

REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Friday 17 July 2015

at 9.30 am

Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillors S Akers-Belcher, Clark, Cook, Cranney, Lindridge, Morris and Thompson

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

3. **MINUTES**

- 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2015 (*previously published*)

4. **BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS**

None.

5. **KEY DECISIONS**

None.

6. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

None.



7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Sport and Physical Activity Initiatives and Services – Progress Report – *Director of Public Health*
- 7.2 Quarterly Housing Report – January-March 2014/15 – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.3 Youth Employment Initiative – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.4 Economic Regeneration Quarterly Update Including Grant Outturn 2014/15 – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.5 Quarterly Update Report for Heritage and Countryside – April-June 2015 – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.6 Coastal Community Teams – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.7 Quarterly Update Report for Planning Services – January-March 2015 – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.8 North Linear Park Project – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.9 The Moving Forward Project – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*
- 7.10 Estates and Regeneration Update Report – December 2014-June 2015 – *Assistant Director, Regeneration*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

FOR INFORMATION:

Date of next meeting – Friday 31 July 2015 at 9.30am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.



REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th JULY 2015



Report of: Director of Public Health

Subject: SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY INITIATIVES
AND SERVICES - PROGRESS REPORT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

For information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform and update Members on the work of the Sport and Physical Activity Team which is part of Hartlepool Borough Council's Sport and Recreation Service. This area of work includes Summerhill Outdoor Activity Centre and Country Park, the Outdoor Activities Service, GP Referral Programme, Learn to Swim (including Primary School Lessons) and all targeted work aimed at increasing participation in sport and physical activity.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Department of Health continues to recommend that adults (16+) should aim to achieve at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity on at least 5 days of each week. Engaging more people in sport and physical activity in order to improve health and well-being is therefore a key priority at national, regional and local level and given the health inequalities in Hartlepool, remains an important issue for the Council.
- 3.2 One of the main objectives of the service therefore is to increase resident's participation in sport and physical activity, encouraging people to get active and stay active and by doing so, improve their health and general well-being.
- 3.3 A previous update on the work of the service was given as part of a report to Regeneration Committee on July 31st 2014 and this new report now covers the period to March 2015.

4. UPDATE ON PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

- 4.1 Hartlepool Sport and Physical Activity Team have collectively achieved some excellent outcomes and outputs during the reporting period and the following highlights some of these key achievements and work strands.

4.2 Learn to Swim Programme

- 4.2.1 The Community swimming programme based at Mill House Leisure Centre continues to thrive with high demand for lessons. At the start of the last block of lessons, 84% of available places in stages 1 to 3 were taken up. Demand for stages 4 to 6 is also growing rapidly with 63% of available places booked.
- 4.2.2 The 3 to 4 year old swimming lessons also continue to be very successful with children learning key skills to develop their water confidence and also develop their fundamental skills to support them in their future swimming. We are currently looking to extend the programme to include additional lessons on a weekend.
- 4.2.3 Following approval from the ASA to begin to deliver stages 1 and 2 to children in the 3 to 4 age group if they are ready to access these, several children have progressed into the stages ensuring more children from a younger age are able to swim 25 metres before School Year 6. Overall, 3,442 participants have accessed our Learn to Swim programme in this last reporting period.
- 4.2.4 Some work has been undertaken to look at pathways for children who want to continue swimming once they have completed the ASA stages. This will ensure all options and opportunities within Hartlepool are provided to all children who have started their swimming with the programme.
- 4.2.5 The format of the competitive schools gala was changed this year to allow all participants the opportunity to be considered for inclusion in the Hartlepool Team taking part in the Tees Valley Gala later this year. A total of 18 schools took part in the two galas over two days, with feedback showing that this was a resounding success for the 432 children taking part.

4.3 Summerhill and the Outdoor Activities Team

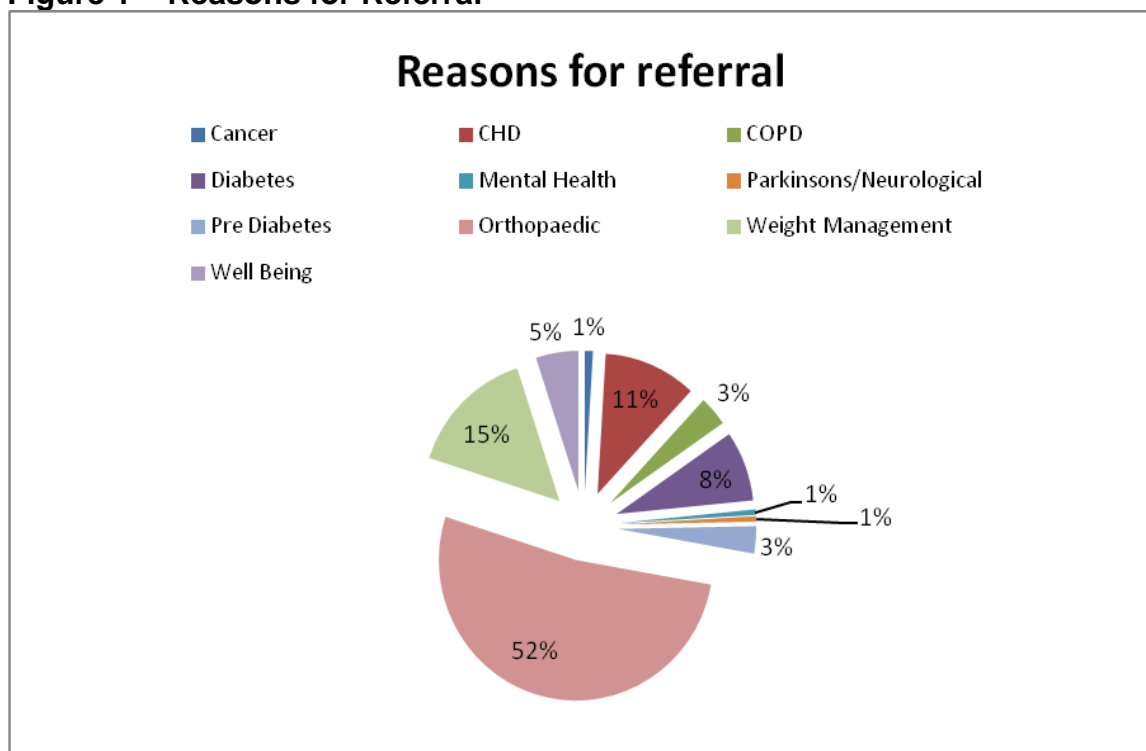
- 4.3.1 The Outdoor Activities Team continues to have a year on year increase in demand for their services with the current financial year being no exception. This increase is particularly in primary school residential activities and GCSE delivery in activities such as mountain biking. Overall their programmes of work have supported 1,610 participants in this reporting period. Similarly footfall to the Visitor's Centre at the site for 2014/15 has seen another increase since 2013/14 from 92,615 to 110,185 visitors, an increase of just over 19%.

- 4.3.2 New archery instructors have completed their training which has significantly increased the Summerhill instructor pool. Increased activity provision as a result of this has led to the Summerhill Archery Club strengthening with numbers increasing and a junior archery club being established.
- 4.3.3 An additional Forest Schools course has been completed which included an additional member of the Summerhill team completing their Forest Schools training. The initial training programme is nearing completion with three members of staff close to submitting their final portfolios which if successfully passed, will see Summerhill become a Forest School site in the next couple of months.
- 4.3.4 A second fully accessible pond dipping platform is currently under construction with the help of our Volunteers and is nearing completion. This second pond will allow the site to increase its delivery and allow the staff to alleviate pressure on the eco system of the existing pond.
- 4.3.5 Management of our site woodland is very important to maintain and a member of the team has recently completed chainsaw training which will allow Summerhill to coppice and thin our woodland in house. In addition, prices have now been set that will see wood being sold on site at a very competitive fee providing an additional source of income. A new orchard has also been planted in close proximity to the Visitors Centre and it is hoped will add a substantial educational resource to the site.
- 4.3.6 The February half term programme was a huge success with 80 participants attending a programme offering activities each day. All sessions were fully booked and the real significance is the programme's success at this point in a calendar year. Historically October and February half terms have always struggled with both low numbers and low income. Obviously this success can be built upon for the busier periods of the year.

