

# CABINET AGENDA



**1 May 2013**

**at 10.00 am**

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

MEMBERS: CABINET

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond

Councillors Hill, Lauderdale and Thompson

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

**3. MINUTES**

To receive the Record of Decision in respect of the meeting held on 15 April 2013  
(previously circulated)

**4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2013-2014 – *Assistant Director (Children's Services)*

**5. KEY DECISIONS**

- 5.1 Adoption of the Review of the Long Term Coastal Management Strategy Covering the Frontage from Crimdon to Newburn Bridge – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 5.2 Review of Concessionary Fare Payments for Bus Operators for 2013-2014



**6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

None.

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

7.1 Future of European Funding 2014-20 Update – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

**8. REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW OF SCRUTINY FORUMS**

None.



# CABINET REPORT

1 May 2013



**Report of:** Assistant Director (Children's Services)

**Subject:** YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2014

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Budget and Policy Framework.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to present to Cabinet the final draft of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2013-2014 (**Appendix 1**) and seek ratification from Cabinet prior to the Plan being considered by Council in June 2013.

## 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The national Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework is the Youth Justice Board's primary tool for monitoring and securing performance improvement across Youth Offending Services in England and Wales.

3.2 The primary functions of Youth Offending Services are to prevent offending and re-offending by Children & Young People and reduce the use of custody. It is the responsibility of local Youth Offending Services to develop and coordinate the provision of these services for all of those young people in the Local Authority area who need them.

3.3 In recent years Hartlepool has witnessed a significant reduction in youth crime. The local youth justice partnership has been particularly effective in reducing the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time and we are now starting to see a reduction in the rate of crime being committed by those young people who have previously offended.

3.4 The national Framework for monitoring the performance and quality of Youth Offending Services includes a range of elements that work together to improve practice and performance. The framework builds upon the statutory responsibilities for Youth Offending Services established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 through a requirement for all Youth Offending

Services to annually prepare, as part of the local business planning cycle, a local Youth Justice Plan for submission to the Youth Justice Board.

- 3.5 Whilst the local Youth Offending Service partnership can develop its own structure and content of the Youth Justice Plan, national guidance suggests the Plan should address four key areas and it is these areas that will be refreshed to reflect the position for the service going forward:
- Resourcing and value for money - The sufficient deployment of resources to deliver effective youth justice services to prevent offending and re-offending.
  - Structure and Governance - The Plan will set out the structures and governance necessary to ensure the effective delivery of local youth justice services. The leadership composition and role of the multi agency Youth Offending Service Management Board are critical to this.
  - Partnership Arrangements - To demonstrate that effective partnership arrangements are in place between the Youth Offending Service, statutory partners and other local partners that have a stake in delivering youth justice services and that these arrangements generate effective outcomes for children and young people who offend or are at risk of offending.
  - Risks to Future Delivery - To ensure the Youth Offending Service has the capacity and capability to deliver effective youth justice services, identifying risks to future delivery and the Youth Offending Service's partnership plans to address these risks.

#### **4. PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 The planning framework to support the development of the 2013/2014 Youth Justice Strategic Plan has drawn upon the appraisal of the Youth Justice Boards Regional Partnership Manager, the local Youth Offending Service Strategic Management Board alongside the views and opinions of service users, staff and key partners which were established during the recent Youth Justice Peer Review. Alongside the above, the development of the plan has incorporated recommendations from the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Executive Group and the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum. Further to this, the plan acknowledges the role of the Youth Offending Service in taking forward the priorities of the recently elected Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 4.2 The 2013/14 Youth Justice Plan has taken into consideration the changes across the Youth Justice arena following the publication of the Legal Aid, Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 which introduces new measures to ensure that criminal cases run more efficiently, increases the options available for non-custodial sentences and introduces new conditions

designed to help reduce the unnecessary use of secure remands for young people.

4.3 Central to the development of the services proposed objectives for 2013/2014 has been the core functions of the service which are the prevention of offending and re-offending by Children & Young People and to reduce the use of custody

4.4 The planning framework described above has given gives rise to the following priorities for 2013-2014:

- Reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime
- Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system
- Ensure that there are effective arrangements in place for the management of the risk and vulnerability of young people and their families.
- Ensure the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board will be a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.
- Ensure the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board will provide a strategic lead for the service and understands the way in which the service contributes to integrated offender management arrangements, reduction of crime and offending and public protection.
- Ensure the Youth Offending Service Management Team will have clearly defined roles and responsibilities and have a shared vision and purpose to support the effective management of the service and drive up standards and performance.
- Ensure there is a clear understanding across the service of what constitutes effective practice in relation to the prevention and reduction of youth crime and the role of the service within the management of young peoples risk and vulnerability.
- Ensure there is a clear understanding across the service of what 'good looks like' in relation to the development of Youth Justice Assessments, Reports, Plans, Interventions and effective case management arrangements.
- Ensure there is an appreciation of the resources, programmes and specialist expertise available across the service and available resources will be maximised within all planning.

- Ensure practice across the service will be integrated to ensure that young people receive seamless, high quality youth justice services in Hartlepool.
- Ensure all Team Managers and YOS staff will further develop their skills and knowledge in core youth justice effective practice around risk assessment and appropriately targeted intervention aimed at risk reduction.
- Ensure expertise is developed within the service relating to high risk offending behaviour.

4.5 The local Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2013 – 2014 outlines the priorities for the Youth Offending Service to be delivered in the coming year and the Youth Offending Strategic Board has responsibility and oversight for the implementation of the plan.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

5.1 Cabinet is requested to ratify the Youth Justice Plan for 2013 – 2014 prior to the plan being approved at Council in June 2013.

## **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 The development of the Youth Justice plan for 2013 - 2014 has taken into consideration the views and wishes of key stakeholders and as such, will provide the local youth justice partnership with a clear steer to bring about further reductions in youth offending and contribute to the broader community safety agenda.

## **7. APPENDIX AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE**

7.1 **Appendix 1** - Final draft of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2013-2014 is available in the members Library and on-line.

## **8. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

8.2 The Youth Justice Boards: Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework (Guidance for Youth Justice Board English Regions available at: <http://www.justice.gov.uk>).

**9. CONTACT OFFICER**

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- 8.2 Mark Smith, Head of Youth Support Services, Child and Adult Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, level 4, Civic Centre, TS24 8AY. Tel 01429 523405. E-mail [mark.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:mark.smith@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Hartlepool Youth Offending Service**

**Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2013-2014**

**Second Draft**

**Version 2.0**



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## 1 FOREWORD

Welcome to the 2013-2014 Hartlepool Youth Offending Service's Youth Justice Strategic Plan. This plan sets out our ambitions for Youth Justice Services in Hartlepool and how they will contribute to our overarching aspirations for the town, set out in our Community Strategy 2008-20 wherein:

"Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential".

The Youth Offending Service has a key role in contributing to this vision by building upon the success of 2012-2013 through the delivery of high quality, effective and safe youth justice services that prevent crime and the fear of crime, whilst ensuring that young people who do offend are identified and managed appropriately without delay.

In recent years Hartlepool has witnessed a significant reduction in youth crime. The local youth justice partnership has been particularly effective in reducing the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time and we are now starting to see a reduction in the rate of crime being committed by those young people who have previously offended.

Beyond this the service has seen:

- The establishment of the One Stop Shop facility in the centre of the town, as the key point of service delivery which enables the service to provide support to young offenders in a non-stigmatising setting in partnership with broader Youth Support Services.
- The steady increase in the involvement of young people in direct reparation work to the victim, enabling the young people to offer a meaningful apology.
- The re-commissioning of Restorative Justice Services to bring about further improvements in the involvement of victims in youth justice processes and victim confidence and satisfaction.
- The successful recruitment, retention and training of volunteer panel members to secure effective Referral Order Panels.
- The further development of court team arrangements leading to improved relationships with local magistrates.
- The participation of the service in a youth justice peer review to support the service to identify further areas for improvement in relation to the reduction of youth crime.
- The engagement with the newly elected Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure that local youth justice priorities correlate with the commissioners priorities and aspirations for local youth justice services.

In short the Youth Offending Service is continuing to demonstrate its direct contribution to both improving outcomes for young people and making local communities safer and stronger. Whilst recognising the tough financial climate ahead, it is essential that we continue to push forward with improvements to the Service in 2013 - 2014. This plan defines priorities for the Youth Offending Service in the coming year and highlights further areas for improvement.

As always, the Strategic Management Board is extremely grateful for the skill and dedication of our employees in supporting young people who offend or are at risk of becoming involved in offending in Hartlepool.

On behalf of the Youth Offending Service Strategic Management Board I am pleased to endorse the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2013 -2014.

To be signed by YOS Strategic Management Board Chair

## 2 INTRODUCTION

The Hartlepool Youth Justice Plan 2013-2014 sets out the strategic objectives and arrangements to ensure the effective delivery of local youth justice services in Hartlepool.

Youth Justice Services are defined nationally by the Youth Justice Board and include:

- taking steps designed to encourage children and young persons not to commit offences.
- the provision of assistance to persons determining whether reprimands or warnings should be given.
- the provision of reports or other information required by courts in criminal proceedings against children and young persons.
- the provision of support for children and young persons remanded or committed on bail while awaiting trial or sentence.
- the placement in local authority accommodation of children and young persons remanded or committed to such accommodation.
- the implementation of Referral Orders.
- the carrying out functions assigned to the service via the Youth Justice plan formulated by the Local Authority.
- to act in accordance with any guidance given by the Secretary of state

The primary functions of Youth Justice Services are to prevent offending and re-offending by Children & Young People and reduce the use of custody. It is the responsibility of local Youth Offending Services to develop and coordinate the provision of these services for all of those young people in the Local Authority area who need them.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service (YOS) was established in April 2000 following the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. It is a multi-agency service and is made up of representatives from the Council's Children Services, Police, Probation, Health, Education, Community Safety and the local voluntary/community sector directed by the Head of Service. Because the Youth Offending Service incorporates representatives from a wide range of services, it can respond to the needs of young offenders and their families in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

In addition to the services provided to young people in or at risk of entering the Youth Justice System, the service also plays a key role in increasing public confidence in the youth justice system and increasing victim satisfaction through their involvement in restorative and reparative processes, whilst also contributing to broader strategies to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families more generally.

Since its inception Hartlepool Youth Offending Service has been overseen and monitored (like all other Youth Offending Services in the country) by the national Youth Justice Board. The national Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework is the Youth Justice Board's primary tool for monitoring and securing performance improvement across Youth Offending Services in England and Wales. The framework builds upon the statutory responsibilities for Youth Offending Services established under the 1998

Crime and Disorder Act through a requirement for all Youth Offending Services to annually prepare, as part of the local business planning cycle, a local Youth Justice Strategic Plan for submission to the Youth Justice Board.

National guidance suggests the plan builds upon an analysis of local need and developments to address (in line with national requirements) four key areas of provision for Youth Offending Services:

**Resourcing and value for money** – To demonstrate that available resources are being deployed appropriately to deliver effective youth justice services to prevent offending and reoffending.

**Structure and Governance** – To ensure that appropriate structures and robust governance arrangements are in place necessary to ensure the effective delivery of local youth justice services.

**Partnership Arrangements** - To demonstrate that effective partnership arrangements are in place between the Youth Offending Service, statutory partners and other local partners that have a stake in delivering youth justice services and that these arrangements generate effective outcomes for children and young people who offend or are at risk of offending.

**Risks to Future Delivery** - To ensure the Youth Offending Service has the capability to identify risks to future delivery and to determine how best the Youth Offending Service and the broader partnership's can address these risks.

The 2013-2014 Youth Justice Plan is structured to demonstrate how these key areas are delivered in Hartlepool in response to local need and developments and to highlight how the service remains well placed to prevent offending and re-offending by children & young people and reduce the use of custody.

### **3 Local Needs Analysis**

Hartlepool is a small unitary authority on the North East coast of England. The borough as a whole covers 9,386 hectares and is predominantly rural with four distinct villages. The majority of the town's 91,900 people live in the towns central urban area. Approximately 25% of the population are children and young people (under 18) and 10.8% (9905) are aged 10 to17, the Youth Offending Service client group.

Most young people in Hartlepool make the transition to adulthood successfully through a combination of supportive families, good schools, colleges and training providers and access to opportunities for personal and social development outside the classroom along with the vision and belief that they can succeed. Whilst many young people make mistakes along the way and do things they should not do, or wish they had not done, most are able to get back on track quickly with little harm done.

But whilst many young people are thriving, evidence is clear that it is young people from deprived and disadvantaged backgrounds and communities who lack many of the protective factors highlighted above, who are disproportionately at greater risk of involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour and poorer outcomes generally.

Despite significant regeneration over the past twenty years the Index of Multiple Deprivation (2007) indicates that Hartlepool is still ranked as the 23<sup>rd</sup> most deprived out of England's 354 Local Authority districts. Deprivation covers a broad range of potentially life limiting issues and refers to unmet needs caused by the interplay of a number of local factors that impact upon families living conditions such as:

- low Income;
- exclusion from the labour market;
- impairment of quality of life by poor physical and mental health and disability;
- educational underachievement, barriers to progression and a shortage of skills and qualifications amongst adults;
- barriers to accessing key local services and affordable housing;
- low quality of individuals' immediate surroundings both within and outside the home; and
- a prevalence of violent crime, burglary, theft and criminal damage in an area.

