007/08 - Q1 | TBD | TBD | Y | TBD | 2007/08 | Y | TBD | 2007/08 |
| 120 | Financial Management System | Centralisation Payments | Transaction | Corp | Kevin Shears | 1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Dec 2005 - Jan 2006 | Target April 2006 | Target January 2006 | 0 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 |
| 130 | Payroll/Personnel | All Monthly Pay | Transaction | CE | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 0 | 0 | Phased to 29/09/06 | Y | TBD | TBD | Y | TBD | TBD |
| 140 | EDRMS/Workflow | Infrastructure | Corporate Services | Corp | John Morton | 1 | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q3 | 2006/07 | N/A | 0 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 |
| 145 | EDRMS/Workflow | Planning Portal | Corporate Services | RP | Jeff Mason | 1 | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q3 | 2005/06 - Q3 | N/A | 0 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 |
| 150 | EDRMS/Workflow | Legal | Corporate Services | CE | Peter Devlin | 1 | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q3 | 2005/06 - Q4 | N/A | 0 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 | Y | TBD | 2005/06 - Q4 |

| Project | Project Description | Sub Project Description | Gershon Type | Department | Lead Officer | Phase | Planning | Business Case | Design | Implementation | Business Process Re-eng | Delivery | Cashable | Amount £ | Due Date | Non-Cashable | Amount £ | Date |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------|-------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| 160 | Contact Centre | Technology | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2002/03 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Incremental from Apr 05 | Phased from 2005 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Phased from Aug 07 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 160 | Contact Centre | Accommodation | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2004/05 - Q3 | 2005/06 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q3 | 2007/08 - Q1 | N | £0 | 2007/08 - Q1 | Y | TBD | 2007/08 - Q1 |
| 160 | Contact Centre | Service Integration | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2004/05 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Incremental from Jan 05 | Phased from Apr 06 | Phased to Mar 09 | Phased to Sep 09 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 160 | Contact Centre | Partnership | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2004/05 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Incremental from Sep 04 | Phased from Nov 04 | N/A | Phased to Sep 09 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 160 | Contact Centre | Staffing | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2004/05 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Incremental from Jul 04 | Phased from Sep 04 | N/A | 2009/10 - Q2 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 160 | Contact Centre | Service & Performance | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2004/05 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q1 | Incremental from Apr 05 | Phased to Apr 09 | Ongoing | Phased to Sep 09 | N | £0 | 0 | Y | TBD | 0 |
| 170 | Web Based Services | Adult Services | Corporate Services | AS | Alan Dobby/Liz Bruce | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q4 | 2007/08 - Q1 | Y | TBD | 2007/08 - Q1 | N | £0 | 0 |
| 180 | Shared Service Centre | - | Corporate Services | Corp | Joanne Machers | 1 | 2007/08 - Q2 | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | Y | TBD | 2009/10 | Y | TBD | 2009/10 |
| 190 | JVC/PublicP | - | Construction | Corp | Ian Parker | 1 | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? | ? | 0 | £0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 |
| 200 | Contract Partnering | - | Construction | NS | G Frankland | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | N | £0 | NA | Y | £30,000 | 2006/07 - Q3 |
| 210 | Energy Management | - | Construction | Corp | Keith Lucas | 1 | completed | completed | completed | Energy contract now in place with NEPO | N/A | Now | N | £0 | 2004/05 | Y | TDB | 2005/06 - Q4 |
| 220 | Asset Management | - | Construction | Corp | Graham Frankland | 1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q4 | 2007/08 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2007/08 - Q3 | Y? | TBD | 2007/08 - Q4 | Y | TBD | 2007/08 - Q4 |
| 230 | Schools Renewal/Planning | - | Construction | CS | Paul Briggs | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 |
| 240 | Transport Review | School Transport | Services | NS | Alaistair Smith | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 |
| 250 | Transport Review | Use of Vehicles | Services | NS | Alaistair Smith | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 | 0 | £0 | 0 |
| 260 | Transport Review | Travel/Mileage | Services | NS | Alaistair Smith | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 onwards | Y | £19,500 | 2006/07 | N | N/A | 0 |