4.4 **GP Referral Scheme**

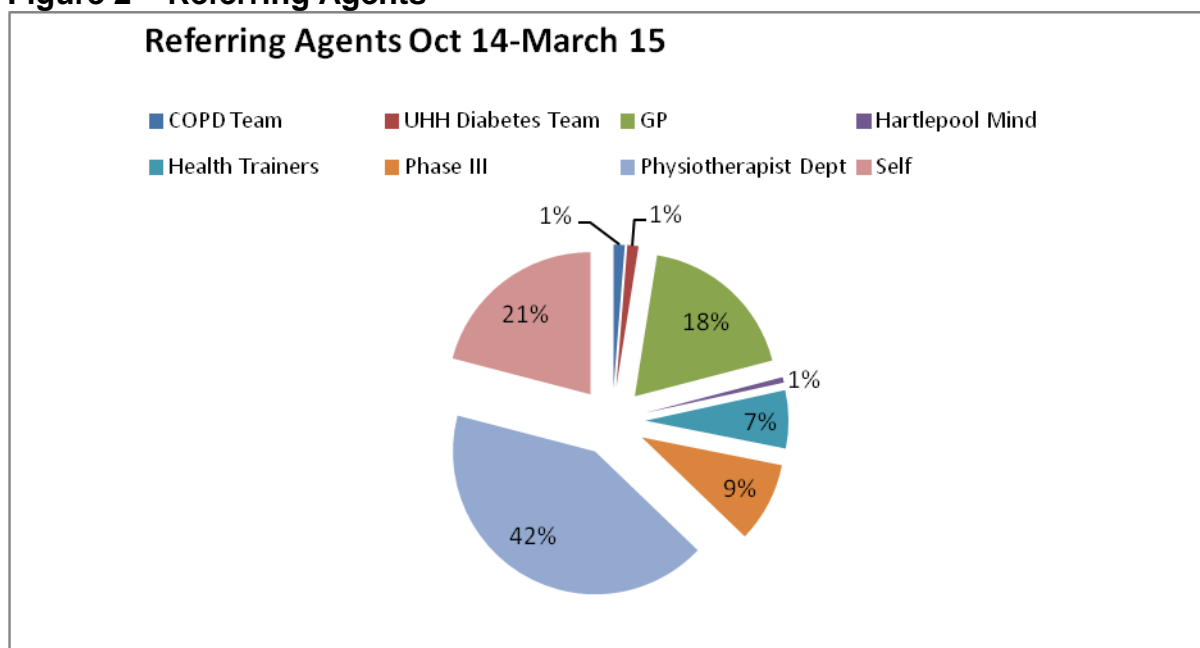
- 4.4.1 The H.E.L.P (Hartlepool Exercise for Life) / GP Referral scheme in Hartlepool has been running for approximately 20 years now and offers local residents the opportunity to increase their physical activity levels as a means to address a wide range of chronic health conditions. The exercise prescription can be two fold; as a preventative model to deter further ill health or as a means of managing an existing chronic condition. The scheme is for adults 18 years and over.
- 4.4.2 The scheme received 320 new referrals in the period October 2014 to March 2015; 194 women and 126 men and of these, 250 participants were over the age of 45 years. Attendances to various activity sessions amounted to 3,948 participants.
- 4.4.3 There are many different reasons why a patient may be referred to the scheme (see Figure 1). Many patients have a multitude of health problems associated with the ageing process and a sedentary lifestyle but the referral

- pathway/protocol ensures that each person is allocated the most suitable exercise course to meet their needs based on the primary reason for access.
- 4.4.4 If a patient has more complex health needs such as coronary heart disease or uncontrolled diabetes for example, the referral pathway requires a more detailed referral from the referring health practitioner to provide a more comprehensive picture of the individual's health status prior to participation.
- 4.4.5 Those patients who are referred from the GP surgeries receive a feedback letter regarding the patient's involvement with the scheme and any positive outcome measures are shared with health professionals.
- 4.4.6 The scheme also has a self referral pathway but this is only for those people who are risk stratified as low risk at the point of enquiry. Whilst this eliminates the need for a visit to a GP we also find that a client who self refers is often more self motivated to increase their activity levels to support a healthier lifestyle.

Figure 1 – Reasons for Referral

Cancer	3
CHD	35
COPD	11
Diabetes	26
Mental Health	2
Parkinson's/Neurological	2
Pre Diabetes	10
Orthopaedic	167
Weight Management	48
Well Being	16
Total	320

- 4.4.7 Whilst there are many referring agents, the UHH Physiotherapist Department remains the most prolific owing to a well established working partnership with the physiotherapist teams (see Figure 2). These exercise courses not only assist with recovery post surgery but they also are also a pre-cursor to an operation to encourage a better physical response for patients.
- 4.4.8 Patients are also referred from the hospital by the Falls Prevention Team, the Spinal Rehab Programme and the 8 week Knee Therapy Course Team as the Council's HELP scheme offers ongoing support in the community enabling people to maintain appropriate graded exercise in a safe structured environment.

Figure 2 – Referring Agents

COPD Team	4
UHH Diabetes Team	4
GP	59
Hartlepool Mind	2
Health Trainers	21
Phase III Cardiac Team	29
Physiotherapist Dept	134
Self	67
Total	320

- 4.4.9 Of note, the Cardiac Rehabilitation strand of the scheme follows the recommendations of and adherence to the British Association for Cardiac and Physiotherapy Rehabilitation guidelines. The scheme's Phase IV Cardiac Rehabilitation Programme is so called as it is the main exit route from the NHS Phase III Cardiac Rehabilitation service. When a patient is referred to the Phase IV service, their GP is informed of this transfer and

patients have the option of long term supervision within the Council's Leisure Centres if this is their preference.

- 4.4.10 All surgeries across the town are encouraged to use the service. In the last six months, Hart Medical Practice has referred the most patients to the scheme specifically for the Type 2 Diabetes lifestyle intervention programmes that we run. Dr Nemeth remains very supportive of this project as a consequence of the excellent outcomes achieved for his patients he referred to the initial pilot programme in 2013. As a result of this, he has encouraged an ongoing stream of referrals.
- 4.4.11 In this six month reporting period, 78% of those referred from this surgery have been referred to either the EDAN (Escape Diabetes Act Now) preventative programme or the Type 2 Diabetes better management lifestyle intervention project. Patients are tracked for a full 12 month period and the requested feedback from medical reviews will provide clinical outcome measures that will indicate the effectiveness of these programmes.
- 4.4.12 The E.D.A.N Type 2 Diabetes Prevention programme has been widely recognised and the national charity Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation (DWRf) requested information about this area of our provision. This resulted in an article being published in their monthly publication in November 2014 which highlighted the good work happening in Hartlepool for those with or at risk of developing Type 2 Diabetes. This has been a significant achievement for the staff involved.
- 4.4.13 In this reporting period, 160 people also completed a 10 week introductory course of supervised exercise and the accrued figure from the 6 month post completion questionnaires shows that the retention figure for adherence to regular physical activity currently stands at 77% six months after completing an initial 10 week course of exercise. In addition, 11% of patients reported a reduction in their prescription since accessing the scheme.
- 4.4.15 Upon course completion clients are given a menu of choice regarding future supervised activities in the Council's sport and recreation facilities across the town and this offers greater choice and flexibility for residents to maintain an active lifestyle
- 4.4.16 Finally, new partnerships in areas of need continue to be explored for new strands of delivery. For example, discussions are ongoing with Macmillan Services to see whether there is potential to develop a specific Cancer Rehabilitation exercise scheme locally.

4.5 Sport and Physical Activity Core Team

4.5.1 Community Sport Activation Fund (CSAF) Programme

Members will recall a report from the Regeneration Committee Meeting of July 31st 2014 highlighting the successful outcome of a funding bid to Sport England's CSAF Programme. This provided a grant of £192,727 towards a three year programme with an overall project value of £334,327 with further partnership funding support of £60,000 being made available from Public Health. The residual amount of £81,600 was attributable to non-cashable "in-kind" support.

The bid developed was for a three year programme in sailing, triathlon, dance, multi-sports and volunteering specifically targeting Hartlepool residents not achieving over the 1 x 30 minutes of regular sport and activity participation. This was to be supported through the establishment of four new Sports Activator posts for a fixed term period of two years (two full-time and two part-time) who would be employed by the Council within the Sport and Physical Activity Team.

In terms of progress therefore, all of the Activators commenced employment in January 2015 and since this time, have started to build up a network of relevant partners to establish the development of new participation opportunities in their respective areas of responsibility.

Pilot "Try a Tri" sessions have been taking place in English Martyrs RC School and 6th Form College and Manor Community College. 36 participants have been engaged providing 216 attendances. These sessions are to enable the Triathlon Activator to establish the structure needed for the Try a Tri programmes.

Feel Good in Hartlepool Triathlon Programme have launched 'The Big Lime Series'. This will include Four Go Tri Events throughout the summer which is mini, fun focused Triathlon events at a range of venues to give participants their first taste of Triathlon. An Aquathlon has also been planned for 23rd August 2015 to enable participants from the Go Tri Events to participate in a larger event and also provide a 'warm up' for those wishing to compete in Hartlepool's 3rd Big Lime Triathlon on Sunday 20th September. The Aquathlon incorporates a run, swim and run utilising Jackson's Dock and Seaton Promenade. Work associated with the organisation of all events is progressing well.

The Dance and Multi Sport Activator has focused on developing a programme of dance opportunities across the age spectrum. It is early days as much of the initial work is associated with consultation to determine local delivery need but programme delivery has now started. April for example saw the launch of a weekly 'Social Dance' at the Borough Hall which is proving popular.

Similarly, consultation has been carried out to establish what multi sport provision is currently taking place to establish local need. As a result, sessions are due to launch in partnership with West View 5 to 19 year old project and Belle Vue, targeting disadvantaged and low participant groups.

The Sailing Activator is now the main point of contact between the Council and the Tees and Hartlepool Yacht Club ensuring that our well established partnership continues to deliver the olympic legacy associated with this sport that commenced prior to London 2012.

Building on the success of previous years, participation opportunities continue to be developed and support is being given to the club with an 'Inspired Facilities' bid to Sport England. In addition to this, the club has applied for a £3,500 grant from the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Foundation and has secured a further £3,500 from Heerema Fabrication Group towards purchasing a disability safety boat. This will complement the recently purchased pontoon and hoist.

Funding was also secured from Tees Valley Sport Coach Bursary to send two volunteers on a Dinghy Sailing Level 1 course in May. These volunteers have now been enrolled onto the CSAF programme and will assist with activity delivery relating to the project.

Planned provision includes taster sessions, open days and training courses. The first set of taster sessions have already taken place in April and have been used as an opportunity to carry out consultation. A family open day was held in May and two further days will be held in June targeting disability and women's participation. In July and August sailing courses will take place with a RYA Level 1 for women and a mixed sailing course targeting young people during the school summer holidays.

The work of the Volunteer Activator has initially focused on reviewing the recruitment process to ensure volunteers are receiving an appropriate amount of contact from the service. The pathway has also been revised to ensure that training and development opportunities are available and that volunteers have targets to work to.

The programme currently has five volunteers actively engaged for a minimum of one hour of per week and already, four of them have gone on to gain paid employment either with the Sport and Recreation Service or an external organisation. A further seven candidates are currently going through the recruitment process and to expand numbers, planning is underway to hold some workshop sessions. Two of the colleges have already expressed an interest in participating in these.