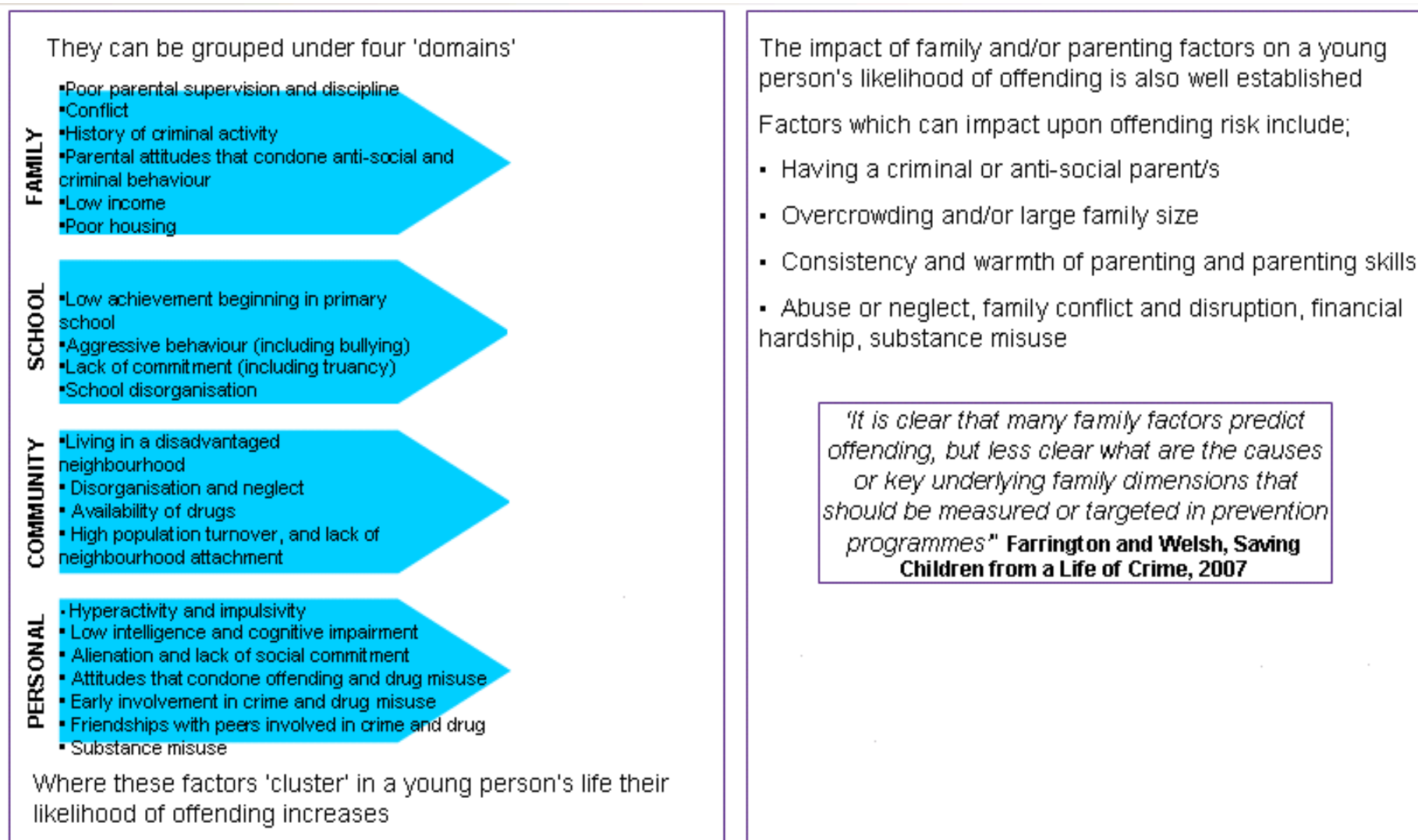
Local analysis of need and outcomes highlights that, whilst there are families who are more resilient to deprivation, the interplay of the above factors clearly places families who are contending with deprivation at a disadvantage. This can significantly limit the



opportunities and outcomes for their children which, in time, will tend to perpetuate a cycle of deprivation and disadvantage due to diminished life chances.

A more detailed analysis of the broader circumstances/factors of families whose children are experiencing difficulties indicates that parenting, parental substance misuse, housing and home conditions, employment issues and domestic violence are often the main factors linked to the prevalence of poor outcomes in local children and young people. It is often the complex interplay of each of these factors that makes problems in some households insurmountable and places the children at significant risk of involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour.

An annual local analysis of the factors that contribute to young peoples offending behaviour highlights that the most prevalent factors are often a combination of the young person's family circumstances, their lifestyle, their misuse of substances and a lack of engagement with education and/or further learning all of which shapes thinking and behaviour (see below).



In spite of the high levels of deprivation that families contend with in Hartlepool the local Youth Justice Partnership has had significant success in recent years in terms of preventing and reducing youth offending behaviour (see below).

<b>YOUTH CRIME - PROVEN OFFENCES</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Total Proven Offences	952	858	703	639	499	374	Data not yet available
Percentage Change +/- from 2006/07		-7.24%	-19.18%	-24.11%	-34.90%	-44.53%	Data not yet available

<b>FIRST TIME ENTRANTS</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Total First Time Entrants	297	271	212	143	101	70	Data not yet available
Percentage Change +/- from 2006/07		-6.44%	-21.04%	-38.12%	-48.51%	-56.19%	Data not yet available

<b>CUSTODY</b>	<b>2006-2007</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>2011-2012</b>	<b>2012-2013</b>
Total Custody	18	16	6	6	10	4	Data not yet available

Percentage Change +/- from 2006/07		-10.00%	-60.00%	-60.00%	-40.00%	-70.00%	Data not yet available
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### Local Youth Crime – Key Characteristics

In 2011/12, Hartlepool Youth Offending Service dealt with a total of 185 young offenders who committed 375 offences. 141 were male and 44 female. This represents a significant 21.6% reduction in offenders and 23.8% reduction in offences on the previous year 2010/11. The table below illustrates the type and numbers of offences committed by young people resident in Hartlepool and the trend over the last six years (these figures will be updated once annual data for 2012/2013 have been verified by the Youth Justice Board).

Grouping	Offence	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	% Change 2006/07 to 2011/12
Breach	Breach of Bail	14	11	8	0	6	4	71% Reduction
	Breach of Conditional Discharge	5	6	6	3	8	10	100% Increase
	Breach of Statutory Order	45	33	28	38	15	26	42% Reduction
Vehicle	Death or Injury by Reckless Driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
	Motoring Offences	87	74	51	73	21	8	91% Reduction
Theft & Burglary	Theft and Handling	215	245	200	140	108	72	67% Reduction
	Vehicle Theft	24	30	12	21	12	4	83% Reduction
	Domestic Burglary	47	35	22	14	11	8	83% Reduction
	Non Domestic Burglary	16	14	25	8	12	10	38% Reduction
	Fraud & Forgery	13	2	1	5	4	1	92% Reduction
	Robbery	4	0	6	4	1	3	25% Reduction
Violence	Racially / Aggravated	8	2	0	3	4	2	75% Reduction
	Sexual Offences	2	3	5	1	3	1	50% Reduction
	Violence Against Person	187	146	117	128	76	72	62% Reduction
Other	Arson	9	8	6	1	3	0	100% Reduction
	Criminal Damage	140	121	109	103	78	64	54% Reduction
	Drugs Offences	13	9	23	22	16	12	8% Reduction

As can be seen the majority of offences committed by young people in recent years tend to be grouped around acquisitive crime and public order offences including violent assaults (often on other young people).

Local intelligence relating to first time entrants into the Youth Justice System underlines that the rate continues to reduce and actually shows a 25% improvement over the comparator for last year. However, reductions are levelling out. In a town the size of Hartlepool, just one change of police officer can lead to a significant difference in how policing around first time entrants is carried out. However, work with the Police to compare figures enabled a match between the Youth Offending Service and Police National Computer for the first time, showing discrepancies around young people in receipt of fixed-penalty notices and the use of a Court Absolute Discharge in a number of cases. In both scenarios, young people are now contacted by the Youth Offending Service to ensure that any future risks or offending behaviour can be ameliorated through support and intervention.

On top of the continuing reductions in the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time, we are now starting to see a reduction in the rate of crime being committed by those young people who have previously offended. Analysis highlights that the service is dealing with a small number of offenders (see below) who repeat offend often in line with broader lifestyle choices relating to substance misuse and the need to generate income to maintain substance misuse levels.

	No of Re-Offences Committed												
	0	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	11	13	20	23
No. of Offenders (Jan to Dec 2012) = 205	141	21	11	11	7	3	2	1	4	1	1	1	1

The Youth Offending Service is in the process of further developing local integrated offender management arrangements to ensure that robust systems that draw upon a range of partners are in place for those young people and their families who are vulnerable to repeat offending.

### **Youth Justice Peer Review**

As part of the new approach to youth justice oversight and devolving accountability to local authorities, the Youth Justice Board in partnership with the Local Government Association has developed a Youth Justice Peer Review programme. The primary purpose of a Youth Justice Peer Review is to help a Youth Offending Service and its partners identify their strengths and to highlight areas for potential improvement in the current provision of youth justice services.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service invited a Youth Justice Peer Review team to visit in late September 2012. The Review team spent three working days on site talking and listening to a wide range of service users, stakeholders and members of the Service.

The main focus of the review was the performance of the Hartlepool Youth Offending Service and broader partnership on the **local rate of proven reoffending**. Attention was also paid to the robustness of quality assurance systems designed to ensure good professional practice.

The Youth Justice peer review found that the Hartlepool Youth Offending Service and broader partnership has a strong commitment

to the care and needs of children and young people. The team noted that the service is well-resourced in terms of the knowledge, skills and experience of the people who work within it and stakeholders and staff have a firm determination to take the Service

forward on a continuing journey of improvement.

However, the Youth Justice Peer Review highlighted that there are several areas for “quick win” improvement which could make a significant impact on service delivery and performance, alongside some broader scope for improvement that the service will need to seek to address in the longer term. The findings of the Peer Review have been incorporated into the annual Youth Justice Action Plan (see Section 8) which will ensure that the Youth Offending Service builds upon the comments received by service users, stakeholders and staff teams to ensure that the service can respond to local need and developments and remains well placed to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people and reduce the use of custody.

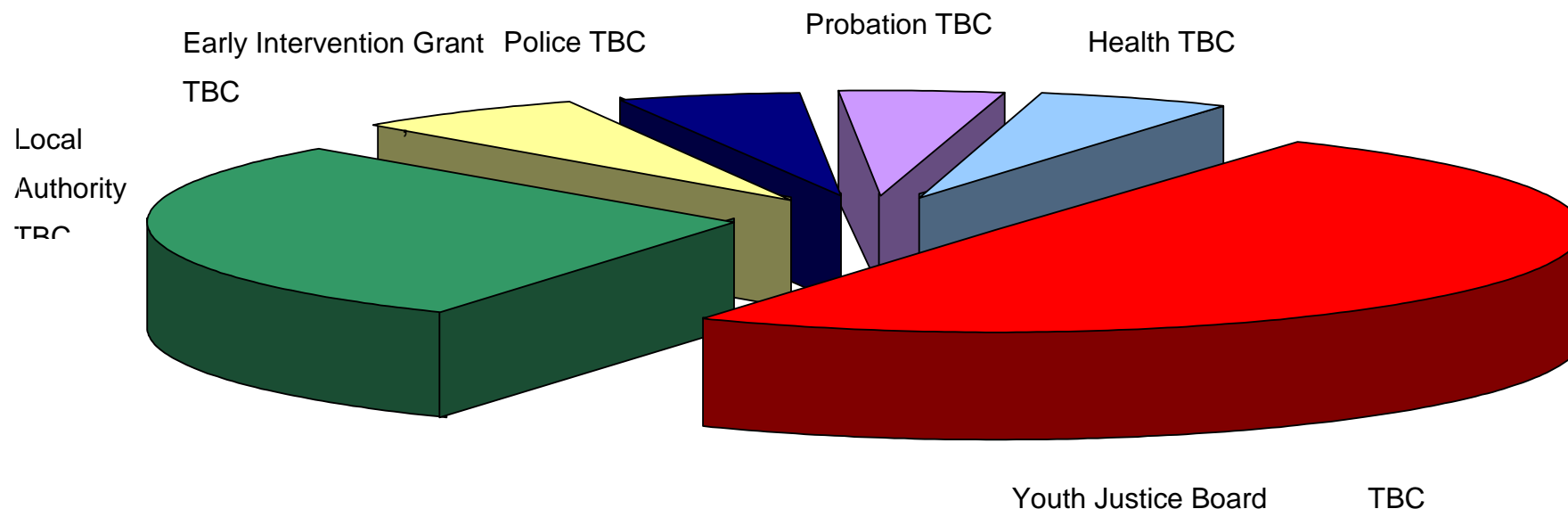
## 4 Resources and value for money

Adequate resourcing and the appropriate use of resources underpin the ability of the Youth Offending Service to deliver high quality services. The Youth Offending Service Budget for 2013/14 has seen a reduction in both the Youth Justice Board funding and contributions across statutory partners and as a consequence is 15.6% less than 2012/2013 at (to be included once confirmed), which includes a 7% reduction anticipated for the Police Crime Commissioner's new responsibilities . The budget is made up of a central grant from the Youth Justice Board and contributions from statutory partners (Health, Children's Social Care, Police and Probation). Hartlepool Borough Council is the major contributor to the partnership budget.





### Youth Offending Service Funding 2012-2013



In preparation for these anticipated reductions the Youth Offending Service has already participated in a series of service wide reviews of resources. The Phase 1 review focused on Management and Case Management arrangements in the Youth Offending Service. The Phase 2 review has considered Youth Offending support services including Intervention Support, Reparation, Education/training services and Referral Panel Co-ordination. Alongside the above reviews the Youth Offending Service is also participating in a broader Local Authority review of Business and Administrative support with a view to generating further savings and efficiencies.