| Project | Project Description | Sub Project Description | Gershon Type | Department | Lead Officer | Phase | Planning | Business Case | Design | Implementation | Business Process Re-eng | Delivery | Cashable | Amount £ | Due Date | Non-Cashable | Amount £ | Date |
|---------|---------------------|--|--------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| 270 | Adult Services | Elderly Extra Care | Services | AS | Alan Dobby | 1 | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q2 | 2005/06 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2008/09 - Q2 | Y | TBD | 2008/09 - Q2 | N | TBD | TBD |
| 280 | Adult Services | Mental Health Day Care/Employment Link | Services | AS | Alan Dobby | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 - Q3 | N | TBD | TBD |
| 285 | Day Services | PLD/PD Modernisation | Services | AS | Liz Bruce | 1 (Kitchens) | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | Y | TBD | 2006/07 - Q3 | N | TBD | TBD |
| 290 | Adult Services | Historic Quay/Trincomalee | Services | AS | John Mennear | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | 2006/07 - Q1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q4 | 2007/08 - Q1 | Y | TBD | 2008/09 - Q1 | N | £0 | 0 |
| 295 | Libraries | Delivered lib services | Services | AS | John Mennear.Graham Jarrit | 1 | 2006/07 - Q2 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q3 | 2006/07 - Q4 | 2007/08 - Q1 | N | TBD | | Y | TBD | 2007/08 - Q1 |
| 300 | Childrens Services | Fostering | Services | AS | Phil Warrilow | 1 | 2005/06 - Q4 | N/A | N/A | 2005/06 - Q4 | N/A | 2005/06 - Q4 onward | Y | £450,000 | 1st April 2006 | N | £0 | 2006/07 |
| 300 | Childrens Services | Fostering | Services | AS | Phil Warrilow | 2 | 2006/07 - Q4 | Value for money audit | 2006 | 2006/07 - Q4 | N/A | 2006/07 - Q4 onward | Y | TBD | 1st April 2007 | 0 | £0 | 0 |

APPENDIX BSUMMARY OF CASHABLE AND NON-CASHABLE EFFICIENCIES

| | 2004/05 Backward look | | | 2005/06 Forward look | | | 2006/07 Forward look | | | Cumulative Position | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------|----------------------|--------------|-------|----------------------|--------------|-------|---------------------|--------------|-------|
| | Cashable | Non-cashable | Total | Cashable | Non-cashable | Total | Cashable | Non-cashable | Total | Cashable | Non-cashable | Total |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Target | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,092 | 1,092 | 2,184 | 1,092 | 1,092 | 2,184 | 2,184 | 2,184 | 4,368 |
| Identified | 252 | 50 | 302 | 1,917 | 724 | 2,641 | 2,042 | 0 | 2,042 | 4,211 | 774 | 4,985 |
| Surplus/(deficit) against target | 252 | 50 | 302 | 825 | (368) | 457 | 950 | (1,092) | (142) | 2,027 | (1,410) | 617 |

CABINET REPORT

29 March 2006



Report of: Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: SELECTIVE LICENSING AND VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE RENTED ACCOMMODATION

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To outline the requirements for designation of selective licensing areas for rented accommodation and how consideration of licensing for Hartlepool could progress.

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report describes the new discretionary powers in the Housing Act 2004 and the relationship with the existing Voluntary Accreditation scheme.