4.5.2 Walks Programme

During the current reporting period, the "Walk about in Hartlepool" programme has attracted over 1600 attendances from 114 regular walkers

with new participants joining constantly.

Volunteer Walk Leader courses have been delivered which has provided 25 new Walk Leaders in Hartlepool. Some of these course participants were volunteers and others associated to an organisation meaning that they will now be able to deliver targeted walks for groups that they work with.

The programme holds “Walking for Health” accreditation which is the benchmark national standard for walking programmes in the UK providing England’s largest networks of health walk schemes and thus helping people across the country lead a more active lifestyle. This health initiative was set up over 12 years ago through Natural England and has more recently been taken over by Ramblers UK in partnership with Macmillan.

Our programme was reassessed in January 2015 resulting in the scheme being successfully re-accredited for a fourth year and we continue to make improvements utilising the programmes and frameworks provided. This is of particular importance as the accreditation enables the Hartlepool programme to be promoted through the Ramblers UK and Macmillan networks.

4.5.3 **Disability Sport Provision**

The Sport and Physical Activity Team coordinate and chair Hartlepool’s Disability Sport Development Steering Group who look to develop and support disability sport in the town. The group has continued to identify gaps in provision for disabled participants and aim to develop these areas as a priority. Specific examples are as follows:-

- Saturday morning coaching has been delivered to young people with disabilities every Saturday during term time in partnership with Families First and Short Breaks. These sessions have attracted 108 participants with attendances of over 300.
- Junior Funability sessions run weekly on Thursdays during term time. These sessions are targeted at 6 to 16 years of age and have engaged 23 participants. Work has been undertaken with the Parent Led Forum and other focus groups to consult and try to increase the engagement and we are currently exploring options such as changing the age range or venue.
- Working with various community disability groups to offer specific activities that that their group needs.
- Working in partnership with Tees Valley Sport and Disability Steering Group, a Disability CPD Programme has been launched with the first course held in February on targeting disability physical development.

4.5.4 **Sportivate**

Sportivate is a long running Sport England initiative coordinated by the Tees Valley Sport Partnership and is aimed at engaging participants into sport in the 11 to 25 years age group. During the current reporting period we have engaged 385 individuals with a throughput of 2041 participants.

Grant funding to the value of £11,345 has been secured from the Year 5 programme focusing on participation initiatives for 16 to 25 year olds, women and girls and semi and non-sporty types.

4.5.5 **Together Project**

The Together Project continues to provide participants most in need of physical activity support within their own environment through sessions that are held weekly at Major Cooper Court and Laurel Gardens.

The sessions are regularly attended by 14 participants who typically do not engage in any physical activity and yet have all now demonstrated improvement in mobility, coordination and social interaction.

The team are currently engaged in talks with Adult Education and One Awards around the development of a training programme to support carers, volunteers etc. within accommodations such as sheltered housing and nursing homes to deliver low level activity within their settings and by doing so, ensure a more sustainable structure.

4.5.6 **Looked after Children**

Work with our Looked after Children colleagues in the Child & Adult Department continues amongst which has seen the intention to re-launch the Kelly Cup (football) in partnership with other Tees Valley Local authorities. Sportivate funding has also been provided to run a 6 week Football training programme that will enable the Hartlepool team to develop improved skills prior to the tournament taking place.

4.5.7 **Orienteering**

We are continuing to develop Orienteering in partnership with Cleveland Orienteering Klub (CLOK) and British Orienteering and have delivered three Xplorer Events since October, attracting 44 participants.

The Xplorer programmes are targeted to attract families and 16 to 30 year olds and utilise the green spaces throughout Hartlepool.

Grant funding of £1,890 has also been received through the British Heart Foundation to develop Primary School orienteering within the town.

4.5.8 **Football Development**

Football development is an extremely important area of work for the service and a development programme is delivered in partnership with Greatham FC based on the funding agreement associated with the 3G Pitch development at Brierton Sports Centre with the Football Foundation.

The pitch at Brierton continues to be extremely popular and is currently used by a range of users including educational establishments, clubs, Community Sports Foundations and casual users to name but a few attracting 8,771 participants. In addition to this the Football Association have utilised the artificial pitch at Brierton to deliver 6 Coach Education courses. An FA Level 1 coaching course in partnership with Durham County FA took place in November 2014 and attracted 27 participants. A Level 2 course is also scheduled to take place in June. Additional courses scheduled with Durham County FA include Safeguarding in Clubs, First Aid and Refereeing. Small sided league football has recently ceased running at the site however we are looking to launch a Council managed league in July.

Hartlepool Community Sports Foundation have utilised the site to launch a female development centre linking into the County Performance Development Centre. Further female and disability provision is also to take place as a consequence of attracting Sportivate funding for these initiatives.

General support to football clubs continues to be offered and Golden Flatts Football Club are currently receiving help to submit a Small Awards grant to the Tees Valley Community Foundation and are in the process of setting up an additional three teams. Additionally, Hartlepool Pools Youth Football Club submitted a Grow the Game application to the Football Foundation and the club has also recently established a female section and is in the process of entering two new teams for the coming season.

As a result of this work, it is intended to establish a town wide football development group to coordinate development plans and activities.

4.5.9 **Club Development, Action Groups, and National Governing Bodies (NGB's) of Sport**

The Team continues to work with a range of clubs, National Governing Bodies and Action Groups which require assistance to ensure appropriate development.

Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club has recently received support from the team and submitted an 'Inspire Facilities' application to Sport England in order to develop their changing facilities. In addition to this, a recent Sportivate application has been approved to develop women's boxing in partnership with Youth Services.

Hartlepool Burn Road Harriers Athletics Club is currently working with the team to develop current provision on offer within the youth section and as a result will be submitting a Small Awards application to Sport England.

Hartlepool Caledonians Hockey Club has received extensive assistance with promotion and planning of new delivery which has impacted positively upon the club and has seen membership increase. Also, the club has recently made arrangements to offer provision to all secondary schools leading up to a town competition. Aside from delivery, England Hockey has altered the “Clubs First” accreditation criteria and the club are currently collating relevant documentation which will be audited by the National Governing Body.

General support has also been given to several clubs including Hartlepool Rugby Football Club, Hartlepool Pools Youth Football Club, Hartlepool Gymnastics Club, Eldon Grove Tennis Club and Hartlepool Lawn Tennis Club.

The Team continues to play an active role within the Hartlepool Community Badminton Network. Developments over the past six months have included a pay and play session at Brierton Sports Centre, delivery of the ‘Smash up’ initiative within all secondary schools and further provision has taken place through the ‘Junior Funability’ programme. In total, 212 participants have accessed the sport via the work of the network.

The Tennis Action Group is in the midst of submitting a Small Awards application to Sport England and has been awarded funding through Sportivate to increase participation working with specific target groups including disability provision.

Rounder’s England delivery for 2014/2015 has recently come to an end which engaged 40 participants from the target groups of young people, workplaces, family and disability. The NGB has since approved a delivery plan proposal from the Team for 2015/2016 attracting partnership funding of £1,992.

Volleyball England has formed a partnership with the Headland Sports Hall to deliver the ‘Go Spike’ initiative.

4.5.10 Coach and Volunteer Development

The Hartlepool Coach, Leader and Volunteer Development Group continue to support managers, coaches, leaders and volunteers in the town and to do so, a training programme was established for 2014/2015 based on a teachers training needs analysis survey that was carried out between June and July 2014. Following this process a comprehensive programme was launched.

Completed courses to date comprise of FUNdamentals of Movement, Secondary School Volleyball CPD, Tri and Extreme Golf, Tag Rugby and a Dance workshop. Overall 69 candidates from 14 different organisations have attended these courses. Future workshops planned as part of the

programme include England Athletics Teaching Primary School Athletics, Sports Coach UK (SCUK) Multi-Skills Club in Practice and Coaching 5-12 years, SCUK Safeguarding and Protecting Children and an FA Primary Teachers Award.

In addition to up-skilling teachers, the Development Group recognised the need to enhance student's leadership skills and consequently, a Leadership Conference was arranged. The conference took place in December 2014 across the course of a day and workshops were linked to the school competition calendars. 52 students from 4 schools attended.

A Rounder's Young Leaders Award also took place at the Headland Sports Hall in March attracting 10 student participants from Dyke House Sports and Technology College and High Tunstall College of Science.

4.5.11 **Satellite Clubs**

Through support from NGB's and Tees Valley Sport, the Satellite Clubs initiative in partnership with educational establishments continues to progress. Satellite Clubs are now in place at the Sixth Form College - Aeronauts Trampoline Club and Eldon Grove Tennis Club; Hartlepool College of Further Education - Hartlepool Catholic Boxing Club; English Martyrs School and Sixth Form - Hartlepool Community Volleyball Club; Dyke House Sports and Technology College - Hartlepool Community Badminton Club and High Tunstall College of Science - Seaton Carew Football Club through the FA 'Mash Up' scheme.

Further links are currently being explored between St. Hilda's Church of England School and Hartlepool Caledonians Hockey Club, High Tunstall College of Science and Hartlepool Gymnastics Club and Dyke House Sports and Technology College and Hartlepool Heat Basketball Club

5. **SUMMARY**

- 5.1 This report highlights some key areas of work and progress made by the service over the past few months. It is by no means exhaustive but serves to highlight some of the positive work that is provided by elements of the Council's Sport & Recreation service and the range and breadth of the work being delivered.
- 5.2 The effective delivery of specialist and community based physical activity is an essential contributor to the health and well being of residents and the service continues to sustain and explore new opportunities for partnerships and access to external funding and resources to delivery high quality services.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 For Committee to note the contents of the report highlighting the some of the positive work and physical activity initiatives provided by the Council's Sport and Recreation service.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The ongoing contribution to the Council's strategic priorities and in particular, those in relation to Public Health.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Regeneration Services Committee, 24th July 2014, SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY TEAM – SIX MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT.

9. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: QUARTERLY HOUSING REPORT JANUARY-
MARCH 2014/15

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 The report is for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update Members of the Regeneration Services Committee about progress across key areas of the Housing Service relating to empty homes, enforcement activity, Selective Licensing, Disabled Facilities Grants, housing allocations and housing advice & homelessness prevention during the fourth quarter of 2014/15. In addition the report provides an annual update on progress with Warm up North and also outlines the ongoing activity with regards to Housing Management Services and review of Housing Strategies.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This report provides an update on progress and benchmarking across key areas of the Housing Service during Quarter 4, 2014/15 and updates the last report presented to the Regeneration Services Committee on 12th March 2015. The report also outlines activity relating to Warm up North and ongoing activity around the development of Housing Services.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 The report contains no proposals and is for information only.

5. EMPTY HOMES UPDATE

5.1 The target for bringing long term empty homes back into use during 2014/15 was 60 and a total of 84 properties have been brought back into use during

the course of the year. The target for the year has therefore been exceeded by 24 properties (40%).

- 5.2 In line with the Empty Homes Strategy the Council continues to take forward enforcement activities to encourage and enforce owners to bring long term empty homes back into use. The enforcement activity is led by the Council's 'Top 20 empty homes' list.
- 5.3 During the course of the year, Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) activity has been progressed with regards to one property. Two further properties acquired through CPO action in the previous financial year have undergone refurbishment during 2014/15; one has recently been relet and the other property is now ready to let.
- 5.4 During Quarter 2 of 2014/2015, one property was acquired through the enforced sale route and was refurbished as part of the Council's Empty Property Purchasing Scheme. This property was ready to let as of 31st March 2015.
- 5.5 The Council successfully acquired properties through the Empty Property Purchase Scheme (EPPS) throughout 2014/2015 and the target of purchasing 100 properties through this scheme was achieved during Quarter 3. By the end of Quarter 4, 59 of these properties had been let and the remaining properties had all been fully refurbished. Properties have been let at 80% of market rent and this has proved very popular with local residents.
- 5.6 The Baden Street Scheme continued to progress during Quarter 4. Since the scheme commenced 18 properties have been brought back into use from being long-term empty homes (seven of which were acquired, refurbished and let through the EPPS). In addition, a further property has also been purchased, which is currently being refurbished to be let in line with the scheme.
- 5.7 Refurbishment works completed in two properties this quarter and have subsequently been let and work is ongoing in further property in partnership with a landlord; it is anticipated this will complete in the next quarter.

6. ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

- 6.1 The enforcement update encompasses a number of key areas, including housing conditions, housing related statutory nuisance and problematic empty properties.
- 6.2 Table 1 sets out the service requests that have been received by the service during the course of the year so far. The previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 1 – Enforcement Team Service Requests

Request Type	Number and % of Total Number by Quarter 2014/15							
	Quarter 1		Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4	
Disrepair	47 (53)	22%	57 (55)	26%	72 (86)	43%	89 (81)	42%
Empty & Insecure Property	32 (42)	15%	39 (38)	18%	34 (25)	20%	30 (33)	14%
Empty property Nuisance	15 (12)	7%	28 (13)	13%	8 (4)	5%	23 (14)	11%
Unauthorised Encampment	1 (5)	>1%	3 (4)	1%	0 (1)		0 (1)	0%
Nuisance from Adjacent Property	19 (30)	9%	20 (37)	9%	14 (17)	8%	12 (25)	6%
Nuisance from Occupied Property	93 (43)	43%	58 (75)	26%	29 (41)	17%	49 (72)	23%
Filthy & Verminous	2 (3)	1%	1 (2)	>1%	0 (0)		0 (2)	0%
Defective Drainage	3 (10)	1%	5 (10)	2%	1 (0)	<1%	6 (1)	3%
HMO Advice/ Complaint	3 (2)	1%	9 (4)	4%	7 (2)	4%	3 (1)	1%
Immigration Visit	2 (3)	1%	0 (1)	0	1 (2)	<1%	2 (2)	1%
Total Number of Requests	217 (203)		221 (239)		166 (178)		214 (232)	

- 6.3 The majority of these service requests fall into three main areas:
- Disrepair
 - Empty Properties
 - Nuisance
- 6.4 The overall number of service requests received over the course of the year reduced slightly from 2013/14. The reduction was due in large part to the acquisition of properties in the Carr/Hopps regeneration area by the Council and any issues arising from these properties have been dealt with quickly as the area is closely monitored.
- 6.5 Whilst 2014/15 saw a steady rise in the number of disrepair cases quarter by quarter, the overall number was comparable with the number received during 2013/14.
- 6.6 Hazards were removed from 24 privately rented properties during the last quarter through a combination of enforcement and informal action, taking the total for the year to 59.

- 6.7 There was no significant change in the number of complaints regarding insecure empty properties in Quarter 4 compared to Quarter 3. Only three properties required the service of legal notices to make them secure and one further property was secured using emergency powers as there was considered to be a risk to public health.
- 6.8 There was an increase in complaints about nuisance properties (both occupied and empty) from 51 in the previous quarter to 84 in this and these accounted for 40% of all complaints received during the quarter.
- 6.9 In addition to the reactive work carried out, officers have undertaken proactive work in relation to identifying problematic empty and nuisance properties and those with the potential to be dealt with using Section 215 powers, through area based targeting in a number of areas, including the Carr/Hopps Street Regeneration area, Belle Vue, Burbank Street, Everett Street, Oxford Road and Cornwall Street areas.
- 6.10 Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Section 215 action was undertaken in relation to 14 properties at various locations across Hartlepool. This action was focused on improving the visual external appearance of properties and improving the amenity of the local area.
- 6.11 Mandatory licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) was introduced in 2007. This requires HMOs, three or more storeys in size with five or more occupants to be licensed. These licences remain in force for 5 years, unless there are circumstances that require a variation or revocation. Whilst a number of requests have been made for HMO advice and application packs this year, no further licences have been issued as properties fell outside of HMO licensing requirements. The total number of HMO licences in force at the end of Quarter 4 remained at 15.

7. SELECTIVE LICENSING UPDATE

- 7.1 Following approval by Committee in January, the second Selective Licensing designation will come into force from 6th July 2015 and will remain in force for 5 years, coming to an end on 30th June 2020. All potential licence holders have been identified and informed of the requirement to be licensed if they rent out a property in any of the thirteen streets included in table 2.

Table 2 – Streets included in Second Selective Licensing Designation

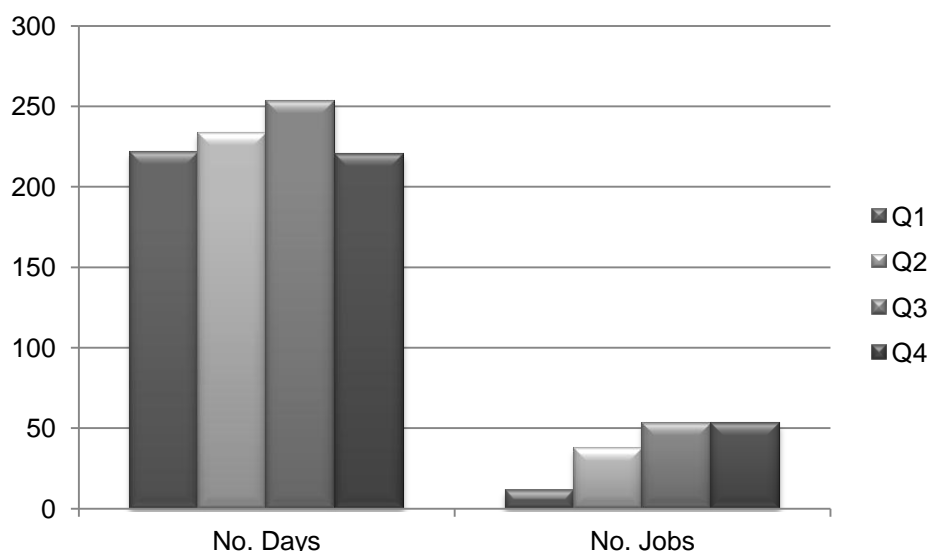
Victoria Ward	Dent Street	Furness Street	Sheriff Street
	Straker Street	Stephen Street	
Burn Valley Ward	Richmond Street	Cornwall Street	Rydal Street
	Kimberley Street		
Foggy Furze Ward	Sydenham Road	Borrowdale Street	
Jesmond Ward	St Oswalds Street		
Headland and Harbour Ward	Burbank Street		

- 7.3 To complement the mandatory licensing scheme a Voluntary Landlord Scheme is also being developed as a collaborative model between the Council and the National Landlord Association: Landlords who sign up for membership will be regulated by the national providers system of compliance and will be offered a package of practical tenancy management support and guidance
- 7.4 In addition to the licensing and voluntary scheme work is also underway to develop a General Register of Landlords to encompass all remaining landlords operating throughout the town. This register will allow us to regularly disseminate relevant housing related information, to ensure all landlords are kept fully informed of their legal obligations and raise awareness of any opportunities they may wish to take advantage of in order to improve the standard of private rented accommodation available in the town.

8. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS (DFG) BENCHMARKING DATA

- 8.1 During the last quarter of 2014/15, 53 DFGs were completed in Hartlepool and the average time taken was 220 days. Figure 1 illustrates the time taken to complete DFG works in Hartlepool during the year.