### **Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner**

In 2012-2013 the Home Office diverted part of its funding allocation from Youth Offending Services to Cleveland Police Authority to support the introduction of the Police & Crime Commissioner. This funding has supported youth crime initiatives delivered and/or commissioned throughout Cleveland by the three Youth Offending Services for over 10 years. Cleveland Police Authority took the decision to passport the funding back to each Youth Offending Service for 2012-2013 in order to maintain service delivery. From 2013-2014, the Home Office will divert all its funding from Youth Offending Services in Cleveland to the Newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Youth Offending Services in Cleveland are keen to highlight the importance of the work streams underpinned by the funding and how these are aligned with the strategic priorities outlined in the Police and Crime Plan 2013-2016, particularly the following:

- Ensure a better deal for victims and witnesses
- Divert people from offending, with a focus upon rehabilitation and the prevention of reoffending
- Develop better coordination, communication and partnership between agencies to make the best use of resources

The Youth Offending Services is particularly keen to work with the PCC and Cleveland Police to refresh our approach to new 'out of court' police outcomes for children and young people (in line with the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012) and support new restorative justice initiatives by Cleveland Police and other partners. It is hoped that we can capitalise on these developments to be innovative and creative in the work we do, both collaboratively and retain and enhance the work we do in new and exciting ways.

It is estimated, at this stage, that approx £40,000.00 in funding will be diverted from Hartlepool Youth Offending Service to the Police and Crime Commissioner in 2013-2014. This will be in addition to anticipated reductions in service funding from local and central funding streams. Clearly, without the commitment from the Police and Crime Commissioner to support the Hartlepool Youth Offending Service, there will inevitably be a detrimental impact upon service provision in Cleveland and potential loss of youth justice services and experience. Funding from Police and Crime Commissioner is, therefore, seen as vital in maintaining service delivery and ensuring successful youth justice outcomes are continued.

In spite of the above reductions, Hartlepool Youth Offending Service believes that it has sufficient resources and staff, with the appropriate skills and expertise, to deliver youth justice services in line with National Standards and is committed to having in place a workforce strategy that ensures

- the needs of Youth Offending Service staff are met, and their strengths recognised
- the Youth Offending Service retains its integrity as a successful multi-agency working model, and is not diluted in the process of establishing broader multi-agency structures
- the crucial role of the Youth Offending Service as the balancing point between the children's and criminal justice agenda is asserted
- managers can attract and retain a strong and suitable workforce
- Youth Offending Service staff can access training and development opportunities.
- Youth Offending Service staff have the appropriate knowledge, skills and expertise to deliver high quality and responsive services to young people at risk of offending or reoffending and their families.

The effective and efficient use of resources is also dependent on effective commissioning arrangements. Working through the Children's Strategic Partnership commissioning processes the Youth Offending Service has during 2012/2013 revised the local service specification for Restorative Justice Services and re-commissioned a service that will ensure that Restorative Justice is an important underlying principle for all of our local youth justice disposals, from Final Warnings and Referral Orders to Reparation Orders, Action Plan Orders and Supervision Orders. Hartlepool Youth Offending Service believes that an investment in Restorative Justice is key to supporting the services broader efforts to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people in Hartlepool.

The Youth Offending Service will continue to manage and review existing commissioned services to ensure that commissioned services continue to deliver services in accordance with contractual specifications to improve outcomes for young people, victims and their families.

## **5 Structure and Governance**

### **Governance**

The Youth Offending Service is located within the Prevention, Safeguarding and Specialist Services Division of Child and Adult Services. The Management Board is chaired by a local Chief Inspector and is made up of representatives from Child and Adult Services, Police, Probation, Health, Courts, Housing, Youth Support Services, Community Safety and the local Voluntary and

Community Sector. Effective integrated strategic partnership working and clear oversight by the Management Board are critical to the success and effective delivery of youth justice services in Hartlepool.

The board is directly responsible for:

- determining how appropriate youth justice services are to be provided and funded;
- overseeing the formulation each year of a draft youth justice plan;
- agreeing measurable objectives linked to key performance indicators as part of the youth justice plan'
- ensuring delivery of the statutory aim to prevent offending by children and young people.
- giving strategic direction to Youth Offending Service Manager and Youth Offending Service Team
- providing performance management of the prevention of youth crime and periodically report this to the Safer Hartlepool Executive Group.
- promoting the key role played by the Youth Offending Service within local integrated offender management arrangements.

The Management Board is clear about the priority areas for improvement, and monitors the delivery of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan, performance and prevention work. It is well attended and receives comprehensive reports relating to performance, finance and specific areas of service delivery.

Members of the Board are knowledgeable, participate well in discussions and are members of other related boards, which contribute to effective partnership working at a strategic level. Board meetings are well structured and members are held accountable.

The membership of the Board is as follows:

Steve Jermy Chair	Chief Inspector Cleveland
Mark Smith	Head of Youth Offending and Extended Services for Children and Young People.
Sally Robinson	Assistant Director - Prevention, Safeguarding & Specialist Services Hartlepool Borough Council
Dean Jackson	Assistant Director – Performance and Achievement Hartlepool Borough Council
Lucia Saiger	Director of Offender Services - Durham Tees Valley Trust
Louise Hurst	Deputy YOS Manager
Emma Rutherford	Social Inclusion Co-ordinator
Paul Whittingham	Commissioning Manager NHS
Jean Bell	Deputy Justices Clerk - Teesside and Hartlepool Magistrates; Court
Lindsey Robertson	Community Services Manager for Children and young people North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation
Lynda Igoe	Principal Housing Officer Hartlepool Borough Council

Sally Forth	Community Safety Manager Hartlepool Borough Council
Dave Wise	Chair of the West View Project (Voluntary/Community Sector representative).

The Youth Offending Service Manager and nominated officers from within the Youth Offending Service are members of strategic boards relevant to young people who offend. For example representatives sit on the Criminal Justice Intervention Managers Partnership, 11-19 Strategic Board, Secondary Behaviour and Attendance Partnership, Parenting Strategy Board, Substance Misuse Steering Group, Pupil Referral Unit Management Board, Social Inclusion Strategy Group and Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). The Youth Offending Service is also represented on the Children's Strategic Partnership, Local Safeguarding Children Board, Health and Well-being Board and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

## Structure

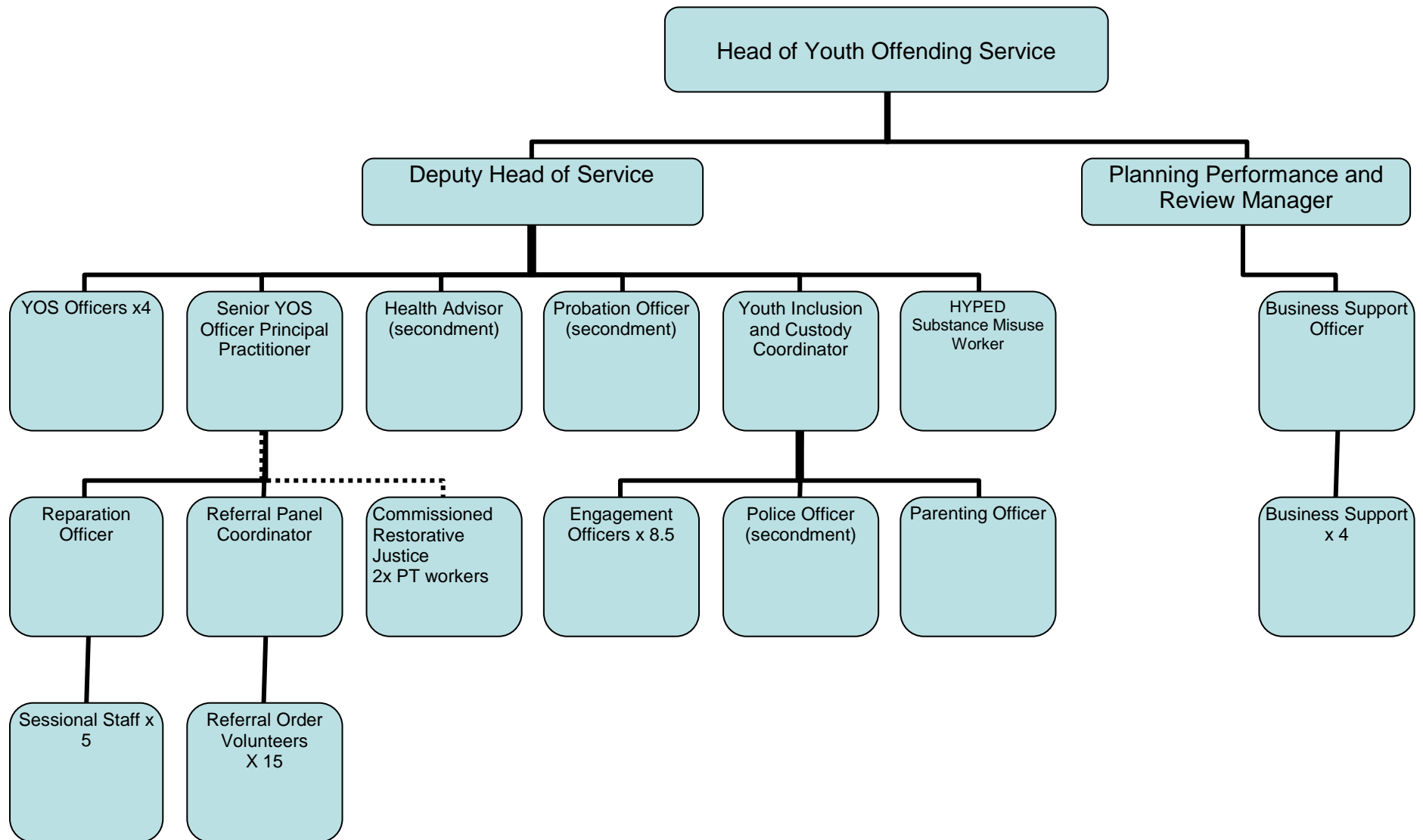
The Youth Offending Service is in the process of undergoing significant service remodelling in response to the findings of the recent Youth Justice Peer Review. Historically the service was organised into two discreet areas; Pre-court and Post-court provision.

Going forward the service is preparing to the development of 'through court arrangements' that will see the majority of the services resources being placed at the point of prevention and diversion with a view to bringing about further reductions in the numbers of first time entrants.

It is envisaged that for those young people who go onto offend, the Youth Offending officer who will have established a relationship and rapport with the young person will be provided with the capacity to support the young person and their broader family through the court process, support any statutory interventions and then go on to provide aftercare with a view to reducing any further offending behaviour.

The Youth Offending Service currently has a staff team of thirty three people, which includes four seconded staff, three commissioned staff and three sessional workers. The service also benefits from a team of twenty two active volunteers who sit as Referral Order Panel members who have recently received refresher training. All staff and volunteers are subject to enhanced CRB checks which are renewed every three years.





## 6 Partnership arrangements

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service is a statutory partnership which includes, but also extends beyond, the direct delivery of youth justice services. In order to deliver youth justice outcomes it must be able to function effectively in both of the two key sectors within which it operates, namely:

- **criminal justice services.**
- **services for children and young people and their families.**

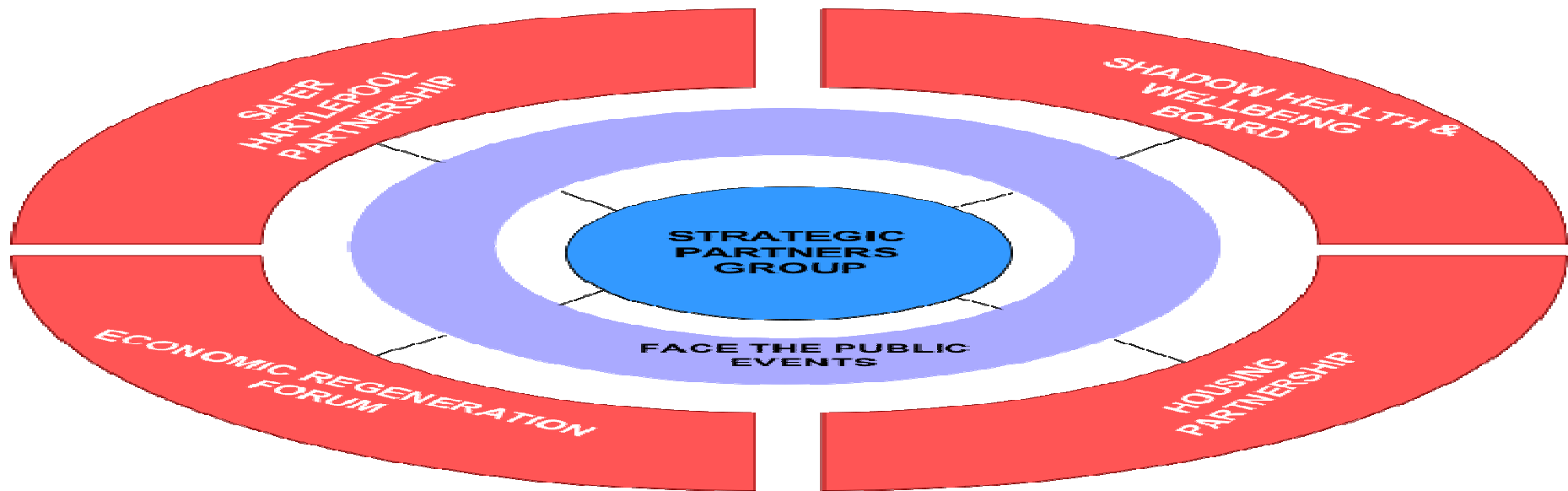
The Youth Offending Service contributes both to improving community safety and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in particular protecting them from significant harm. Working Together to Safeguard Children highlights the need for Youth Offending Services to work jointly with other agencies and professionals to ensure that young people are protected from harm and to ensure that outcomes for local children, young people and their families are improved.

Many of the young people involved with the Youth Offending Service are amongst the most vulnerable children in the borough and are at greatest risk of social exclusion. The Youth Offending Service's multi-agency approach ensures that it plays a significant role in meeting the safeguarding needs of these young people. This is achieved through the effective assessment and management of vulnerability and risk and through working in partnership with other services, for example Children's Social Care, Health and Education to ensure young peoples wellbeing is promoted and they are protected from harm.