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

The possibility of adopting selective licensing for areas suffering from low demand is of widespread community interest in raising private sector housing management standards and improving the behaviour of anti-social tenants. A decision to adopt these discretionary powers may affect substantial areas of the Borough, particularly the regeneration areas situated towards the centre of the town.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet on 29 March 2006 for consideration of the issues, and Culture, Housing & Transportation Portfolio Holder in October 2006 for consideration of adopting selective licensing.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To note and approve the contents of the report

Report of: Director of Neighbourhood Services

Subject: SELECTIVE LICENSING AND VOLUNTARY
ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE RENTED
ACCOMMODATION

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To outline the requirements for designation of a selective licensing area, the powers available to the authority, and how consideration of licensing could progress in Hartlepool.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Housing Act 2004 places a duty on councils to keep housing conditions under review to identify any action needed in relation to selective licensing.
- 2.2 The Act contains a discretionary power to designate areas for the selective licensing of private rented houses suffering from, or likely to suffer from, low demand and/or significant and persistent anti-social behaviour. Designation is subject to certain conditions being met and this power is available to local authorities from 6 April 2006.
- 2.3 If licensing is introduced, all privately rented houses in the licensing area must be licensed.
- 2.4 The government sees the purpose of licensing as assisting in the creation of a thriving private rented sector which makes a full contribution to meeting housing needs and creating sustainable communities. Local authorities are expected to view licensing as a positive mechanism to achieve landlord engagement in raising management standards, and participating with others to deal with anti-social tenants.

3. DESIGNATION OF SELECTIVE LICENSING AREAS

- 3.1 The Council may designate the whole area, or a particular area in the district if:
- (a) It is an area of **low housing demand** or likely to become one, for which purpose the following matters must be taken into account amongst others:
- (i) The value of residential premises compared to similar properties in comparable areas (comparable: type, local amenities, transport availability)

- (ii) Turnover of occupiers
 - (iii) The number of residential premises available to buy or rent and the length of time they remain unoccupied
or,
 - (b) Significant and persistent problems are being caused by anti-social behaviour (ASB), some or all private landlords are failing to take appropriate action to combat it, and making the designation will, when combined with other measures by the Council and/or others, contribute to the improvement of social or economic conditions or lead to a reduction or elimination of ASB
- 3.2 Exercise of the power must be consistent with the authority's housing strategy.
- 3.3 The Council must be satisfied that designation will significantly assist them to improve social or economic conditions or a reduction or elimination in ASB and consider whether other courses of action are available that might provide an effective method of achieving those objectives.
- 3.4 The Council must seek to adopt a co-ordinated approach in connection with dealing with homelessness, empty properties and ASB with regard to combining licensing with other courses of action available to the authority and persons outside the authority.

4. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 The proposed licence holder and any manager must be a 'fit and proper person'.
- 4.2 To be considered 'fit and proper', regard must be had to the following matters:
- any convictions relating to violence, sexual offences, drugs or fraud
 - any contraventions of housing and landlord and tenant law
 - any convictions relating to unlawful discrimination on grounds of sex, colour, race, ethnic/national origins, or disability in, or in connection with, the carrying on of any business.

It is up to the Authority to decide whether to take any of these matters into account. Councils can also make enquiries into the background of any person associated, or formerly associated, with the Proposed Licence Holder/Proposed Manager, whether personal, work or otherwise.

- 4.3 The proposed management arrangements for the house must be satisfactory by assessing whether any person proposed to be involved in management has 'sufficient level of competence', is a 'fit and proper person', and whether the management structures and funding arrangements are suitable

4.4 The Council can also apply its own additional criteria to decide fitness of management personnel and whether the management arrangements are satisfactory.

4.5 If an application satisfies all of the above requirements the Council would have to give the house a licence. Note that no reference is made to the condition or suitability of the house.

5. LICENCE CONDITIONS

5.1 On face value, Councils would have discretion to impose any conditions they consider appropriate, but again these are restricted and controlled by the Act. The conditions can generally regulate the management, use or occupation of the house, but not its condition.