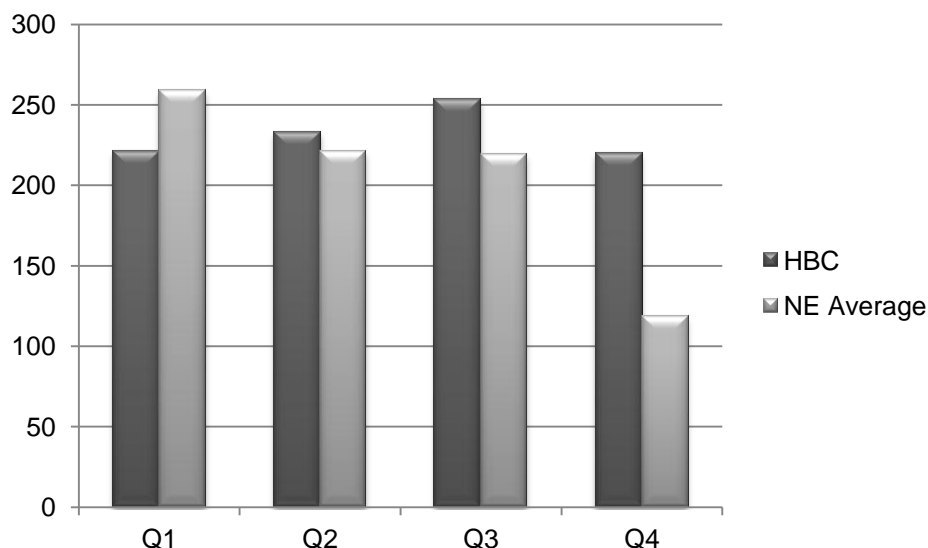
Figure 1 - Time Taken to Complete DFG Works in Hartlepool – 2014/15



- 8.2 The number of DFGs completed during 2014/15 was 154 which is an increase from 116 completed during 2013/14. The average time taken to complete DFG works has increased this year to an average of 232 days compared to 195 days the previous year. The reason for this increased time is due to the rising demand for a limited budget. In accordance with the legislation, once an application form has been completed and assessed for adaptation work it is only valid for 6 months so therefore we only complete these when we have the necessary budget to complete the works within this timescale. A new application would be required if this timescale had elapsed.

- 8.3 Benchmarking data is available from the other members of the North East Adaptations Group for 2014/15. Figure 2 illustrates Hartlepool's benchmarking data against the average time taken with the other local authorities who provide data.

Figure 2 – Time Taken to Complete DFG Works



- 8.4 At the end of Quarter 4, the number of applicants on the waiting list for a DFG was 119 at an estimated cost of £540,100. The DFG budget for 2015/16 received from the Government is £545,849. £200,000 funding has also been received Child and Adult Services. The total funding for 2015/16 is therefore approximately £747,000.

9. ALLOCATIONS SUMMARY

- 9.1 Choice Based Lettings (CBL) activity and performance is monitored on a quarterly basis and compared with our sub regional partners by the Sub Regional CBL Steering Group.
- 9.2 The number of applicants who are 'live' on the system and able to bid increased in Hartlepool during 2013/14 and has continued to rise during 2014/15. This is set out in Table 3 and includes last year's figures in brackets for comparison purposes. 27% of the waiting list is made up from Housing Hartlepool applicants wanting a transfer.

Table 3 – Total number of 'live' applicants (able to bid)

No 'live' applicants	Hartlepool	Sub Regional Total
Quarter 1	2,620 (2,385)	16,383 (15,609)
Quarter 2	2,595 (2,552)	16,383 (15,365)
Quarter 3	2,775 (2,516)	17,036 (15,350)
Quarter 4	3,119 (2,614)	18,724 (16,073)

- 9.3 To ensure that applicants in the greatest need are given preference for an allocation of accommodation, levels of housing need are categorised into bands. Analysis shows that over the year the percentage of applicants whose level of housing need has put them into a 'priority' band has remained static, with around two thirds of applicants having no priority in Band 4. Table 4 shows the number of 'live' applicants within each band and the previous year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 4 – Total number of 'live' applicants (able to bid) within each Band

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Total
Quarter 1	288 (206)	565 (548)	74 (58)	1,693 (1,573)	2,620 (2,385)
Quarter 2	279 (235)	539 (540)	83 (65)	1,694 (1,712)	2,595 (2,552)
Quarter 3	299 (225)	566 (543)	90 (62)	1,820 (1,686)	2,775 (2,516)
Quarter 4	313 (256)	583 (547)	102 (71)	2121 (1,740)	3119 (2,614)

- 9.4 At the end of Quarter 4 the number of decant¹ applicants in Hartlepool was 4.
- 9.5 Some applicants within the three Priority Bands (1, 2 and 3) may also have cumulative needs. During Quarter 4 the number of applicants in Band 1 with cumulative needs has stayed the same at 28. In Band 2 the number has decreased slightly from 58 in the previous quarter to 53. There was one applicant in Band 3 with a cumulative need.
- 9.6 The number of bids made on advertised properties in Hartlepool during Quarter 4 has decreased from the previous quarter. Table 5 shows the numbers of bids made per band within Hartlepool.

Table 5 – Bids per Band (within Hartlepool)

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Total no. bids
Quarter 1	945 (641)	1,615 (1,675)	178 (162)	2,437 (2,799)	5,175 (5,277)
Quarter 2	832 (746)	1,603 (1,645)	171 (151)	2,681 (2,632)	5,287 (5,174)
Quarter 3	1,206 (552)	2,018 (1,589)	149 (84)	2,504 (2,336)	5,877 (4,561)
Quarter 4	775 (537)	1,310 (1,255)	128 (153)	2,686 (2,581)	4,899 (4,526)

¹ a decant applicant is defined as one who is losing their home through a recognised regeneration scheme and they are awarded the greatest priority

- 9.7 During Quarter 4 bidding activity has increased across the sub region. 31,776 bids were placed in total as shown in table 6. Last year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 6 – Bidding activity by type of property (within the Sub Region)

	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed+	Other property type (e.g. studio flat)
Quarter 1	10,158 (15,889)	12,611 (14,035)	7,013 (9,101)	507 (527)	49 (83)	503 (684)
Quarter 2	9,005 (12,495)	11,313 (12,217)	7,323 (7,109)	564 (517)	29 (61)	396 (262)
Quarter 3	8,932 (6,251)	11,536 (6,258)	6,366 (3,558)	678 (191)	32 (4)	338 (121)
Quarter 4	10,291 (11,015)	12,893 (11,392)	7,444 (6,816)	792 (433)	2 (80)	354 (442)

- 9.8 Table 7 demonstrates that the majority of lettings in Hartlepool continue to go to those on the waiting list rather than to Housing Hartlepool transfer applicants. Last year's figures are shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 7 – Lettings Information for Hartlepool

	Total no. lets	Direct Lets	Transfers
Quarter 1	92 (162)	0 (0)	17 (40)
Quarter 2	87 (159)	0 (0)	16 (33)
Quarter 3	99 (138)	3 (0)	28 (27)
Quarter 4	175 (82)	24 (0)	24 (18)

- 9.9 The number of lets within each Band, as shown in Table 8, illustrates that two third of lettings went to applicants within Band 4 which is a significant increase from one third the previous quarter. Figures for the numbers of lets within each band for the previous year are shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 8 – Lets within each Band (within Hartlepool)

	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Total no. lets
Quarter 1	28 (38)	10 (25)	5 (14)	49 (85)	92 (162)
Quarter 2	33 (36)	23 (31)	4 (11)	27 (81)	87 (159)
Quarter 3	35 (35)	23 (26)	12 (11)	29 (66)	99 (138)
Quarter 4	44 (18)	17 (15)	6 (8)	108 (41)	175 (82)

9.10 The numbers of offers that are refused are also monitored. During Quarter 4 the number of refusals of Housing Hartlepool properties increased from 39 in the previous quarter to 67, the main reasons including 'dislikes area', 'no longer wants area' and 'no response to offer'.

9.11 The Sub Regional CBL Policy allows for cross boundary mobility as shown in Table 9.

Table 9 – Cross Boundary Mobility

	Area applicant moved from:	Area applicant re-housed to:	Number
Quarter 1	Stockton	Hartlepool	1
	Hartlepool	Darlington	1
		Middlesbrough	3
		Redcar & Cleveland	2
Quarter 2	Hartlepool	Redcar & Cleveland	1
	Stockton	Hartlepool	3
Quarter 3	Hartlepool	Darlington	1
		Middlesbrough	1
		Redcar & Cleveland	3
		Stockton	2
	Stockton	Hartlepool	2
Quarter 4	Darlington	Hartlepool	1
	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	3
		Redcar & Cleveland	2
		Stockton	3
	Middlesbrough	Hartlepool	2
	Redcar & Cleveland	Hartlepool	2
	Stockton	Hartlepool	4

9.12 The percentage of properties let on first offer is also monitored across the sub region and in Hartlepool has decreased to 84% in Quarter 4 from 91% during Quarter 3.

9.13 In March 2015 the Government published their statutory guidance on the 'Right to Move' on social housing allocations. The Right to Move is for social

tenants who need to move to take up a job or live closer to employment or training.

- 9.14 The Compass allocations policy already awards priority to tenants who need to move within or across local authority boundaries: Band 2, category F awards priority for people who need to move for work or training:

“People who need to move to a particular locality within the sub region in order to take up an offer of employment, education or training, or to be nearer to family or friends in order to give or receive support, providing it is unreasonable to expect them to commute to their place of work from their existing home.”

- 9.15 The guidance further proposes that a local authority should set a quota for the proportion of properties it expects to allocate each year to transferring tenants who need to move into their district for work related reasons and considers that an appropriate quota would be at least 1%. Local authorities who set a quota lower than 1% should explain this.
- 9.16 The Compass Steering Group will need to consider how the quota will operate and if this requires an amendment to the IT system.

10. HOUSING ADVICE AND HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION ACTIVITY

- 10.1 From 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 active casework has been carried out with 1,136 clients to resolve their housing issues. Table 10 provides a breakdown of the enquiry types clients have presented with, alongside the previous year's figures (shown in brackets) for comparison purposes.