In order to generate effective outcomes for children and young people who offend or are at risk of offending the Youth Offending Service has in place effective partnership arrangements and is an important delivery partner for the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership. This close relationship is embedded in Hartlepool's 'Crime, Disorder, and Drugs Strategy' and 'Children and Young People's Plans'.

### **The Hartlepool Partnership**

The Hartlepool Partnership is a network of partnerships that brings together all of the Borough's strategic groups who are developing and delivering local services. It provides opportunities for involvement for a wide range of organisations and individuals in the development and implementation of policy. The Partnership is made up of a Board and a series of Theme Partnerships.



The Partnership works to the Community Strategy 2008 – 2020.

### **Community Strategy 2008 – 2020**

The Community Strategy describes a long-term vision of Hartlepool's ambition and aspirations for the future as follows:

"Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward-looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential"

The Vision is further articulated through a set of aims, outcomes and associated objectives grouped into eight priorities:

1. Jobs and the Economy
2. Lifelong Learning & Skills
3. Health & Well-being
4. Community Safety
5. Environment
6. Housing
7. Culture & Leisure
8. Strengthening Communities

### **Safer Hartlepool Partnership**

The Safer Hartlepool partnership is the statutory body charged with coordinating the activities of its members (including the Youth Offending Service) to work together to keep crime down across the Borough. Members include; Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade, Hartlepool Housing, Hartlepool PCT, Youth Offending Service, Drug Strategy Team, Anti-social Behaviour Unit, Durham and Teesvalley Probation Service and is chaired by the local Mayor.

The Partnership has published its three-year Strategy to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse and reducing re-offending in Hartlepool (2011-2014) which sets out the following priorities:

- Reduce crime and repeat victimisation
- Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
- Create confident, cohesive and safe communities
- Reduce offending and re-offending

Further information about the Safer Hartlepool Partnership can be obtained at <http://www.saferhartlepool.co.uk>

### **Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2020**

The Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2020 is a document which was written on behalf of Hartlepool's Children's Trust and sets out the vision and direction of travel for commissioning and service improvements for the next eleven years to improve outcomes for local children. The Children's Strategic Partnership is the main body which brings together organisations (including the Youth Offending Service) providing services for children, young people and parents and carers.

The Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2020 is structured around five key priorities:

- Tackling Inequalities;
- Narrowing the Gap;
- Eradicating Child Poverty;
- Living Safely;
- Promoting Emotional Well-being.

The Children and Young Peoples Plan is available to download at:

[http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/download/4952/children\\_and\\_young\\_peoples\\_plan](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/download/4952/children_and_young_peoples_plan)

### **The Early Intervention Strategy**

The recent development of the Hartlepool Early Intervention Strategy acknowledges that the best way of dealing with offending and antisocial behaviour is to deliver services to children and young people to prevent them engaging in these risk taking behaviours in the first instance. The key premise of the strategy is to focus more time and money on helping children, young people and their families who are just starting to experience difficulties as opposed to responding at the point of crisis.

The vision is that all children and young people in Hartlepool are able to enjoy a happy, safe and healthy childhood and fulfil their potential. Families will be supported as needs emerge to identify, at the earliest opportunity, what services and support they require to transform their lives.

The vision and strategy are based on a series of principles designed to underpin the provision of prevention and early intervention services. These are:

- Think Family – all partners see their interventions within the context of whole family needs;
- Parents as partners in securing improved outcomes for children;
- A child centred system where the needs of the child are the paramount consideration;
- A commitment to prevention through early intervention;
- Offering children the best start in life;
- Supporting families throughout childhood and adolescence;
- Accessible, local, community based services for families;
- A high quality workforce;

- Commissioning and delivering programmes that work.

The strategy set outs a new model of service delivery that focuses on prevention and early intervention ensuring children, young people and their families receive support in a timely way and tailored to their individual circumstances and it is envisaged that this will significantly support local efforts to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people in Hartlepool and reduce the use of custody.

### **Partnership Working in the Youth Offending Service**

Partnership working across the local statutory and voluntary sector is well established and effective. Relevant partners second the appropriate level of staff and contribute funding to the Youth Offending Service pooled budget. Additional sources of income have been achieved through successful partnership bids to the Youth Justice Board and through the use of the Early Intervention Grant, which supports projects such as prevention, parenting, mentoring, reparation schemes and restorative justice activities.

Service level agreements and protocols are in place with partner agencies for referrals and delivery of appropriate services to young people and their families to meet their needs. For example, a protocol has been developed to secure effective joint working across the Youth Offending and Children's Social Care to:

- promote a common understanding of the statutory duties, roles and responsibilities of each service;
- provide effective joint working between services to support young people and prevent or reduce offending behaviour;



- contribute to improvements in outcomes for children and young people in need, in care, leaving care, at risk of entering or in the youth justice system;
- support the implementation of national initiatives e.g. the Common Assessment Framework.

## **7 Risks to future delivery**

The broader context for this Youth Justice Plan remains the publication of the Legal Aid, Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 which introduces new measures to ensure that criminal cases run more efficiently, increases the options available for non-custodial sentences and introduces new conditions designed to help reduce the unnecessary use of secure remands for young people.

### **New Out Of Court Disposals**

In April 2013 there will be new out of court disposals available. In dealing with any offence committed by a young person under the age of 18, the police will have a new range of options:-

- No further action (NFA)
- Community Resolution (CR, delivered by the Police)
- Youth Caution (Caution, delivered by YOS)
- Youth Conditional Caution (Conditional Caution or YCC, delivered by YOS)
- Charge

There will be no escalatory process (in contrast to the previous Final Warning Scheme) and so the range of options can be given at any stage where it is determined to be the most appropriate action.

It is envisaged that a discussion between the Police and YOS will take place prior to any sanction/disposal being determined to ensure the right decision is reached.

Meetings are currently underway between Cleveland Police and Hartlepool Youth Offending Service to ensure we are fully prepared for implementation and all staff involved are aware of the processes and procedures.

### **The new Remand Framework for Young People**

Through the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012 the Government has made significant reforms to the youth remand framework which is designed to help reduce the unnecessary use of secure remands:

In summary:

- 17 year olds will now be treated as children rather than adults.
- 12 – 17 year olds will be subject to the same secure remand framework as 10-11 year olds and will therefore be treated as a child who is looked after by the designated Local Authority.
- Young people not granted bail, must be remanded to Local Authority Accommodation, unless they are charged with a violent or sexual offence or one where an adult would receive a custodial sentence of 14 years or more.
- Local Authorities will hold the financial responsibility for the funding of all remands to youth detention accommodation (A secure Children's Home; a Secure Training Centre; a Young Offender Institution). Commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012.
- The Local Authority will have all of the duties of care which run alongside such status

- Young people not granted bail, must be remanded to Local Authority Accommodation, unless they are charged with a violent or sexual offence or one where the adult would receive a custodial sentence of 14 years or more (relates to the offence(s) the court is considering now). See Appendix 1.
- Or alternatively they have a recent history of absconding while remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation or bailed to Local Authority Accommodation; are charged with or convicted of an offence which was committed whilst remanded to either of the above and there is the real prospect of receiving a custodial sentence.
- Or have been charged with or convicted of an offence which when taken with previous imprisonable (convicted) offences amounts to a recent history of offences whilst on bail to Local Authority Accommodation or remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation.
- The decision to remand a child will be made by a Court. But Youth Offending Services and Local Authority Social Care teams should be engaged from the earliest opportunity with a view to offering alternatives to remand.
- Where a child is remanded into Youth Detention Accommodation (A secure Children's Home; a Secure Training Centre; a Young Offender Institution) they will not be placed by the responsible LA, rather by YJB Placements (on behalf of the Secretary of State).
- Youth Offending Services will still inform placement decisions via the sharing of assessments of risk and need and NOT COSTS.

- Local Authorities will hold the financial responsibility for the funding of all remands to Youth Detention Accommodation (A secure Children's home; a Secure Training Centre; a Young Offender Institution). Commenced 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012.
- In the case of each child remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation the court must designate a local authority:-
- if the child is already "looked after" by a local authority then the court MUST designate this authority;
- if the child is not already looked after then the court MUST designate either the authority in which the child habitually resides or the authority in which the offence was committed.
- In respect of those children that are remanded to LAA, (not YDA) the local authority will be responsible for placing them and "looking after" them as is the case now.

The incentive for local Authorities is to reduce unnecessary secure remands, and reinvest any savings achieved.

As ever, Hartlepool has been pro-active and has analysed the factors that have led local courts to historically use secure remands. Whilst in some instances the gravity of the alleged offence could be deemed to have merited as secure remand episode, there have also been instances where the lack of a suitable address has been a factor.

To ensure that we have viable robust community bail arrangements in place going forward HBC is looking at the collective commissioning of Remand Foster Carers across the Tees Valley. However, whilst awaiting this process to take effect, we have already trained a local HBC registered Foster Carer to be able to take on the role of Remand Foster Carer and they have since taken on their first remand placement.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service is confident that it has a structure and the staff with the appropriate skills to meet any future demands placed upon it and that the green paper does not conflict with any of the service's existing priorities.

Potential further reductions in core funding and the lack of clarity around grant allocations with subsequent loss of specialist staff and difficulties with recruitment are always areas of concern; however the Youth Offending Service has successfully met these challenges in the past and is well placed to overcome any future problems with the support of a committed, strong Strategic Management Board.

Further to this has been the publication of 'A New Approach to Fighting Crime' (March 2011) which lays out the coalition Government's ambition to introduce the role of the Police and Crime Commissioners who will have responsibility for the local prioritisation of Home Office funding going forward. Hartlepool Youth Offending Service is confident that by working through local partnerships youth justice will continue to remain a key focus within the borough in the coming year and will seek to secure funding via the Police Crime Commissioner to continue to deliver a high quality and effective service to prevent offending and re-offending by children & young people in Hartlepool and reduce the use of custody.

Potential further reductions in core funding and the lack of clarity around grant allocations, with subsequent loss of specialist staff and difficulties with recruitment are always areas of concern; however the Youth Offending Service has successfully met these

challenges in the past and is well placed to overcome any unpredictable future problems with the support of a committed, strong Management Board.

Hartlepool Youth Offending Service intends to work with its partners to continue to drive efficiency within the Service through the delivery of high quality, lean and efficient practices which make maximum use of resources. The Youth Offending Service Partnership will be proactive in addressing risks to ensure it continues to achieve its central aim and this gives rise to the following priorities for 2013-2014:

- Reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime
- Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system
- Ensure that there are effective arrangements in place for the management of the risk and vulnerability of young people and their families.
- Ensure the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board will be a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.
- Ensure the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board will provide a strategic lead for the service and understands the way in which the service contributes to integrated offender management arrangements, reduction of crime and offending and public protection

- Ensure the Youth Offending Service Management Team will have clearly defined roles and responsibilities and have a shared vision and purpose to support the effective management of the service and drive up standards and performance.
- Ensure there is a clear understanding across the service of what constitutes effective practice in relation to the prevention and reduction of youth crime and the role of the service within the management of young peoples risk and vulnerability.
- Ensure there is a clear understanding across the service of what 'good looks like' in relation to the development of Youth Justice Assessments, Reports, Plans, Interventions and effective case management arrangements.
- Ensure there is an appreciation of the resources, programmes and specialist expertise available across the service and available resources will be maximised within all planning.
- Ensure practice across the service will be integrated to ensure that young people receive seamless, high quality youth justice services in Hartlepool.
- Ensure all Team Managers and YOS staff will further develop their skills and knowledge in core youth justice effective practice around risk assessment and appropriately targeted intervention aimed at risk reduction.
- Ensure expertise is developed within the service relating to high risk offending behaviour.
- Ensure that there are robust alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands to custody whilst awaiting trial/sentencing.



The following Action Plan details how these strategic objectives will be taken forward during 2013-2014:

## 8 Youth Justice Action Plan 2013-2014

### Performance in reducing offending behaviour and the use of custody

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
To bring about further reductions in further offending by young people who have committed crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The factors behind young peoples offending behaviour are established and this intelligence is used to inform future service development.</li> <li>Develop, review and improve current interventions to secure bespoke packages of support for young people and their families (including exit strategies and transitions).</li> <li>Work effectively to increase the engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) of young people in the youth justice system.</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>Reviewed Monthly throughout 2013/2014</p> <p>Quarterly throughout 2013/2014</p> <p>Reviewed Monthly throughout 2013/2014</p>	<p>Reduce the re-offending rate from a baseline of 39.8% in 2011/2012.</p> <p>Engagement in education, training and employment by young offenders is raised from an annual baseline of 69.5% in 2010/2011.</p>
Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop, review and improve current interventions to secure bespoke packages of support for young people and their families</li> </ul>	YOS Management Team	Quarterly throughout 2013/2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Time Entrants are further reduced from a Baseline of 93 in 2010/2011.</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
	<p>(including exit strategies and transitions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with Cleveland Police to further develop the pre-court disposals process.</li> <li>• Work effectively to increase the engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) of young people in the youth justice system.</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>Reviewed Monthly throughout 2013/2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Time Entrants are further reduced from a Baseline of 93 in 2010/2011.</li> <li>• Engagement in education, training and employment b young offenders is raised from an annual baseline of 69.5% in 2010/2011.</li> </ul>
Ensure that there are effective arrangements in place for the management of the risk and vulnerability of young people and their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain operational procedures to ensure we are working within guidance issued by MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements).</li> <li>• Review operational procedures to ensure risk and vulnerability are reviewed regularly and that the review of risk and vulnerability remains at the forefront of performance management arrangements.</li> <li>• The Protocol for joint working arrangements between YOS and Social Care is reviewed and updated to reflect local arrangements and best practice.</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk, threats and vulnerability levels to both the young person and/or the broader community are identified and reviewed regularly in line with best practice to support the development of multi agency arrangements to protect individuals and the broader community.</li> <li>• Risk and vulnerability arrangements are reviewed fortnightly via YOS Management Team meetings.</li> <li>• Risk and vulnerability are a key focus of all supervision</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
				<p>meetings with individual YOS staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective joint planning is in place for all young offenders and their families who are supported by Children's Social Care.</li> </ul>
<p>Ensure that there are robust alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands to custody whilst awaiting trial/sentencing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyse historical use of secure remands to understand the circumstances within which Magistrates have chosen this option.</li> <li>• Explore options for the recruitment of Remand Foster Carers including Teeswide sub regional arrangements</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>May 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of secure remands is reduced for cases where community alternatives would be appropriate.</li> </ul>