5.2 The licence must include the following conditions requiring the Licence Holder to:

- Produce a gas safety certificate (obtained in the last 12 months) annually for inspection by the Council
- Keep electrical appliances and furniture made available by him in a safe condition
- Supply the Council, on demand, with a declaration by the Licence Holder as to their safety
- Ensure that smoke alarms are installed
- Keep the smoke alarms in proper working order
- Supply the Council, on demand, with a declaration by the LH as to the condition and positioning of the smoke alarms
- Supply the occupiers with a written statement of the terms on which they occupy it
- Demand references from persons who wish to occupy the house

5.3 The licence may include the following conditions relating to the regulation of the management, use, or occupation of the house:

- Imposing restrictions or prohibitions on the use or occupation of particular parts of the house
- Requiring the taking of reasonable and practical steps to prevent, reduce, anti-social behaviour by occupiers or persons visiting the house
- Requiring facilities and equipment to be made available and to meet standards prescribed by regulations
- Requiring the works to make those facilities and equipment available to be carried out within the period(s) specified in the licence
- Requiring facilities and equipment to be kept in repair and proper working order

- 5.4 Licensing schemes are intended to be self-financing.
- 5.5 If selective licensing were to be adopted, a requirement would be placed on all (with a few exceptions) landlords in the designated area to apply for a licence.

6. RELATIONSHIP WITH LANDLORD ACCREDITATION

- 6.1 A successful Voluntary Landlord Accreditation scheme has been in operation in Hartlepool since February 2002, promoting and encouraging best practice with landlords, enabling improved relationships with the Local Authority and local residents.
- 6.2 The government sees licensing very much as a means for Councils to work with landlords to improve management standards. It is expected that licensing should result in authorities and landlords forming alliances to improve standards. Accreditation schemes are seen as helping this process.
- 6.3 The existing accreditation scheme has already been the focus for improving the relationship through a landlords' forum, newsletters, presentations, attendance at residents' meetings, and providing an advice service to accredited landlords.
- 6.4 Linking accreditation with the work of the private sector housing team has resulted in houses being brought up to an acceptable standard through informal procedures. Several anti-social behaviour cases have had some accreditation input.
- 6.5 Accreditation therefore already covers some of the requirements which can be utilised through licensing and is seen as providing a vital additional tool in raising standards.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES

- 7.1 Whilst any additional powers designed to improve the private rented housing sector are to be welcomed, at this stage it is unclear whether a licensing scheme will have a substantial effect on the quality of landlords or tenants. There are several practical issues to be considered on the operation and enforcement of such a scheme.
- 7.2 However, there is likely to be considerable pressure for licensing to be introduced in Hartlepool. On balance, licensing should be seriously considered as an additional tool to tackle problems of low demand or anti-social behaviour.
- 7.3 The proposed scheme will ensure that landlords meet some basic safety requirements, but there will be no condition relating to the general state of the property. In simple terms this means that a property could be licensed even

though hazardous conditions could exist that would require enforcement action to be taken under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System. Whilst the licence will not impose conditions relating to the fitness or hazard rating of the property, it will be necessary to undertake inspections to follow up on certification received and to investigate where there are suspicions that hazards may exist.

- 7.4 If licensing is introduced decisions will need to be made as to the future operation of the voluntary accreditation scheme. This is made more crucial by the current funding arrangements for the scheme which has relied on different external funding. It is very likely that this funding will not be available after this year. A decision will be needed during the next year, in conjunction with the consideration of licensing, as to the continuation and funding of the scheme.
- 7.5 There is a requirement for the Authority to consult, and take into consideration, the views of people likely to be affected by a scheme, including landlords, tenants and residents groups.
- 7.6 In order to progress matters, it is suggested that a report be brought before the Culture, Housing and Transportation Portfolio Holder detailing the suitability of selective licensing in relation to the criteria for low demand or anti-social behaviour and an indication as to where areas could be designated.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 That following consultation, a report be brought back to the Culture, Housing and Transportation Portfolio Holder on the merits of introducing selective licensing, and, if appropriate, to suggest where licensing areas might be designated.
- 8.2 That a report on the future funding of the existing voluntary accreditation scheme also be brought before the Portfolio Holder.