Table 10 – Housing Advice Casework

Enquiry Type	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Debt Advice*	54 (35)	58 (73)	84 (54)	31 (64)
Relationship Breakdown	43 (25)	58 (52)	47 (36)	16 (22)
Asked to Leave	60 (30)	83 (61)	49 (42)	25 (87)
Possession Proceedings	98 (28)	87 (54)	82 (79)	26 (61)
Tenancy Advice	33 (19)	27 (30)	31 (29)	23 (44)
Seeking Accommodation	96 (114)	94 (141)	93 (123)	206 (111)
Total Enquiry Types	384 (299)	407 (411)	337 (363)	327 (389)
Total Clients	258 (251)	304 (315)	258 (252)	316 (264)

* includes mortgage and rent arrears

- 10.2 From 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 active casework has prevented 297 households from becoming homeless. Table 11 provides a breakdown of the number of households where homelessness has been prevented per quarter with last year's figures shown for comparison purposes.

Table 11 – Homeless Preventions

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Households where homelessness prevented	73 (75)	78 (77)	66 (88)	80 (86)

- 10.3 Where casework has not resolved homelessness, a number of households have been accepted as statutorily homeless and provided with alternative secure accommodation. Table 12 provides a breakdown of those cases, with last year's figures shown in brackets for comparison purposes.

Table 12 – Homeless Duty Accepted

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Households accepted as statutorily homeless	6 (6)	1 (14)	10 (4)	10 (11)

- 10.4 The Finance and Policy Committee approved the proposal to internalise the management of the Council owned stock, into the remit of Housing Services from 1st April 2015.
- 10.5 At the 1st April 2015, the stock level stood at 183, of which: 82 were new build units developed in 2010; 100 units acquired under phase 1 of the Empty Property Purchasing Scheme; and one additional unit handed back by the management agent. In the pipeline there are a further 60 empty properties to be acquired in the period 2015-18, plus a further 10 new build units in 2015/16.
- 10.6 Future quarterly reports will include voids and rent collection performance monitoring data; benchmarked against national performance standards, plus any other information members feel appropriate.
- 10.7 Finance and Policy Committee approved a separate report on 30th June 2014 for Housing Services to set up a Social Lettings Agency, as a complementary initiative to improve property and management standards in the private rented sector. The Agency will provide similar services to a commercial 'high street' letting and management agent, working closely with a landlord and tenant to help establish and sustain tenancies for the longer term.
- 10.8 This service will complement the social housing management work as described above. It is worth noting that in order to deliver an effective and

comprehensive agency the Housing Management in house service had to be set up first, creating systems to collect rent and other in house systems.

- 10.9 Members will be updated on the progress of this service through the quarterly reports during 2015/16 and will be provided with performance data on the numbers of customers employing the new service.

11. WARM UP NORTH

- 11.1 The Council entered into a partnership with British Gas and eight other Local Authorities in the region to deliver a scheme to improve the energy efficiency of homes in the North East during 2013/14.
- 11.2 During 2014/15, there has been significant investment in Hartlepool which has resulted in 241 households receiving measures to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. These measures are set out in Table 13

Table 13 – Energy Efficiency Measures Installed 2014/15

Measure Type	Number of Measures
Cavity Wall Insulation	186
External Wall Insulation	1
Replacement Gas Boiler	23
Full Gas Central Heating System	1
Loft Insulation	49
Total	260

12. REVIEW OF STRATEGIES

12.1 Housing Strategy 2015-20

Development of the new Housing Strategy has commenced. The new Strategy will also incorporate the Council's Homelessness and Empty Homes Strategies which both expire in 2015. This will enable the Council and its partners to monitor and manage its strategic functions through the delivery of a single Housing Strategy for Hartlepool.

- 12.2 Consultation on the new Housing Strategy has been undertaken in various stages.

- 12.2.1 **Stage 1** - During September 2014, three consultation workshops were held at the Civic Centre and these were attended by Members, the Housing Partnership, Council officers, Registered Providers, private landlords, developers and the voluntary sector. The aim of the workshops was to identify themes and issues affecting housing across all tenures. The issues raised across these priority areas were used as the basis for public consultation and as background for development of the new Housing Strategy.

- 12.2.2 **Stage 2** - Public consultation took place during Quarter 3 via public meetings and residents in Hartlepool were asked to complete a questionnaire.
- 12.2.3 **Stage 3** - The results from the three workshops and the on-line public consultation were used to develop the first draft of the Housing Strategy for 2015–2020. This will be formally consulted on during Quarter 1 2015-16 with all Members, the Housing Partnership, workshop attendees, Council Officers, residents and external partners.
- 12.2.4 **Stage 4** - following the consultation stages outlined above the second draft of the Housing Strategy and an Action Plan for delivery will be developed during June 2015 and will be presented to Committee for approval in July 2015. The final Strategy will reflect the formal feedback received and the views, suggestions and issues that are raised at public events.

13. HOUSING REPORTS ON FORWARD PLAN

13.1 RN07/15 - Hartlepool Housing Strategy 2015-2020

Finance and Policy Committee will consider how the Housing Strategy and Action Plan will meet the key housing priorities for Hartlepool for the period from April 2015 to end of March 2020. The current Housing Strategy ends in March 2015 and during the final year 28 actions remain in the Action Plan for monitoring by the Housing Partnership. The priorities identified for the new Housing Strategy will be clearly linked to other strategies and plans and will be achieved through challenging but deliverable actions. The report will also address financial and delivery arrangements for the Strategy's objectives.

14. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 14.1 Impact Assessments have been carried out on all housing services strategies that are relevant to this report.

15. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 15.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local authorities to consider crime and disorder reduction in the exercise of all their duties, activities and decision-making. This means that all policies, strategies and service delivery need to consider the likely impact on crime and disorder. This legal responsibility affects all employees of the Council as well as those agencies that are contracted by, or that legally contract to work in partnership with the Council in the provision of services.
- 15.2 Hartlepool Borough Council recognises that Community Safety affects all our lives, people, communities and organisations. People need to feel safe and this means developing stronger, confident and more cohesive communities. Community Safety includes reducing crime and disorder and tackling anti-

social behaviour, offending and re-offending, domestic abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, promoting fire safety, road safety and public protection. The key areas of Housing Services have been developed with the reduction of crime and anti social behaviour in mind.

16 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 16.1 Committee Members to note the contents of the report and the progress made across key areas of the Housing Service for information purposes.

17. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1 To ensure that Committee Members of the Regeneration Service Committee are informed about key activities across the Housing Service.

18. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the Committee that an application has been submitted to the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) to deliver the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 In January 2013, the European Commission created the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) in order to tackle the high levels of youth unemployment across member states. The initiative is worth €6 billion in total and is directed at young people who are unemployed or inactive. The YEI will particularly support young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) in regions with a youth unemployment rate of 25% or above.

3.2 The operations under YEI will be expected to achieve the following Programme Deliverables:

- Participants completing a supported intervention
- Participants receiving an offer of employment, education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving
- Participants in education/training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment upon leaving
- Participants in continued education, training programmes leading to a qualification, apprenticeship, traineeship, employment, self-employment six months after leaving

3.3 The Tees Valley qualifies for additional funding under the YEI and has a notional allocation of £10.9m which has been equally matched by £10.9m from

the Tees Valley ESF allocation. The ESF element of the funding needs to be locally matched and, due to the Tees Valley's Transition Region Status, Tees Valley is required to match the ESF element at 40% which equates to £7.2m. This means that the total programme amount for the Tees Valley will be around £29m.

- 3.4 All of the activities delivered through the YEI have to respond to the priorities of the Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Tees Valley European Structural & Investment Funds Strategy (ESIFS) for 2014 – 2020 which outlines the high level activity areas required for the YEI.

4. OPEN CALLS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

- 4.1 On Wednesday 22nd April 2015, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), as the Managing Authority for YEI, issued three Open Calls to commission ESF/YEI projects which will support Priority Axis 1 of the Operational Plan: Inclusive Labour Markets and Investment Priority: 1.3 Sustainable Integration into the Labour Market of Young People (YEI).
- 4.2 A brief description on each of the Open Calls aswell as the indicative budgetary allocations are shown in the table below: -

Open Call	Project Description	YEI Amount	ESF Amount	Local Match	Total Allocation
1	Transition Education and Employment Mentoring and Support: This will provide wrap-around support to all young people who are not in education, employment or training aged 15 to 29 years old to remove any identified barriers and progress them into a positive destination.	£2,597,299	£2,597,299	£1,731,533	£6,926,132
2	Personalised Education, Employment and Enterprise Pathways: This will deliver innovative solutions for young people who are struggling to achieve or progress into a positive destination. It will also support young people furthest away from the labour market by providing them with the skills they need to get into work aswell as offering a flexible learning and skills fund.	£7,436,934	£7,436,934	£4,957,956	£19,831,824

3	Tailored routeways for young people not in employment, education or training: This will provide tailored routeways for young people to enter into priority growth sectors including Advanced Manufacturing, Digital, Logistics, Low Carbon and Health & Social Care through a range of activities such as volunteering, internships, traineeships and apprenticeships.	£865,766	£865,766	£577,178	£2,308,711
TOTAL		£10,900,000	£10,900,000	£7,266,667	£29,066,667

4.3 Across all three Open Calls, DWP invited applications from suitable organisations that can deliver provision across the whole of the Tees Valley area and provide locally based activities particularly within identified marginalised communities. The organisation also needs to focus on delivering intensive support services for 15 to 29 year olds who are NEET.

4.4 There is a two stage application process for the YEI with applications being assessed by DWP.

- Stage 1 – Outline Application, which will assess: -
 - Applicant eligibility;
 - Activity and expenditure eligibility, and;
 - The fit with the ESF Operational Plan and Call Specification.
- Stage 2 – Full Application, which will assess: -
 - Strategic fit;
 - Value for money;
 - Management and control;
 - Deliverability;
 - Procurement / tendering, and;
 - State Aid compliance.