## Governance, Leadership and Management

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
The Youth Offending Strategic Management Board is a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises YOS performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the membership of the YOS Strategic Management Board to ensure that the Statutory functions specified in the Crime and Disorder Act and associated guidance are fulfilled.</li> <li>Explore whether the board membership could include a young person who has successfully moved on from offending behaviour.</li> <li>Review the Terms of Reference of the YOS Strategic Management Board to ensure that all members understand their role and function as Board Members.</li> </ul>	<p>Chair of the Strategic Management Board</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Strategic Management Board</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>September 2013</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Membership of the YOS Strategic Management Board meets the Statutory functions specified in the Crime and Disorder Act and associated guidance.</li> <li>The business of the Management Board includes the views of young people</li> <li>All Members receive a copy of the Boards revised Terms of Reference to support their understanding of their role and function as Board Members.</li> </ul>
The Youth Offending Strategic Management Board provides a strategic lead for the service and understands the way in which the YOS contributes to integrated offender management arrangements, reduction of crime and offending and public protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that Management Board members have a strong induction programme that includes opportunities to observe YOS practice to develop a clearer understanding of the unique role of the YOS.</li> <li>Ensure Management Board agendas focus on strategic issues that extended beyond the operational performance of the</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Strategic Management Board</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>Ongoing – reviewed at every Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Members participate in an induction programme and participate in at least one observation of YOS practice per year.</li> <li>Every YOS Strategic Management Board agenda to incorporate at least one agenda item that focuses upon a strategic issue that</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
	YOS (such as how educational achievement of young people who offend could be improved).		Meeting	extends beyond the operational performance of the YOS.
The YOS Management Team have clearly defined roles and responsibilities and have a shared vision and purpose to support the effective management of the service and drive up standards and performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The roles and function of the YOS Management Team are reviewed through consultation to establish the appropriate structure for the delivery of effective Youth Justice Services in Hartlepool.</li> <li>New Structure for the YOS Management Team developed.</li> <li>A shared vision for the service is established via service development activities to ensure all Managers and staff understand the purpose of their areas of responsibility and the broader, principles within which they operate.</li> </ul>	<p>Head of Youth Offending</p> <p>Head of Youth Offending</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <p>April 2013</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both managers and staff understand their areas of responsibility and how these compliment the broader service to prevent and reduce youth crime.</li> <li>YOS Management Structure ratified by YOS Management Board and HBC.</li> <li>YOS Management Structure shared with staff during service development activities.</li> <li>There is an increased use of the programmes available across the service within the intervention plans for all cases to ensure that internal resources are maximised.</li> </ul>

## Effective Practice

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
There is a clear understanding across the YOS of what constitutes effective practice in relation to the prevention and reduction of youth crime and the role of the service within the management of young peoples risk and vulnerability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective practice in relation to the prevention of youth crime to be established by visiting high performing services, and through the review of existing and emerging national Youth Justice Board resources to inform an internal review of current practice. This needs to ensure that levels of intervention are based upon the Youth Justice Boards scaled approach and that individual interventions are linked to criminogenic factors.</li> </ul>	YOS Management Team	May 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report produced to share learning and recommendations from high performing area(s) with YOS Management Board and broader service.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective practice in relation to the management of risk and vulnerability to be established by visiting high performing services, and through the review of existing and emerging national Youth Justice Board resources to inform an internal review of current practice. This needs to ensure that the services role in the management of risk and vulnerability does not supersede the core youth offending role of preventing offending.</li> </ul>	YOS Management Team	May 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report produced to share learning and recommendations from high performing area(s) with YOS Management Board and broader service.</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A review of YOS and Social Care roles and responsibilities is undertaken to establish how processes and practice can be integrated to further improve the joint management of risk and vulnerability in relation to young people at risk of or convicted of crime.</li> </ul>	YOS Management Team	May 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear protocols are established to guide how risk and vulnerability will be jointly managed by YOS and Social Care in relation to young people at risk of or convicted of crime.</li> </ul>
There is a clear understanding across the YOS of what 'good looks like' in relation to the development of Youth Justice Assessments, Reports, Plans, Interventions and effective case management arrangements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robust quality assurance arrangements and processes to be established by visiting high performing services, and through the review of existing and emerging national Youth Justice Board resources to inform an internal review of current quality Assurance arrangements and processes.</li> <li>Templates are developed that establish service expectations relating to the standard, quality and depth of Youth Justice Assessments, Reports and Plans.</li> <li>An annual plan is developed to enable specific areas of practice to be scrutinised and reviewed at least annually (e.g. Intervention Plans).</li> </ul>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report produced to share learning and recommendations from high performing area(s) with YOS Management Board and broader service.</li> <li>Robust quality assurance arrangements introduced via Team Meetings and Development activities,</li> <li>Templates introduced via Team Meetings and Development activities,</li> <li>Court Feedback Sheets demonstrate a consistent appreciation of the Court Reports by the Bench.</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
There is an appreciation of the resources, programmes and specialist expertise available across the YOS and available resources are maximised within all planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance data relating to the effectiveness of YOS programmes is regularly reviewed and shared across the service to establish and inform practice.</li> <li>• Clear guidance to be established regarding the consideration of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restorative Justice</li> <li>• Parenting Support</li> <li>• Deter Young Offenders Programme</li> <li>• Health including Substance Misuse</li> <li>• Education, Training and Employment support</li> <li>• Broader Family Support</li> <li>• Positive Activities</li> <li>• After Care</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>For all young people who are either subject to a court disposal or receiving support re risk of offending to support the prevention of offending and reoffending.</p>	<p>YOS Management Team</p> <p>YOS Management Team</p>	<p>Monthly throughout 2013-2014</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A report on performance across the service is included in all YOS Team meetings.</li> <li>• Clear written expectations are developed and shared with the service through Team Meetings.</li> <li>• Use of the programmes available across the service are considered within the intervention planning for all cases to ensure that internal resources are maximised.</li> </ul>



Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
Practice across the service is integrated to ensure that young people receive seamless, high quality youth justice services in Hartlepool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The roles and functions of the YOS staff teams are reviewed to establish the appropriate structure for the delivery of integrated and effective Youth Justice Services in Hartlepool.</li> <li>New Structure for the delivery of Youth justice Services developed via consultation with staff, young people, partners and stakeholders.</li> </ul>	Head of Youth Offending	<p>April 2013</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Structure All staff understand their areas of responsibility and how these compliment the broader service to prevent and reduce youth crime.</li> <li>New Structure ratified by YOS Management Board and Hartlepool Borough Council.</li> <li>New Structure implemented.</li> </ul>

## Workforce Development

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
All Team Managers and YOS staff develop skills and knowledge in core youth justice effective practice around risk assessment and appropriately targeted intervention aimed at risk reduction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance relating to the use of the Youth Justice Interactive Learning Space are developed to raise knowledge and standards across the service in relation to key areas of Youth Justice effective practice and in particular: risk assessment and appropriately targeted intervention aimed at risk reduction.</li> </ul>	YOS Principle Practitioner	April 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hartlepool Youth Offending Service register with Youth Justice Interactive Learning Space.</li> <li>Key modules identified and prioritised to support staff development.</li> <li>Use of the Youth Justice Interactive Learning Space is monitored via YOS Principle Practitioner.</li> </ul>
Expertise is developed within the service relating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the review of staff roles and functions a Training Needs</li> </ul>	YOS Management Team	April 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training needs across the service are identified.</li> </ul>

Objectives	Actions	Responsible Officer and Resources	Timeline	Performance Monitoring and Indicators
to high risk offending behaviour.	Analysis is undertaken to establish gaps in knowledge with particular priority given to the procurement of training related to high risk offending behaviour.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate training is procured via HBC Workforce Development Team.</li> <li>• All staff within the Post Court Team participate in training relating to high risk offending behaviour during 2013.</li> </ul>

# CABINET REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> May 2013



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** ADOPTION OF THE REVIEW OF THE LONG TERM COASTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGY COVERING THE FRONTAGE FROM CRIMDON TO NEWBURN BRIDGE

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## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

- 1.1 Key Decision (test i and ii applies). Forward Plan Reference Number RN34/12.

## 2.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To update Cabinet regarding the outcomes of the 'Review of the Headland Strategy' and request formal adoption of the strategy.
- 2.2 To inform Cabinet of the coastal protection schemes borne out of the study and identify potential requirements for future funding from both internal and external sources.

## 3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The 2007 Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2) from the River Tyne to Flamborough Head concluded that the detailed long-term coastal defence management plan for North Sands through to Newburn Bridge was to 'Hold the Line'. SMP2 was adopted by the Council at Cabinet on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007.
- 3.2 The original Headland Strategy Study commenced in 2000 and was completed in 2006.
- 3.3 The Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods and Communities gave approval to procure specialist consultancy services for the Review of the Headland Strategy Study on a performance / price basis on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

- 3.4 The tender for the Headland Strategy Study Review was sent out on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and was received at Contract Scrutiny Committee on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Mott MacDonald were subsequently appointed as the preferred consultant.
- 3.5 The Environment Agency provided a 100% grant to cover the cost of this study with an approximate value £380,000.
- 3.6 The review study commenced in January 2011 and is expected to go to the Environment Agency's Large Project Review Group for Formal Approval in June 2013.

#### **4.0 STUDY PROCESS**

- 4.1 The Headland Strategy Study covers a frontage that runs from North Sands at its northern extents down to Newburn Bridge in the southern extremity and covers SMP2 Management units 11 and 12 as shown in Appendix A.
- 4.2 The brief prepared by officers from the Councils Engineering, Design and Management team required that the Strategy be produced in 3 stages as follows:-

##### **Stage A – Condition and Performance Assessment**

Stage A of the study reviewed the condition and performance of the existing coastal defences over the study frontage for the next 100 years. This included the collation of existing data and a number of site investigations to assess the condition of the existing defences. The key components of the Stage A process were:

- Engagement of key stakeholders and consultation;
- Review of existing defence management policies set by the SMP2;
- A detailed visual inspection of the defences;
- Detailed topographical surveys and aerial photography to produce a three dimensional ground model;
- Detailed dive surveys for an assessment of the structures underwater (Victoria Harbour);
- Significant ground investigations including trial pits, boreholes, coring, sampling and testing of the walls;
- Computer modelling of the key coastal processes;
- Assessment of the current condition of the coastal elements and prediction of future performance.

##### **Stage B – Technical and Environmental Assessment**

Stage B of the study developed and appraised the management options for the coastal defences along the study frontage. The key components of the Stage B process were:

- Development of strategic objectives (in line with SMP2);
- Assess what happens if we “Do Nothing”;
- Review and appraise the economic, environmental and technical implications of relevant coastal defence options;
- To recommend a preferred option for long-term (100 years) strategic management of the coastline.

### **Stage C – Strategy Appraisal Report (Star)**

Stage C details the preferred long-term strategy to be adopted and sets out the business case for the short term (and emergency), medium and long term coastal works in order that funding may be sought from the Governments Flood Defence Grant in Aid Budget (FDGiA) and other beneficiaries.

## **5.0 STUDY OUTCOMES**

- 5.1 The selection of a preferred strategy was based on an assessment of economic viability, environmental impacts and technical feasibility. For the benefit of the strategy the study broke down the coastal frontage into distinct areas and labelled these ‘*Strategy Units*’ as detailed below;

- I. North Sands (SU-A);
- II. Headland (SU-B);
- III. Block Sands (SU-C);
- IV. Town Wall ( SU-D);
- V. Victoria Harbour ( SU-E);
- VI. Middleton Strand (SU-F);
- VII. Marina (SU-G);
- VIII. South Pier to Newburn Bridge (SU H);