CABINET REPORT

29th March, 2006



Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)

Subject: TEES VALLEY AREA TOURISM PARTNERSHIP

SUMMARY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Cabinet of the proposed governance arrangements for the Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership (ATP).

2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

The report sets out the proposed governance arrangements recently agreed with One NorthEast (such arrangements were still under discussion when the Cabinet endorsed the overall proposals for the formation of the ATP on 24th January, 2006).

3. RELEVANCE TO CABINET

The five Tees Valley Authorities would be represented within the proposed Area Tourism Partnership. The responsibilities of the proposed ATP relate to several executive portfolios.

4. TYPE OF DECISION

Non-key.

5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE

Cabinet on 29th March, 2006.

6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED

That Cabinet notes the governance arrangements for the Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership.

Report of: The Assistant Director (Planning and Economic Development)

Subject: TEES VALLEY AREA TOURISM PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Cabinet of the proposed governance arrangements for the Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership (ATP).

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Cabinet on 24th January, 2006 endorsed the proposed arrangements for the Tees Valley ATP but noted that at that time the governance arrangements were still under discussion with One NorthEast.

3. INFORMATION

3.1 Recent discussions between One NorthEast, the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit and the Tees Valley Local Authority Chief Executives have resulted in broad agreement on governance arrangements.

3.2 It is the intention that the ATP should operate as a Partnership with a formal legally binding Framework Agreement, without creating a new legal vehicle. Stockton Borough Council would act as the accountable body to the Partnership. The Partnership Board will comprise a Chair from the business community, four further private sector directors (one of whom will be nominated Deputy Chair) and three public sector directors. Directors will be appointed according to Nolan principles and will be expected to take soundings from, and provide feedback to, their peers/sector.

3.3 In addition a Strategic Advisory Group will be established, comprising the ATP Board, the lead officer of the Partnership and one senior officer from each of the local authorities and the Joint Strategy Unit. This Group will be responsible for agreeing the strategic direction of tourism management and in the context of agreed regional strategy for advising on the areas of responsibility for the ATP to lead and deliver. The Director of the Joint Strategy Unit will report the activities of the Strategic Advisory Group to the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Committee.

- 3.4 A “Shadow Board” has been established, with representatives from the public and private sectors across the Tees Valley, to oversee the arrangements for establishing the Partnership Board and the staffing arrangements. It is intended to advertise the positions of Chair and Board members in sub-regional newspapers in the week beginning 27th March, with a view to appointments being made in late April.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That Cabinet notes the governance arrangements for the Tees Valley Area Tourism Partnership.

CABINET REPORT

29th March 2006



Report of: Children's Services Scrutiny Forum

Subject: SCRUTINY OF THE SECOND DRAFT OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN – FINAL REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present the findings of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in relation to the Second Draft of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Hartlepool Borough Council has a new duty under the Children's Act 2004 to prepare and publish a CYPP in co-operation with key partners. This item forms part of the Budget and Policy Framework for the Council, as set out in Part Four of the Council's Constitution. Consequently, Scrutiny is statutorily involved in this process prior to the draft Final Plan being submitted to Council in April 2006.

3. SETTING THE SCENE

3.1 Since the beginning of September 2005 officers of the Children's Services Department have been engaged in discussions with a wide range of partners and other interested parties in the development of a first consultative draft of the CYPP, published on 16 November 2005.

3.2 The consultation period on this first draft plan concluded on 16 December 2005. Subsequently a second draft of the plan was produced in January 2006.

3.3 Cabinet met in mid-January 2006 to consider the second draft of the CYPP. Following this meeting the second draft CYPP was sent to the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum for consideration. Furthermore, public consultation on this document began on 25 January 2006 and ended 27 February 2006. Consequently, the results of this consultation exercise were presented to the Forum on 7 March 2006.