4.5 DWP has stated that it wishes to award contracts to more than one Accountable Body. Projects will commence on 1st October 2015 with all delivery needing to be complete by 31st July 2018.

5. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE PROJECT PROPOSAL

5.1 Following the announcement of the Open Calls, the Council was approached by a number of partners and agreed in principle to act as the Accountable Body to submit bids for all three Calls as part of a Tees Valley Consortium.

5.2 To ensure the applications were submitted by the required deadlines the Council: -

- Set up an interim YEI Steering Group consisting of the five Local Authorities and Tees Valley FE Plus representatives.
- Developed an Expressions of Interest (EOI) Form for potential delivery partners to complete to become part of the Tees Valley Consortium.
- Encouraged organisations from the public, private and voluntary sector to submit an EOI which identifies: -
 - Which Open Call/s they wish to deliver?
 - What activities they could deliver as part of the partnership?
 - How the proposed activities contribute to the Tees Valley ESIF?
 - Previous track record of delivery to the client groups.
 - How much match funding they can contribute to the overall project?
- Presented all of the EOIs to the YEI Steering Group who decided which organisations would be named in the bid based on the above criteria.

5.3 The full consortium consists of 61 partners including the four other Local Authorities in the Tees Valley, five Tees Valley FE Plus providers, Cleveland College of Art and Design, Voluntary Development Agencies, voluntary and community groups and Private Sector Organisations. It is worth noting that the Council has secured the full match funding requirements of £7.2m through this partnership approach.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The YEI is not a payment-on-results programme but instead a 'payment on actual expenditure incurred', with the Managing Authority providing funding in arrears on a quarterly basis. This payment method will be mirrored to delivery partners within their Service Level Agreement (SLA) which reduces the financial risk to the Council.
- 6.2 All of the delivery partners have confirmed that they have the financial capability in which to deliver their activities prior to being paid in arrears and have outlined their match contribution to support this. DWP, as the Managing Authority will also retain 10% of the grant funding until the project closes and all evidence is verified which will reduce the risk of future claw-back. The Council will undertake due diligence checks on all of the delivery partners as part of the SLA negotiation process.

7. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 If successful, the Council will recruit a dedicated YEI Project Team who will be based within the Economic Regeneration Team (ERT) and will be responsible for the contract management of the programme. Whilst there are already dedicated Project Officers employed within ERT who will form part of the YEI Project Team, the size and scale of this project will require additional staff to be employed.
- 7.2 If the full allocation of funding is secured, the proposed structure will be (all full-time equivalent (FTE) Posts): -

- 1 x YEI Programme Manager
- 1 X YEI Project Manager
- 5 X Lead Delivery Officers based within each LA who will be responsible for:
 - Co-ordinating and monitoring the performance of delivery partners in their geographical location;
 - Undertaking financial and auditable checks of partners;
 - Quality assurance, and;
 - Organising bespoke programmes of activity.
- 5 X Admin Apprentices who will support the Lead Delivery Officers
- 4 X Finance/Admin Officers based in Hartlepool to process claims, monitor finance and data entry.

7.3 This staffing structure will need to be re-visited when confirmation is received on the level of funding offered. All of the posts will be externally funded through the YEI Programme.

7.4 In addition, within the Council, there will be dedicated staff within sections such as Adult Education, Youth Support Services and ERT who will deliver activities as part of the YEI and their time will be matched against the project. The amount of FTE Council staff involved will be dependent on the size of the contract.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The full legal implications will not be known until the successful applicant receives the contract. It will be at this stage that Legal will become involved in reviewing this document and supporting with the development of SLAs for each of the delivery partners. The Council will ensure that any contractual documents are reviewed and endorsed by Legal prior to the commencement of any delivery.

8.2 The Corporate Procurement Team has been fully consulted and all procurement processes will be executed in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules which are compliant with procurement law. If gaps in provision are identified following the commencement of the project the Council will follow the policies and principles of Public Procurement Law to procure suitable sub-contractors to deliver elements of the project. This process will be undertaken in an open and transparent manner with all opportunities subject to: -

- Open marketing to potential organisations;
- Suitable guidance, application and selection processes;
- Assessment of applications by suitable qualified and experienced staff, and;
- The selection of the successful application based on merit.

9. IMPACT ON CHILD / FAMILY POVERTY

9.1 This funding will positively contribute to tackling the longer term causes and consequences of child and family poverty by preventing young people from

becoming long term NEET by supporting them into a positive destination of education, employment or training.

10. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 This funding will positively contribute to Section 17 by providing education, employment and training routeways for young people. It will also provide routeways for individuals who may have been identified as high risk of offending.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 This funding will provide opportunities for young people, particularly amongst vulnerable groups such as the seven priority groups shown below: -

- Looked after children and care leavers;
- Young offenders (including those leaving the secure estate);
- Teenage parents;
- Young carers;
- Young people with specific learning difficulties and/or disabilities (SLDD);
- Young people with mental health issues, and;
- Young people with drug and alcohol misuse issues.

- 11.2 An Equality Impact Assessment will be completed if the funding is secured.

12. CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER COUNCIL PROJECTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 12.1 This funding will benefit other Council employment initiatives, such as the Hartlepool Youth Investment Project and Think Families, Think Communities.

- 12.2 The project will also positively contribute to the following indicators: -

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

13. CONCLUSION

- 13.1 Significant work has already been undertaken by the Council to bring together an extremely strong consortium of partners from across the public, private and voluntary sectors.

- 13.2 The Council and its partners are confident that they can deliver the YEI Programme but as stated, there will be more than one Accountable Body awarded a contract. By the time of the Regeneration Services Committee, the Council will know if they have been invited to submit applications for the final stage.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 Members are recommended to note the contents of this report and further update reports will be submitted to Members.

15. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 15.1 [Tees Valley European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014 – 2020](#)

16. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: ECONOMIC REGENERATION QUARTERLY UPDATE
INCLUDING GRANT OUTTURN 2014/2015

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For Information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update Members on the work of the Economic Regeneration Team (ERT). The report also provides the grant outturn for 2014/2015 (see confidential **Appendix 1**).

This appendix contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006) namely 3, Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The ERT has responsibility for delivering services that help stimulate economic growth and job creation and at the same time assist residents to take advantage of economic growth either through employment or business start up. The service works closely with a range of Council sections and external partners including Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU), Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Job Centre Plus (JCP) to ensure a joined up and coordinated approach, maximising benefit to businesses and clients within the town. The Economic Regeneration Strategy (ERS) provides the framework for the service.

4. KEY ACTIVITIES

4.1 One of the key strengths of the ERT is the integration of services with Business Support and Tourism providing the demand stimulus and Hartlepool Working Solutions (HWS) providing the supply side. Maximum added value is achieved by linking activities and ensuring local residents are

able to enter into economic participation and take advantage of economic growth either through employment or business start up and self employment.

4.2 The following sections set out in detail the key activities and achievements of the Team.

4.3 **Overarching Activity**

The service is responsible for the secretariat of the key jobs and economy strategic group, The Economic Regeneration Forum, which is a key method of engaging with the private sector and key public sector partners. In addition the service is responsible for the development of a range of assessments and strategies including the following;

- Hartlepool Economic Assessment
- Hartlepool's Economic Regeneration Strategy
- Hartlepool's Incubation Strategy

4.4 At the current time the service, in conjunction with the Regeneration Team, has been responsible for the delivery of the Hartlepool Vision and commissioning of the Master Plan. GVA Grimley was appointed to undertake the development of the Master Plan and the work is now close to completion.

4.5 The service is also heavily engaged at a sub regional level and has contributed to a number of strategies and activities such as the European Structural Investment Framework and the Strategic Economic Plan ensuring Hartlepool's priorities are recognised and responded to. At a more local level the service contributes to a range of strategies and plans including the Local Plan and the Child Poverty Strategy. In addition the service is supporting the Education Commission and the Broadening Horizons initiative.

4.6 The service is currently leading on the development of a consortium that will bid for the delivery of the Youth Employment Initiative and is likely to be part of a consortium that will bid for the ERDF funded small business start up initiative.

4.7 **Business Support**

4.8 The main aims of the Business Support Team are to increase business start up rates, stimulate SME growth, inward investment and the delivery of business infrastructure.

4.9 **Hartlepool Enterprise Hub**

- The project, part funded by European Regional Development Fund, continues to support the work of the Business Support Team.
- To date activity includes coaching for individuals considering self employment and a number of events including joint networking events, training for employed people considering self employment as a career option, and supporting businesses through information, advice and guidance for growth.

- Headline achievements to date include 51 businesses assisted, 41 jobs created and 27 new business start ups.

4.10 Partnership Working

- The partnership with Digital City Business (DCB) continues to operate, although the closure of DCB's European funded project is increasingly effecting the resource available.
- In response to emerging themes from Hartlepool Vision, the project will concentrate on digital and creative businesses, the Hartlepool Project Officer being part of the steering group of the Creative Cluster being formed. The majority of the work has been 1-2-1 mentoring with eligible businesses and supporting the emerging work of CCAD Creative.
- The Business Team continues to support the Federation of Small Business' bi-monthly networking event which is seen as means of integrating small Hartlepool businesses into the business community, as well as giving them the opportunity to meet other more mature businesses. The Team also supports activities of the North East Chamber of Commerce in Hartlepool.
- The Business Team also supports the steering group of Hartlepool Business Forum. The Forum once again organised the recent Hartlepool Business Awards competition and ceremony.

4.11 Hartlepool Enterprise Centre

- The Business Team operates Hartlepool Enterprise Centre which consists of 50 individual units, the majority of which are occupied by individual businesses. As well as physical space, the Enterprise Centre Team support the businesses in becoming established and growing. The Centre offers central administration facilities, as well as room hire. The centre is in the process of installing a shared telephone and broadband system which will be available to tenants at an additional cost.
- The centre provides the Hub for business support within the Borough Council, including the various activities indicated above. The centre also houses the other elements of the Economic Regeneration Team.
- At the current time occupancy is in excess of 95%. Recent additions to the Centre include Whizzbang 3D Productions, Mick Donnelly Academy of Music, Exclusive Wall Art and Awoken. The in-house coffee shop has recently been taken over by Truly Scrumptious Cakes, who were already residents of the centre.