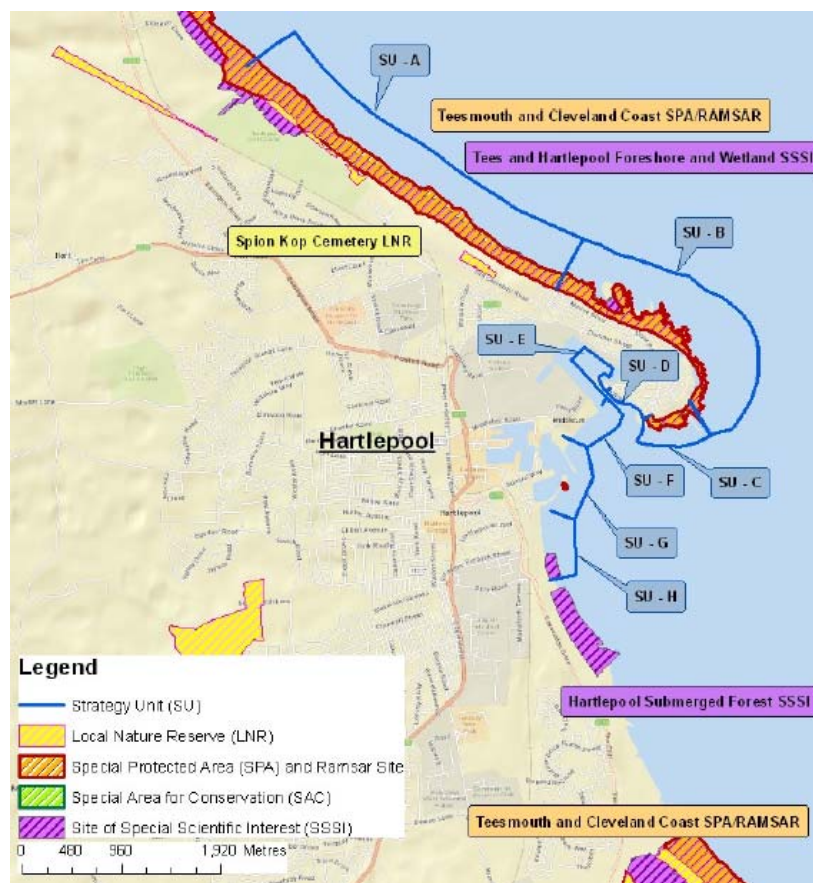


Figure A- Strategy Units

- 5.2 The Strategy Review has identified that the study area is subjected to significant pressure from wave attack and erosion. The majority of the existing coastal defences (seawalls, piers, and revetments) are in very poor condition and without continuous ongoing maintenance or improvement they will fail, exposing an unprotected coastline. This failure coupled with a continued reduction in beach and wave cut platform levels are threatening the integrity of the defences. The beaches and wave cut platform, particularly at SU-B have previously protected the toe by dissipating wave energy but erosion over time has reduced the effective performance of this defence mechanism.
- 5.3 A reduction in the effectiveness of the wave cut platform has also increased overtopping at SU-B, which in turn poses significant safety risks. A combination of both vulnerable life expired defences and increasingly severe wave conditions could result in catastrophic / accelerated shoreline retreat and potential release of fill material onto an environmentally designated section of coastline. Ultimately without significant capital works; properties, infrastructure, services, historical and cultural assets may all be at risk of coastal erosion over the next 100 years should no action be taken.
- 5.4 Modelling based on a 'Do Nothing' scenario predicted that a total of 951 residential and commercial properties will be lost in Strategy Units B, C, G and H by year 100. As well as the above property numbers the table below

identifies other infrastructure, services and assets of historical importance that will be lost over the next 100 years should a 'Do Nothing' approach be adopted.

Strategy Unit	Issues	Condition/ Residual Life	Assets at Risk
A) North Sands	Dynamic area of accretion/ erosion. Monitoring being undertaken.	Conditions vary from healthy/stable/well vegetated sand dunes/cliffs to made ground (undisturbed and compacted).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spion Kop Cemetery</li> <li>• Spion Kop LNR</li> <li>• Approved development at Britmag</li> </ul>
B) Headland	<p>Potential undermining and overtopping damages.</p> <p>Maintenance spend unsustainable – defences needed to protect the Headland</p>	Generally poor condition of walls, significant areas with zero residual life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic Gun Battery- Scheduled Ancient Monument- potential loss of heritage/cultural assets.</li> <li>• Residential properties- 396 lost over 100 years</li> <li>• Recreation and tourism amenity</li> <li>• Old Priory Archaeological site</li> <li>• Lighthouse and memorial</li> <li>• Town Moor</li> </ul>
C) Block Sands	Sheltered in lee of Heugh Breakwater. Still vulnerable to southerly waves. Maintenance spend unsustainable. Potential amenity value of frontage.	Good condition of defences in lee of Heugh Breakwater but rest of Strategy Unit has zero residual life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential properties- 136 lost over 100 years.</li> <li>• Recreation and tourism amenity</li> <li>• Northumbrian Water sewage works- currently being upgraded.</li> <li>• Water, electricity and gas mains assets.</li> </ul>
G) Marina	North Pier suffers overtopping and erosion. Long defence to maintain but without it marina access not possible by boat.	Most defences have some residual life – only Inner Marina section and the inner side of the North Pier have no residual life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential/commercial properties – 358 lost in 100 years.</li> <li>• Recreation and tourism amenity</li> <li>• Important road junctions</li> <li>• Main frontage of the Marina including the North Pier and Marina entrance.</li> </ul>
H) South Pier to Newburn Bridge	Rock structure from the South Pier to Newburn Bridge is robust in short-medium term.	Defences are in good condition. Only maintenance required in long term.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential properties- 61 lost over 100 years.</li> <li>• The Sunderland to London Kings Cross railway line.</li> <li>• Newburn Bridge</li> <li>• The A178 (between Hartlepool and Seaton Carew).</li> </ul>

## 6.0 STUDY CONCLUSIONS

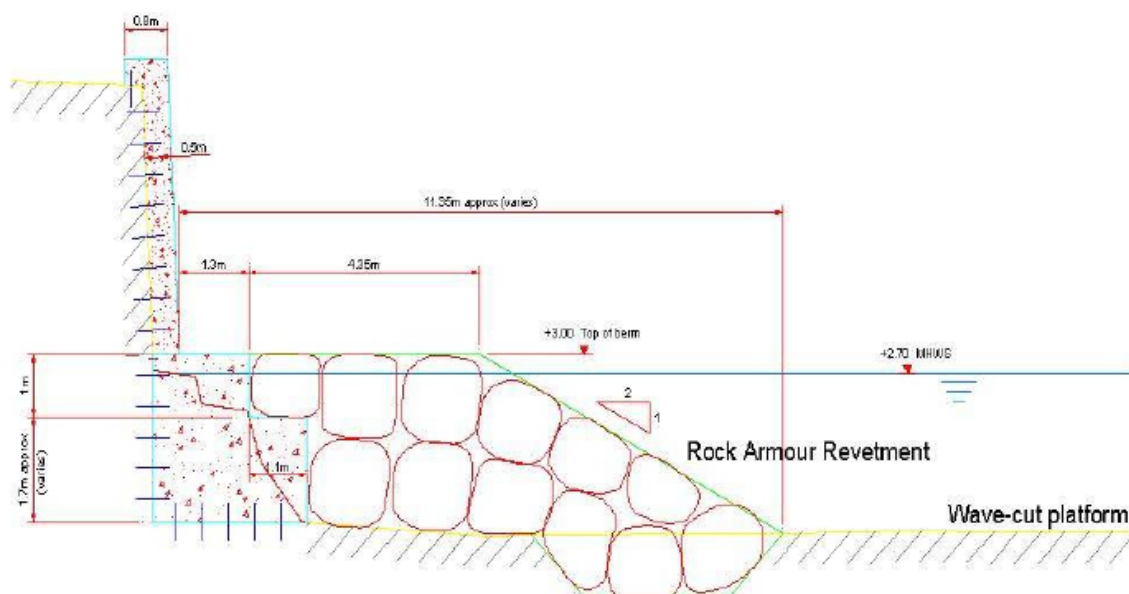
6.1 The study concluded that capital works are required for the Strategy Units B, C and G. The remaining structures within the study frontage have significant residual life remaining and the current monitoring and maintenance programme is considered sufficient. The capital works proposed are detailed below.



Headland (SU-B)

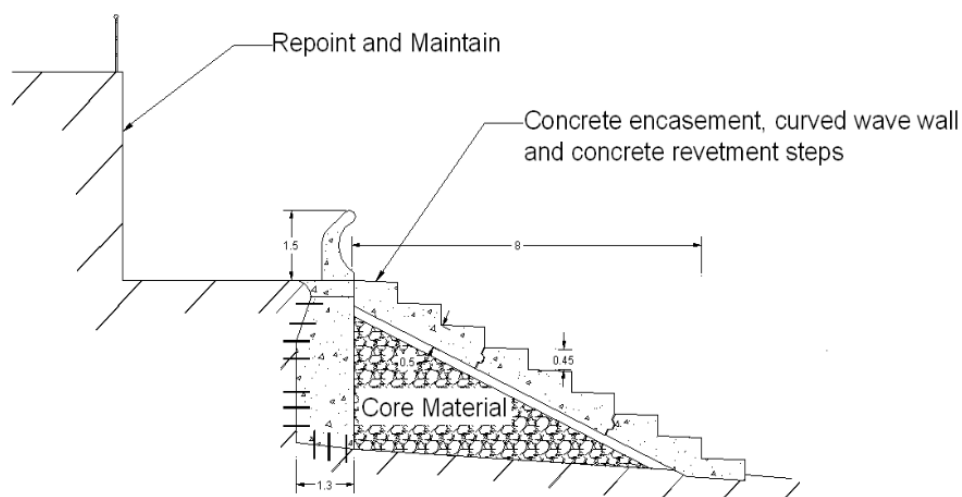
Short Term Plan (0-5 Years) - The preferred option for Unit B is a low level rock revetment. This feature will dissipate wave energy and reduce overtopping risks by installation of rock boulders. By opting for this option any requirement to increase the wall height is negated and Hartlepool Borough Councils long-term maintenance burden is significantly reduced for this section.

Medium Term Plan (10-30 years) - No capital works and minimum maintenance anticipated.

Block Sands (SU-C)

Short Term Plan 0-5 Years - The preferred option for the Block Sands area is a concrete encasement of the existing sea wall and the construction of a new curved wave return wall on top, taking the new wall height to the height of the existing railings. Concrete revetment steps will then be constructed in front of the sea wall. By adopting this option substantial protection to the existing seawall will be achieved and the risk of overtopping onto the promenade will be mitigated. The stepped revetment units will have a dual function of dissipating wave energy impacting on the lower wall while increasing access to the beach; a benefit that was supported by the public.

Medium Term Plan (10-30 years) - No capital work, minimum maintenance to existing walls either side of the proposed works.



### Town Wall (SU-D)

Short Term Plan (0-5 Years)- Phase one of the Town Wall scheme involved toe protection to the existing Town Wall and the reinstatement of the beach groynes which were in a state of disrepair. This work started in July 2012 and was substantially completed in October 2012. Phase one cost a total of £650k.

Phase two -the construction of a set back wall - A separate Report (ref RN39/12) is currently being prepared for approval of the Town Wall Set Back Wall detailed scheme.

The total cost for both phases of work is £1.5million which has been fully funded by the Environment Agency.

Medium Term Plan (10-30 years) - No capital works and minimum maintenance anticipated.



*Installation of beach groynes.*



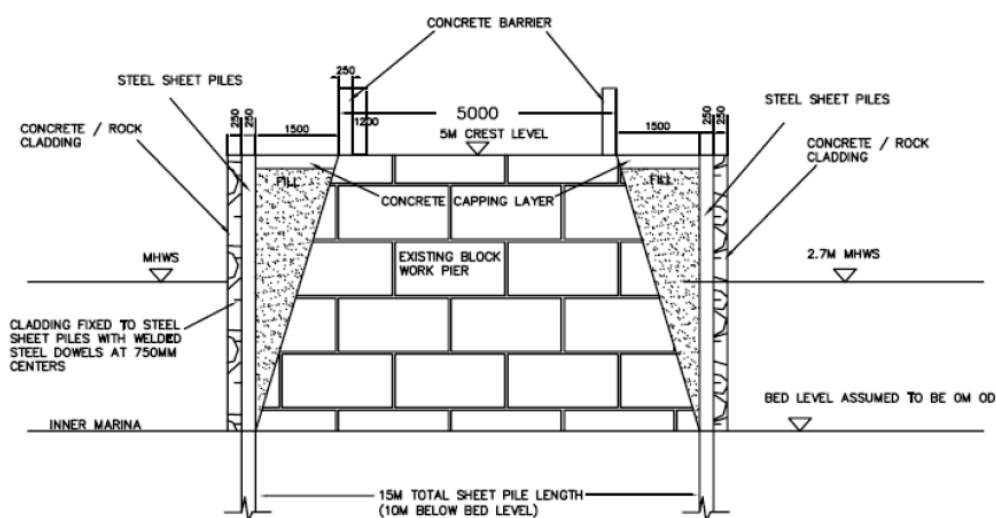
*Proposed setback wall.*

Marina (SU-G)

Short Term Plan (0-5 Years)- The extent of Strategy Unit G incorporates both the North and South Piers. The condition survey and the recent repair works undertaken by Hartlepool Borough Council (comprising pointing and breach repairs) to the north of the Marina entrance highlight the sensitivity of the structures in this area. Current modelling undertaken highlights a significant increase in wave energy within the Marina if the North Pier is lost. The Strategy Study has identified that within the next 10 years capital works will be required along the North Pier. If this capital work is not undertaken then the Marina becomes exposed and this would in turn require capital works.

The preferred option for the North Pier is to upgrade the inner and outer faces through the installation of sheet piling and placement of a fill material in the resulting void. A capping structure would be used to protect the fill and ensure integrity of the whole structure. The face of the piles would then be clad in either concrete or rock as shown in the example below. This option increases structural integrity and reduces overtopping rates to the structure.

Medium Term Plan (10-30 years) - No capital works and minimum



maintenance.

*Typical cross section for proposed option at SU-G.*



*Typical finish on stone clad sheet piles.*

## 7.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 As part of the Strategy the following key consultation milestones were undertaken;

Consultant Event	Date
1 <sup>st</sup> North Hartlepool Coastal Focus group meeting	20 <sup>th</sup> April 2011
2nd North Hartlepool Coastal Focus group meeting	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2011
Option appraisal workshop with HBC, PD Ports, Natural England and the Environment Agency	July 2011
1st public exhibition	6 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
2nd public exhibition	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2011
3rd public exhibition	5 <sup>th</sup> July 2012
Consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment scoping report	13 <sup>th</sup> October to 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2011
Consultation on the interim Strategic Environmental Assessment report	10 <sup>th</sup> April to 8th May 2012
Consultation the final Strategic Environmental Assessment report	23 <sup>rd</sup> November to 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
Water Framework Directive report	10 <sup>th</sup> April to 8th May 2012
Habitats Regulations Appraisal- screening assessment	10 <sup>th</sup> April to 8th May 2012
Habitats Regulations Appraisal- appropriate assessment report	23 <sup>rd</sup> November to 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2012

## 8.0 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The adoption of a Strategy is a critical step in the management of Hartlepool's coastal defences which are necessary to manage risks to people, property and assets of cultural / environmental importance.
- 8.2 At SU-A there is significant uncertainty in the current and future evolution of the dynamic dune system. Continuation of monitoring is required to gain a better understanding of potential changes along the frontage over the next 5 years and beyond. In the meantime it is recommended that works carried out at the Britmag redevelopment include the planned dune stabilisation and the long stop revetment to protect residents against any future potential changes in dune extent.
- 8.3 At SU-B there are significant risks of seawall collapse due to undermining of the toe; this will only worsen in time with reduced beach levels and wave cut platform lowering. Significant sections of the structure have zero residual life and are vulnerable to collapse, potentially releasing fill material behind the walls onto to the designated platform. Routine maintenance is undertaken by Hartlepool Borough Council; however maintenance spend will become

unsustainable with sea level rise and increased storminess; a permanent long term solution needs to be implemented.