- 3.4 Members acknowledged that this is the first time a CYPP has been produced by the Authority. The Government expects that the CYPP should evolve over its first years of existence, and this will be reflected in Hartlepool as the Children's Services Department works ever more closely with partner organisations. It should also be noted that, given this is the first year CYPPs are being developed across the country, best practice will also develop over time.

4. OVERALL AIM OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 4.1 The overall aim of the Scrutiny Investigation was for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to comment on the draft CYPP as part of the Budget and Policy Framework process for this item.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SCRUTINY INVESTIGATION

- 5.1 The following terms of reference for the investigation were agreed at the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum on 20 December 2005:-

- 1) To consider the appropriateness of the proposed format of the CYPP in relation to the:-
 - a) Full version;
 - b) Summary for adults;
 - c) Summary for young people (This is being prepared with and for young people and because proper engagement and consultation with young people takes a significant amount of time, this may not be complete until the third draft stage. It may not, therefore, be completed in time for Scrutiny to examine it); and
 - d) Availability in other formats.
- 2) To consider and comment on the key aspects of the content of the draft CYPP, in particular:-
 - a) The accuracy of the section on the Hartlepool context;
 - b) The appropriateness of vision statements and key principles; and
 - c) The relevance of the priorities identified in the section dealing with the five Every Child Matters outcomes ('Be Healthy', 'Stay Safe', 'Enjoy and Achieve', 'Make a Positive Contribution', and 'Achieve Economic Well-Being').

- 5.2 It was also agreed that during the Scrutiny Investigation Members should be aware that, although the responsibility for preparing and publishing the plan

lies with the Local Authority, the CYPP is a joint plan, which is being developed in partnership. Consequently, the CYPP will reflect a range of agreements between those involved in the process.

6. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

6.1 The membership of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum was as detailed below:-

Councillors Cambridge, Coward, Fleet, Griffin, Hargreaves, Lauderdale, London, Preece, Richardson, Shaw (Chair) and Wistow

Co-opted Members: Mr F D S Relton, Rev J Smith and Mrs L Barraclough

Resident Representatives: I Campbell and J Smith

Educational Adviser: R Lowe

7. METHODS OF INVESTIGATION

7.1 Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum met formally on 20 December 2005, 7 February 2006 and 7 March 2006 to discuss and receive evidence relating to the Scrutiny Investigation. A detailed record of the issues raised during these meetings is available from the Council's Democratic Services.

7.2 Over the course of the inquiry Members received detailed officer reports supported by verbal evidence. Furthermore, the information presented to the Forum by Council Officers (given the local authority's responsibility for preparing the plan) reflected the partnership working that has been ongoing throughout the development of the CYPP.

8. SCRUTINY FINDINGS

8.1 During the meeting of the Forum on 7 February 2006 the following interim findings/conclusions were reached by the Forum:

- a) Firstly, the Forum welcomed the Second Draft of the CYPP and, in particular, the work that had been carried out 'across the board' in developing the Plan;
- b) The Forum agreed that Hartlepool is doing very well in developing its Plan and is clearly better co-ordinated than other local authorities;
- c) In relation to the format of the Plan the Forum agreed that it was better to produce the Plan with separate documents for each of the five outcomes so that it is easily accessible to people wishing to focus on specific parts

of the plan. Furthermore, it was suggested that HYPE magazine should be looked at as a potential format to enhance accessibility of the document for young people;