- 8.4 Northumbrian Water are currently upgrading sewer infrastructure assets along the SU-C frontage which will serve the entire Headland community. Continuous protection along the frontage and specifically at the location of these new works is required to reduce the risk to the sewerage assets, which if disturbed would cause significant disruption, damage to property, a public health and safety risk and potential detrimental impact on the local marine environment.
- 8.5 At SU-G if the North Pier failed it would limit vessel access to the Marina and expose the inner Marina walls to wave attack. If these inner walls failed the local economy and community including restaurants, bars and local flats could all be exposed. This area is made ground, if exposed the potential retreat of the frontage could accelerate, with exposure of the town behind. The stability of the North Pier is therefore vital to the protection of the entire area.
- 8.6 Hartlepool is ranked as the 24<sup>th</sup> most deprived out of the 354 British Local Authorities. The frontage is a key 'action zone' which influences the regeneration and development of the whole town. Key areas of historical heritage include: the Headland Conservation Area and the Heugh Gun Battery a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) (the only remaining UK World War One Gun Battery). The Historic Quay and HMS Trincomalee within the Marina are also major Historical / cultural assets, enjoyed by locals and tourists. All of these sites are potentially at risk of erosion if the recommendations of the Strategy Study are not adopted.
- 8.7 Large areas of the frontage are designated environmental sites most notably the Teesmouth and Cleveland's Special Protection Area (SPA). The frontage is home to a variety of bird feeding, nesting and breeding sites. With sea level rises some of this area will become inundated and will cease to be a habitable zone.
- 8.8 The combination of both vulnerable life expired structures and increasingly severe wave conditions with climate change could result in defence failure and catastrophic / accelerated shoreline retreat. Ultimately without significant capital works, **951** properties (a significant proportion in deprived areas) as well as infrastructure, services and historical and cultural assets will all be at risk of coastal erosion over the next 100 years with a total present value of £150 million. Loss of key assets could also impact tourism and regeneration.

## 9.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 The table below presents the estimated spend profile of the preferred Strategy options in the short term. Costs shown are the total cash costs of the options and are not adjusted to take account of external financial

contributions. While this study has been progressing only minimum reactive maintenance has been undertaken to pre-empt the requirement for a capital schemes. Please note this report is not a request for funding.

Costs (£k)	Year 13/14	Year 14/15	Year 15/16	Year 16/17	Year 17/18	Future Year	Total
<b>Headland (SU-B)</b>							
Capital	0	80 (PAR)	4,800	0	0	12,975	17,855
Non Capital/ Revenue	42	42	42	42	42	1,013	1,265
<b>Block Sands (SU-C)</b>							
Capital	0	40 (PAR)	593	0	0	518	1,151
Non Capital/ Revenue	25	25	25	25	25	3,088	3,238
<b>Marina (SU-G)</b>							
Capital	0	0	0	95 (PAR)	3,548	4,362	8,005
Non Capital/ Revenue	114	114	114	114	114	10,482	11,167

- 9.2 The *Headland (SU-B)* currently has £3.55million allocated from the EA's Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and £300,000 from the Local Levy Fund. This scheme requires an estimated £950,000 of which £500,000 will be pursued from external contributors. The remaining £450,000 will be potentially required through prudential borrowing. The £80,000 in year 14/15 will be separately funded in full by the EA.
- 9.3 The *Block Sands (SU-C)* currently has £593,000 allocated from the EA's FDGiA. External contributors are also being sought for this scheme to reduce the EA's contribution. Should there be a shortfall in funding HBC will be required make up the difference through prudential borrowing. The £40,000 in year 14/15 will be separately funded in full by the EA.
- 9.4 The works to the area *Marina (SU-G)* most notably North Pier have been estimated to cost £3.5million. The option to upgrade North Pier performs positively in the benefit cost assessment and it is likely to attract EA funding however additional funding would be required from both HBC and external contributors.
- 9.5 Financial contributions are actively being pursued and are critical for the implementation of the proposed works along the frontage of the study. While the majority of funding is expected to come from the EA's FDGiA budget and external contributions an estimated £600,000 may be required from HBC. HBC's contribution could be achieved through prudential borrowing, funded from savings to the coast protection budget.
- 9.6 The figures quoted in section 9.1 will be confirmed during detailed Project Appraisal Reports (PAR) at which state additional reports will be submitted

detailing whether HBC contributions are required and how they could be funded.

## 10.0 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 The scheme proposed in SU-B involves construction on a section of wall currently owned and maintained by PD Ports. These works will need to be covered by a legal agreement with PD Ports regarding the construction work and future maintenance. These negotiations are currently ongoing.
- 10.2 Under Section 4 of the Coast Protection Act 1949 the Local Authority has a duty to protect the coast against erosion and encroachment of the sea. The adoption of a Strategy is a key requirement in fulfilling this duty.

## 11.0 PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION

- 11.1 The table below outlines provisional dates for implementation of the proposed schemes.

Activity	Date
<b>SU- B: Headland</b>	
Commence detailed appraisal	2013/2014
Approval	2014
Construction start	2014/2015
Construction completion	2014/2015
<b>SU- C: Block Sands</b>	
Commence detailed appraisal	2013/2014
Approval	2014
Construction start	2014/2015
Construction completion	2014/2015
<b>SU- G: Marina</b>	
Commence detailed appraisal	2015/2016
Approval	2016
Construction start	2016/2017
Construction completion	2017/2018

## 12.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 It is recommended that Cabinet adopt the Headland Coastal Strategy Review and note the progress made on implementation of the necessary capital schemes and the requirement to secure both internal and external funding.

## 13.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 To ensure that a strategic long-term management plan is in place for the continued defence of the northern frontage of Hartlepool.

#### **14.0 APPENDICES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST, IN THE MEMBERS LIBRARY AND ON-LINE**

- 14.1 The relevant background information associated with this study is available on [www.hartlepoolcoastal.com](http://www.hartlepoolcoastal.com).

#### **15.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS (AVAILABLE ON REQUEST)**

- Strategy Study Review for North Sands to Newburn Bridge incorporating Hart Warren Stage A Report.
- Strategy Study Review for North Sands to Newburn Bridge incorporating Hart Warren Stage B Report.
- Strategy Study Review for North Sands to Newburn Bridge incorporating Hart Warren Stage C Report
- Shoreline Management Plan 2

#### **16.0 CONTACT OFFICER**

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Appendix A





# CABINET REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> May 2013

**Report of:** Director Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** REVIEW OF CONCESSIONARY FARE PAYMENTS  
FOR BUS OPERATORS FOR 2013-2014

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## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key Decision test (i) and (ii) Applies. Forward Plan Reference No RN 40/12.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To report the proposed re-imbursement arrangements with local bus operators for concessionary fares to be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 inclusive.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) came into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. Holders of a ENCTS concessionary pass are entitled to travel on buses free of charge between 9:30am and 11:00pm on weekdays and at any time at weekends anywhere in England. Under the Concessionary Bus Travel Act 2007 local enhancements are allowed, for example, removal of restrictions on the time of travel and use of companion passes.
- 3.2 In March 2009 Cabinet considered a report on the implementation of the ENCTS and approved a local enhancement across the Tees Valley that removed all restrictions on the time of free travel.
- 3.3 In March 2011 agreement was reached with the operators to continue the fixed payment system in 2011/12, with a revised enhancement of a fixed price of 30p per journey for trips commencing before 9:30am, which was continued for the 2012-13 period.

#### 4. INFORMATION

- 4.1 The CPT Index for the bus industry indicates a 3.2% increase for England to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2012. There has been a 20% reduction in the rate of Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) paid to operators which has had an impact on some costs and will certainly be reflected in the demands made by operators. The CPT report states that 'experiences in the change of diesel costs continue to be affected by the differing outcomes of hedging programmes by various operators.' Fuel now accounts for 15.3% of total operating costs. Smaller operators cannot reach hedging agreements and are subject to fluctuations in fuel prices.
- 4.2 Fares have continued to increase above the general inflation rate and the CPT cost index. This is important because DfT Guidance is based on fare levels not cost increases. Increases average over 4% were made early in 2012.
- 4.3 Even though passenger growth is at best flat, operators will still seek significant increases to recover lost BSO grant income. This will have a knock-on effect on concessionary travel payments because they will be based on a higher average fare from 2013. The Department for Transport fares index shows an increase in fares of 6.6% in England (excluding London) and 6.4% in non-metropolitan authorities. Similar increases are anticipated in 2013, which will mean that even if trip numbers fall by 3%, reimbursement will still need to increase by 3% to maintain the status quo. This is the minimum operators will seek.
- 4.4 A further complication is the uncertainty over the entire future of BSO Grant from the second half of 2013/14. There are now proposals to transfer the grant to Local Authorities, unringfenced. The increased uncertainty over BSOG means that operators may well face a loss of revenue, which they may seek to offset through further fare increases. This will itself increase the level of payments for ENCTS.
- 4.5 There may be significant changes to the bus network in 2013 and they will have to be taken account of in negotiations. They might arise from changes in ownership and further reductions in the commercial network.
- 4.6 Late 2012 has seen increased network instability, arising from changes in Arriva's commercial network and the collapse of Tees Valley Coaches. Two new operators enter the ENCTS scheme in Hartlepool; Scarlet Band Coaches and Pygalls. Stagecoach has also changed its services (re-introduction of Service 7 post 18:30 and Service 1). The future of Local Authority services in other Tees Valley Authorities in 2013/14 is in doubt and this will inevitably impact upon ENCTS payments, mainly to smaller operators.
- 4.7 The fixed payment agreement does not protect Councils against new operators entering the market and this risk is increasing and Local Authorities have the option of reverting to a flexible payments scheme. The large operators would prefer to retain a fixed payments scheme if possible,

although it is acknowledged that this will be more difficult to achieve if the local enhancement is withdrawn. Reverting to flexible payments would open up both operators and Authorities to increased risk.

## 5. REVIEW OPTIONS

- 5.1 The revenue from the operation of the fixed fare scheme is projected to be £248,000 in 2012/13 (Tees Valley wide). The offset for revenue received from the local enhancement would be far closer to actual revenue, the level of adjustment needed at the end of 2012/13 will be approximately £6,000 as shown in **Table 1** below. This is taken from operator payments actual income which is projected to exceed the estimated revenue offset. This compares to the special adjustment payment of £66,000 that was made to operators in April 2012 to reflect the loss of revenue received in 2011/12 which was below original projections. **Table 2** shows the percentage of pre 9.30am ENCTS made on weekdays as a proportion of all ENCTS trips.

**TABLE 1**

Revenue from Thirty Pence Fixed Fare for Pre-9.30 Journeys

	Projected 2012/13 pre 9.30 Revenue	2012/13 Offset	Variation
Hartlepool	£42,345	£43,235	£890
Middlesbrough	£69,519	£73,505	£3986
Redcar	£53,231	£53,598	£367
Stockton	£83,037	£84,063	£1026
Total	£248,132	£254,401	£6269

**TABLE 2** Percentage Pre 9.30 Trips of Total ENCTS Journeys

	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	Redcar	Stockton	Total
Arriva	3.6%	5.8%	7.6%	7.1%	6.8%
Stagecoach	7.3%	5.7%	89.9*	7.2%	6.8%
Leven Valley	-	8.6%	11.6%	6.4%	8.6%
Go Group	3.6%	6.2%	-	13.0%	7.4%
Compass Royston	-	-	-	6.4%	6.4%
Total	7.3%	5.8%	7.4%	7.1%	6.8%

\* Less than 1,000 trips – early morning service

- 5.2 The main options facing Councils are to

- Maintain the present charge of 30p for journeys made before 9.30am or
- Increase the flat fare from the 30p currently charged or
- Withdraw the local enhancement in its entirety and only apply the national scheme

### 5.3 Maintaining the flat fare at 30p

Maintaining the flat fare at 30p will retain the current revenue levels at approximately £250,000 a year. It would maintain the scheme as it exists in areas before the introduction of ENCTS, where flat fares were charged for all journeys. There has never been a restriction on the time of travel in the four former Cleveland Authorities.

### 5.4 Increasing the Flat Fare to 50p

Increasing the flat fare is unlikely to raise revenue by any significant amount, as even the introduction of a 30p fare for journeys made before 9.30am met with considerable consumer resistance, causing the substantial shortfall payment that had to be made in April 2012. The introduction of an increased flat fare will probably be revenue neutral as any increased fare will be offset by more pass holders choosing to defer making their journey until after 9.30am.

- 5.5 A 50p flat fare will most likely reduce revenue from the local enhancement, but the exact amount is difficult to quantify. A higher flat fare or a half fare scheme would most likely produce the same result as scrapping the enhancement, although there will be some revenue arising from the 20% plus pass holders who travel before 9.30am on weekdays in order to get to work or education. A 70p increase would show an overall fall in revenue from £248,000 to about £120,000.

### 5.6 Withdrawing the Local Enhancement Altogether

Withdrawing the local enhancement altogether will mean operating only the ENCTS time periods. The large operators originally stated that approximately 10% of ENCTS trips were made before 9.30am Monday to Friday. It was assumed that a nominal charge would be paid by 70% of those who had previously travelled before 9.30am on weekdays free of charge. For 2011/12 payment offsets were calculated based on revenue from the number of trips.

- 5.7 Unfortunately, less than 70% of the estimated 10% making journeys before 9.30am were prepared to pay the flat 30p fare. **Table 2** above demonstrates that pre 9.30am trips would fall to 6.8% of ENCTS trips following the introduction of the 30p fare. The estimated revenue will be substantially less than estimated. This results in the Local Authorities making special payments to operators to reflect the actual revenue, as the offset calculated for 2012/13 is based on data from upgraded ticketing systems there would be no need for substantial special payments in 2013/14. Adjustments will total about £6,000.
- 5.8 In 2012/13, it is projected that across the four Local Authorities approximately 6.8% of ENCTS journeys on weekdays are made before 9.30am under the local enhancement. Abolition of the enhancement will not produce a pro-rata reduction in ENCTS payments because most pass holders will simply wait to make their journey after 9.30am.

- 5.9 Being able to project savings is further complicated by the fact that if the restriction on travel before 9.30am is introduced, operators can charge Councils for having to provide additional capacity to cope with any surge in demand at 9.30am or shortly after. Another aspect of introducing the restriction is the potential for increasing conflict between drivers and passengers boarding buses around the 9.30am watershed. Examples are buses arriving late or leaving stops early and passengers deliberately holding up buses until 9.30am in order to avoid ENCTS pass holders having to pay. There will be very strong pressure to exempt disabled pass holders and people with healthcare appointments from any ban on free travel before 9.30am.
- 5.10 Operators might also choose to adjust their timetables to accommodate the change so that buses depart from major stops at 9.30am or shortly after rather than just before. Operators have stated that in some cases capacity costs will completely offset any savings on trip numbers, making the measure cost neutral.
- 5.11 The best estimate of savings would be to assume that nearly all of those with passes issued on grounds of disability will continue to travel before 9.30am if the enhancement is withdrawn, along with those elderly pass holders who are still in employment and need to get to work before 9.30am. **Table 3** shows the higher proportion of trips made by disabled pass holders before 9.30am.

**TABLE 3** Use of ENCTS Passes Before 9.30am on Weekdays by Pass Type

Hartlepool		Middlesbrough		Redcar		Stockton		Tees Valley	
Elderly	Disabled	Elderly	Disabled	Elderly	Disabled	Elderly	Disabled	Elderly	Disabled
78.9%	21.1%	74.3%	25.7%	78.9%	21.1%	70.7%	29.3%	76.0%	24.0%

- 5.12 For all ENCTS trips in the Tees Valley, 79.1% were made using passes issued on grounds of age and 20.9% were used by residents issued with passes on grounds of disability. This shows that overall passes issued on grounds of disability are used twice as much as those issued on grounds of age, as disabled passes now account for approximately 10% of those issued
- 5.13 The large operators have stated that experience of the withdrawal of similar enhancements in other areas resulted in about 80% of pre-9.30 trips simply deferring the journey until later in the day. The remaining 20% continue to travel before 9.30am. An estimate of savings has, therefore, been made on this basis. The loss of pre 9.30am trips will reduce the payments that each Local Authority will need to make, but would be offset by the revenue currently received on all trips made before 9.30am. **Table 4** below provides an estimate of savings based on the above assumptions.

**TABLE 4** Estimated Impact of Withdrawing the Local Enhancement

	<b>13/14 Pre 9.30 Projected Trips</b>	<b>2013/14 Projected 30p Revenue</b>	<b>Est. Trip Saving 20% Pre 9.30</b>	<b>2013/14 Cost Per Trip</b>	<b>Cost Saving From Reduced Trips</b>	<b>Lost Pre 9.30 Revenue</b>	<b>Net Saving</b>
Hartlepool	141149	£42,345	28230	£1.17	£33,029	£42,345	–£9,316
Middlesbrough	231729	£69,519	46346	£1.04	£48,200	£69,519	–£21,319
Redcar	177436	£53,231	35487	£1.29	£45,778	£53,231	–£7,452
Stockton	286153	£85,846	57231	£1.03	£58,948	£85,846	–£26,898
Total	836467	£250,940	167293	£1.11	£185,955	£250,940	–£64,985

The assumptions provide an overall reduction in ENCTS trips of about 1.3%.

## 6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 If the local enhancement is withdrawn, strong pressure will be exerted on the four Local Authorities to exempt holders of passes issued on grounds of disability. It can be expected that if such an exemption were granted it would mean that a substantial number of trips would still be made before 9.30am. Over 20% of the pre-9.30am trips are made by pass holders who have qualified on grounds of disability. Any exemption of disabled pass holders will result in a substantial number of pass holders wanting to transfer from holding a pass issued on grounds of age to one issued on grounds of disability.
- 6.2 Local Authorities will need to give very careful consideration as to how such applications would be treated and assessed. The additional cost of introducing a more thorough regime for the assessment of applications for disability passes will need to be considered. One in ten passes is now issued on grounds of disability.
- 6.3 Another important aspect in considering continuation of the local enhancement is that the DCLG grant calculations for operating the ENCTS are based only on trips made between 9.30am and 11.00pm on weekdays.
- 6.4 Consideration has been given as to whether a 30p flat fare for trips before 9.30am continues in 2013/14 or an increase to fares 50p is introduced. Should negotiations with operators result in higher demands than can reasonably be met, then the withdrawal of the local enhancement in its entirety must then be considered.

## 7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Transport Act 2000 requires the Council to give a minimum of four months notice to bus operators of proposed changes to their reimbursement arrangements or scheme.

## 8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 At the time of writing this report a system of fixed payments for implementing the ENCTS had been agreed between the Tees Valley Authorities and all the bus operators.
- 8.2 At this stage, it is recommended that each of the Local Authorities seeks to make provision in its budgets as shown in **Tables 5** and **6** below based either maintaining the present scheme or withdrawing the local enhancement.

**TABLE 5** ESTIMATE OF 2013/14 ENCTS COSTS BASED ON PRESENT SCHEME

	2012/13 Net Payment	2013/14 Net Estimate	% Increase
Hartlepool	£2,110,877	£2,170,000	2.8
Middlesbrough	£3,873,580	£3,952,000	2.0
Redcar	£2,883,461	£2,824,000	-2.0
Stockton	£3,830,764	£3,973,000	3.0

**TABLE 6** ESTIMATE OF 2013/14 ENCTS COSTS WITH NO LOCAL ENHANCEMENT

	2012/13 Net Payment	2013/14 Net Estimate	% Increase
Hartlepool	£2,110,877	£2,179,000	3.2
Middlesbrough	£3,873,580	£3,973,000	2.6
Redcar	£2,883,461	£2,831,000	-1.8
Stockton	£3,830,764	£3,999,000	4.0

- 8.3 In summary, at this time, the estimated concessionary fare payment to the bus operators for 2013-14 will be £2,139,892 (two minor operators are still to agree terms which will increase this by a small amount). This represents a 1.89% increase on 2012-13 costs
- 8.4 It is anticipated that the actual cost of operating the Concessionary Fares schemes should be slightly less than the approved budget. Further work is needed to quantify the value of this saving and details will be reported within the quarterly financial management report. It is anticipated this saving should continue in 2014/15 and details of the ongoing saving will be reported in the Medium Term Financial Strategy report when this is up dated.

## 9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Council is required to comply with the Concessionary Bus Travel Act 2007 and any regulations issued by the Secretary of State in connection with the Act. The scheme operating in Hartlepool, and the wider Tees Valley, is compliant with the 2007 Act as well as the Transport Act 1985 and the Transport Act 2000 in respect of concessionary travel and with the relevant regulations. The local enhancement operated by all Tees Valley Authorities is permitted under Section 93 of the 1985 Act as amended by the 2000 and 2007 Acts.



## **10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

10.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

## **11. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS**

11.1 There are no implications under Section 17.

## **12. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (i) Cabinet are asked to approve the continuation of participating in the Tees Valley wide enhancement to the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) offering travel within and between the areas covered by Hartlepool, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Councils.
- (ii) The Council continues to operate an enhanced scheme whereby all journeys prior to 9:30am on weekdays attract a nominal fare of 30p .
- (iii) Charges for replacement passes remain at £5.

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# CABINET REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> May 2013



**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** FUTURE OF EUROPEAN FUNDING 2014-20  
UPDATE

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## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Report is for information only at this stage.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To inform Cabinet of developments regarding the future of European funding for the period 2014 to 2020 and in particular provide more detail on the funding which may be available across the Tees Valley (including Hartlepool).

## 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Cabinet received a report in October 2012 which provided background information on the review of EU Cohesion funding which would come into effect from 2014 for the period up to 2020, and the potential implications this review would have on funding availability within the UK, but more specifically how this would impact upon Hartlepool and the wider Tees Valley.

3.2 Further details in that report covered the creation of Transitional regions, the type of funding currently available, some speculation regarding the potential overall level of funding available in the EU budget and the lobbying which was being undertaken on behalf of the Tees Valley in order to secure Transitional region status for Durham and Tees Valley, which would see funding ringfenced specifically for these two areas.

## 4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The overall EU budget was agreed by the European Council on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013. This still needs overall agreement by the European Parliament and so in theory, things may still change. However, for the moment, the UK Government and indeed Tees Valley needs to work on the assumption that

the European Parliament will ratify the EU budget and along with it the creation of the Transitions regions, including the Tees Valley, for which there will be ringfenced Structural funds available between 2014 – 2020.

- 4.2 Part of the EU budget negotiations for this period agrees both the allocation of funding and the objectives for the four streams of strategic funding, i.e. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF), European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EARDF) and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF).
- 4.3 The EU<sup>s</sup> acceptance of Transition regions, where the region in question has a Gross Domestic Product (GPD) of between 75% and 90% of the EU average GDP, places Tees Valley at 78% of the EU average, firmly within the Transition region bracket and as such, in line for ringfenced funding. Details of this allocation are as yet unclear, but based on initial assumptions this could be anywhere up to £200m, a substantial sum.
- 4.4 A further advantage in being a Transition region is that the grant intervention level is 60% rather than 50% associated with developed areas and as such, this reduces the level of match funding required to support project delivery, something which in recent years in the current economic climate has presented a difficulty.
- 4.5 It is anticipated that there will be a greater degree of flexibility in relation to spending, however, at least 40% of the overall spend must be from the ESF, of which 70% of the spending is likely to be focused on 4 employment related priorities, with up to 20% being targeted towards tackling social exclusion.
- 4.6 80% of the ERDF is likely to be targeted on the following 4 key priorities
- Research and Development and Innovation;
  - Business competitiveness – especially exporting;
  - Shift to Low Carbon economy – especially energy efficiency and renewable technology;
  - Another to be confirmed, but potentially sustainable transport or access to or use of ICT.

## **5. NEXT STEPS**

### **5.1 European / UK Government Level**

- i. approval by European Parliament;
- ii. regulations to be presented to European Parliament and then EU member states – approximately 6-8 months;
- iii. UK to negotiate a business plan for delivery with the European Commission (EC) followed by programme proposals – approximately 4 months;
- iv. programme commencement – likely to be April 2014 at the earliest.

## 5.2 UK Government – Tees Valley Level

- i. TVU to develop Investment Prospectus;
- ii. Spring 2013 onwards – TVU to identify and prioritise investment pipeline for EU (in partnership with the South Tees Valley Local Authorities);
- iii. Summer 2013 - detailed guidance should emerge for Local Economic Partnerships (LEP<sup>s</sup>) once the EU negotiations with the European Parliament have been further developed;
- iv. Autumn 2013 – LEP<sup>s</sup> to submit first draft strategic plan to Government for agreement / steer;
- v. Winter 2013 - LEP<sup>s</sup> to agree targets / milestones, etc. Plans consolidated at a national level;
- vi. Spring 2014 – UK business plan agreed with the European Commission;
- vii. Summer 2014 – programme commences.

## 5.3 HBC Level – at this stage it is too early to undertake any detailed work on specific projects or proposals as the details regarding eligibility criteria and the overall programme proposals have yet to be clarified. However, early work which can begin to take place includes the following: -

- information sharing across the Council on the emerging opportunities related to European funding from 2014;
- individuals, groups, divisions to consider working up very outline proposals / ideas which may fit with the emerging criteria;
- assessment of staff resources / capacity available to develop project ideas / bids to be shared across the Council;
- briefing sessions to be arranged internally and using external assistance via TVU staff involved in developing the Tees Valley proposal, to provide more detail on eligibility criteria, project development and bidding process.

## 6. **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no financial considerations arising from this report, however, as and when a proposal has been developed and agreed across the Tees Valley, any project that emerges which is to be developed by Council, or which includes the Council as a key partner and will be required to contribute a level of matched funding, there may be financial considerations in the future. It is anticipated at this stage that any such projects will need approval by this Council through the relevant Committee.

## 7. **RISKS**

- 7.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

## **8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no legal considerations associated with this report, however, as with financial considerations, there may be in the future as the process relating to the implementation of the programme or individual project delivery becomes more clear. These will be reported to Council through the relevant Committee.

## **9. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

- 9.1 Section 17 does not apply to this report.

## **10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no equality and diversity issues arising from this report.

## **11. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 Cabinet is recommended to
- i. note the information;
  - ii. agree that further reports on the progress of the future EU Funding Programme should be presented to the Regeneration Services Policy Forum.

## **12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 European funding beyond the current programme which is due to end at the end of the calendar year could bring significant benefits to Hartlepool and as such, Members need to be appraised both of the progress being made to develop a new programme which will run from 2014 to 2020 and how that might impact upon Hartlepool. Key decisions on its implementation will also be required in the future.

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 10.1 Cabinet Report – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012. 'The Future of EU Funding and Tees Valley Unlimited Partnership Business Plan Progress Update.

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