- d) It was suggested that it would be useful to highlight the priorities for young people in the summary section of Part 1 of the CYPP *as well* as the overall or combined outcomes/priorities currently listed;
- e) Whilst the town may have a number of facilities that should meet the demands of young people in relation to physical activities the young people themselves are identifying the lack of physical activity as a problem. Consequently, this should be reflected in the 'be healthy' section of the Plan;
- f) The Forum were pleased to see connections with 'hard to reach groups' being developed through the consultation process, in particular through links to outreach workers and the FAST project;
- g) A Member of the Forum questioned how involved parents had been in the process and argued that they should play a substantial role in this. Members were informed that adults had been involved in the process generally and there had been some specific focus on parents. However, given that this was the first time the CYPP has been produced, officers were extremely keen to ensure the focus was on children and young people this time around and they hoped that there would be more parental involvement the next time the plan was produced;
- h) Whilst Members were very pleased with the way that the CYPP document reflected the Children's Act requirements, it was suggested that the Act itself may be neglecting spiritual needs. Consequently, it was suggested that Hartlepool look to develop this strand further in the future;
- i) In terms of the future reporting arrangements of the CYPP Members recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum should examine the Plan twice yearly (once as part of the Budget and Policy Framework Process and once again during the course of the municipal year). It was also suggested that given that the key outcomes of the Plan sit across all the Scrutiny Forum's specific outcomes could be looked at by the most appropriate Scrutiny Forum in the future so that as many Members are involved in the development of, and can take responsibility for, the Plan;
- j) A Member raised the issue of the 'policing' of the Plan and where young people and Elected Members fit in with the accountability of the Plan. The Plan commits partners to work together and each partner has to be accountable for the elements that it leads. Within the Children's Services Department the Planning and Evaluation Group has outcome leads and they are responsible for preparing the Annual Performance Assessment self-review. The Joint Area Review (JAR) process will also police the

Plan and Hartlepool's first JAR is expected in November 2006. Elected Members will monitor the plan twice a year through the Scrutiny process;

- k) It was noted that young people had been involved in developing the Participation Strategy and that the CYPP should be part of this ongoing agenda. In addition, as part of the findings of the Involving Young People Inquiry it was recommended that a Member of this Forum should Chair the Participation Network; and
- l) It was suggested that the CYPP should seek to engage with, and reflect, regional developments and funding opportunities and that an outward focus to the plan was key.

8.2 In addition to the findings highlighted above Members requested further time to consider the Draft CYPP at the meeting of the Forum on 7 February. Furthermore, Members agreed that officers could make a presentation and table a supplementary written report at the meeting based on the public consultation for the CYPP, given the extremely short turnaround time between the end of consultation and the publication of the Plan.

8.3 At the meeting of the Forum on 7 March 2006 the Forum approved the findings outlined in section 8.1 above and made a number of additional recommendations on the basis of the information provided at this meeting, which are outlined below:

- a) Members wished to congratulate the Children's Services Consultant and Children's Fund Manager on the consultation process and the progress that had been made in relation to this. In addition the Forum would welcome comments on how the consultation around the CYPP will develop in the future;
- b) Members felt that it was very important to help boys, who generally don't do as well as girls at school, to do better; and that
- c) Members requested that a paper should be produced outlining the response to each of the points in 8.1 and 8.3, in terms of 'current' and 'future' action, and that this should be produced at the same time as the third draft of the CYPP.

8.4 On 10 March Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee endorsed the findings of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum in relation to the CYPP.

9. CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Members of the Forum expressed their broad support for the development of the second draft of the CYPP. Given that this is the first year that the CYPP has been produced Members were particularly pleased with the development of the Plan in comparison with other authorities. Furthermore, Members made a number of comments, that have been highlighted in section 8 above,

that they would like to see incorporated into the current (where possible – given the tightly defined timetable for the development of the CYPP and the partnership working that has led to the current draft of the CYPP) and future development of the CYPP.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Members are requested to consider the comments of the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum when considering the third Draft of the Children and Young People's Plan.

**COUNCILLOR JANE SHAW
CHAIR OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM**

February 2006

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were consulted or referred to in the preparation of this report:-

- a) Children and Young People's Plan – Second Consultative Draft January 2006.
- b) Scrutiny of the Second Draft of the Children and Young People's Plan – Director of Children's Services 7 February 2006.
- c) Scrutiny of the Draft of the Children and Young People's Plan – Scoping Report - Scrutiny Support Officer 20 December 2005