4.12 Employment Relations

- The Business Team also supports businesses, and occasionally Hartlepool residents, with Employment Relations.

- This includes 1-2-1 support as well as seminars.
- In the year ending March 2015, the project supported 358 businesses ranging from those becoming an employer for the first time to larger organisations with more complex issues.
- The project also ran 4 seminars on such topics as “Performance Matters”, “Employment Legislation Update”

4.13 Business Support is also responsible for the delivery of business infrastructure projects and has been successful in a range of activities that are noted below;

- Hartlepool achieved 33% of the Tees Valley Enterprise Zone land allocation which includes Queens Meadow, Port Estates and Oakesway. Hartlepool's Enterprise Zone is by far the most successfully in the Tees Valley
- Queens Meadow continues to perform well and 10 projects have been delivered. The latest projects see the expansion of Hart Biological and an inward investment project undertaken by Applus, a specialist non destructive testing facility. Overall around 150-200 jobs are expected to be created with a private sector investment of over £2m. There is only 1 unit left within the Rivergreen development and there are current enquiries for this unit. Early discussions have taken place with Rivergreen Developments with regard to phase 2 development of an additional 40,000 sq ft of high quality business accommodation. The development is likely to be predicated on availability of a suitable gap funding scheme.
- HCA has commenced the development of 20,000 sq ft of small business workshop accommodation at Queens Meadow. The development should be available for occupation September 2015 and is the only speculative development to have taken place in the Tees Valley Enterprise Zone
- The new Cleveland Fire Brigade HQ has commenced on site and the development includes nationally important training facilities
- TWI, the service and mobilisation centre for the Redcar Offshore Wind farm is located within the Port Estates and 20 jobs have been created. In addition McDermotts has announced its intention to develop a pipe spooling operation within Port Estates, creating over 100 jobs.
- Longhill and Sandgate Industrial Estates are covered by a Business Improvement District which was implemented as part of the New Deal For Communities Economic Regeneration Strategy for the Estates that was developed and implemented by ERT. These estates are located close to the town centre and include a wide variety of businesses operating from the area including sectors such as retail, service, manufacturing, engineering and wholesale. These business activities are also very diverse and include retail and wholesale operations, equipment hire, car showrooms, right the way through to light manufacturing, engineering, fabrication, and major recycling operations. It is worth noting that prior to

the implementation of the regeneration scheme the estates where home to under 200 businesses, this has now risen to 330 and the estates are almost fully occupied. The Business Improvement District which was renewed for a 5 year period in 2013. The Business Team supports the Estate's Business Association in its work across the estates and in particular with reference to the estate-wide CCTV scheme. The Team has also provided support in issues such as waste transfer and transportation.

- Southern Business Zone encompasses a number of estates: ParkView, Usworth Road and Sovereign Park Estates continue to be well occupied and the team work closely with the respective owners and tenants. The estates are primarily occupied by established businesses and issues handled tend to be mainly matters of estate development and management.
- Tofts Farm, Tees Bay Business Park and Graythorp form the remainder of the Southern Business Zone with support focusing primarily around estate management.
- The service is working with Highways to undertake a major overhaul of business estate signage, funded through the Local Transport Plan.

4.14 Grant Support

- The Council provides direct grant support to encourage business start up, growth and inward investment. In addition the Council has supported the implementation of a regional grant scheme funded through RGF, Let's Grow and a sub regional Business Compass grant scheme for SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises). Detailed information on the 2014/15 outturn and the two external grant schemes are contained in confidential **Appendix 1**.

This appendix contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006) namely (paragraph 3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

- The following table is a summary of the grant awards detailed in **Appendix 1** and covering the last financial year 2014/15;

– Job Creation:	84
– Cost per job created	£1,350
– Jobs Safeguarded:	22
– Business Start Ups assisted:	44
– Private sector leverage:	£264,282
– Empty premises brought back into use:	7
– Number of grant awards:	92
– Total value of grant awards:	£113,227

– Leverage ratio: 1:2.33

- Lets' Grow to date has awarded 4 Hartlepool businesses grant aid totalling £1,280,000 against a private sector spend of £9.2m and 141 new jobs created.
- The Tees Valley Business Compass grant has awarded 6 grants totalling £554,000 against a private sector spend of £2m with 50.5 new jobs created. In addition there are 4 new Let's Grow and Tees Valley Business Compass projects at various stages of the application process.

4.15 The outturn performance indicators for 2014/15 are noted below;;

- Number of Businesses Assisted: 1,127
- Number of jobs created: 311
- Number of business start ups assisted: 65

4.16 The business start up, birth and death data for 2013 demonstrates satisfactory progress, however there is a need for further improvement in births, deaths, business stock levels to reach a successful and sustainable indigenous business market. The detailed data is noted below;

Business Registrations per 10,000 of Population

The number of new business start-ups per ten thousand of the population who are aged 16+.

Area	2012		2013		Change
	Per 10,000	Number	Per 10,000	Number	
Hartlepool	35	260	47	355	+ 95
Tees Valley	37	1,980	49	2,620	+ 640
North East	34	7,265	45	9,685	+ 2,420
Great Britain	53	265,630	68	341,630	+ 76,000

Business Deaths per 10,000 of Population

The number of business closures per ten thousand of the population who are aged 16+.

Area	2012		2013		Change
	Per 10,000	Number	Per 10,000	Number	
Hartlepool	35	260	35	265	+ 5
Tees Valley	34	1,815	32	1,720	- 95
North East	33	7,075	30	6,470	- 605
Great Britain	50	249,570	46	232,540	- 17,030

Business Stock per 10,000 of Population

The numbers of businesses that are currently operating per ten thousand of the population who are aged 16+.

Area	2012		2013		Change
	Per 10,000	Number	Per 10,000	Number	
Hartlepool	294	2,190	307	2,305	+ 115
Tees Valley	299	16,010	312	16,785	+ 775
North East	298	63,725	307	65,890	+ 2,165
Great Britain	461	2,316,705	473	2,392,965	+ 76,260

New Business Survival Rate – 1 Year

The number of newly born business enterprises surviving at least twelve months and the percentage.

Area	2012		2013		Change
	%	Number	%	Number	
Hartlepool	92.9	260	92.3	240	- 20
Tees Valley	94.2	1,830	93.3	1,845	+ 15
North East	93.7	6,625	92.2	6,695	+ 70
Great Britain	93.1	239,965	91.2	242,270	+ 2,305

New Business Survival Rate – 5 Years

The number of newly born business enterprises surviving at least five years and the percentage.

Area	2012		2013		Change
	%	Number	%	Number	
Hartlepool	47.1	165	44.2	115	- 50
Tees Valley	45.5	1,080	42.0	840	- 340
North East	43.7	3,845	41.0	3,145	- 700
Great Britain	44.6	122,580	41.4	108,405	- 14,175

4.17 Tourism

- The Tourism Team provide specialist sectoral business support, largely supporting SME growth. The volume and value of Tourism has recently been analysed through the Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor (STEAM) model. The report analyses changes in the sector between 2009 – 2013. The headline figures are noted below;

	2009	2013	%change
Economic Impact	£118.9m	£142.87m	+ 21.0%
Visitor Numbers	3.18m	3.20m	+ 0.4%
Total Employment FTE	1,883	2,021	+7.3%

4.18 The following activities form the bulk of the work of the Team;

- Co-ordination of two key network groups: Hartlepool Passport Group and Hartlepool Hotels Group
- Delivery of Welcome to Excellence training programmes
- Creation and delivery of My Tees Valley / My Hartlepool training programmes
- Delivery of Familiarisation visits to Hartlepool and Tees Valley by Group Travel Operators
- Promoting the visitor economy to students for business and employment opportunities
- Marketing advice particularly related to e-marketing and online trading.

4.19 The section also has responsibility for business and tourism marketing, promoting the Town to business investors and visitors. The service has

moved significantly towards an e-marketing platform with significant investment in the destinationhartlepool.com and investinhartlepool.com websites. The ability for self-authoring has meant that the sites are maintained on an ongoing basis and costs have been reduced. There have been 103,301 unique visits in the preceding financial year. Following a re-tender exercise both websites will be relaunched in June 2015 with new designs and functions including a fully-responsive design to ensure the sites are optimised to work on all mobile platforms as well.

- 4.20 To support both websites e-newsletters are issued on a weekly basis to 6,000+ subscribers promoting events and timely offers at attractions, eateries and venues in Hartlepool. Hartlepool businesses are also contacted on a monthly basis with a business e-newsletter which is proving an invaluable tool for promoting events, timely advice and consultation purposes.
- 4.21 The service has developed and managed social media channels for marketing purposes as noted below;
- Twitter: 1,400+ followers
 - Facebook: 970 likes
 - Youtube Channel: Hartlepool Vision 11.5k+ views.
- 4.22 The section also develops and implements a range of joint marketing initiatives with local businesses. Three noteworthy examples are listed below;
- EAT Initiative – Developed with the local restaurant trade the initiative has been highly successful and is in its 9th year. Supported by paid advertising, 25,000 EAT brochures are printed and disseminated to a targeted market within the North East. Expected publication date September 2015 In addition a facebook campaign supports the initiative and it is actively marketed on the website.
 - Golf Week- Developed with Redcar and Cleveland Council and local golf courses, Hartlepool has led on the initiative. The programme offers short break golf holidays where golfers book a range of golf courses and compete to win a range of competition prizes. This year's competition has attracted over 300 golfers playing over 780 rounds of golf. Although the figures have not been compiled yet it is anticipated that over 75% are short stay visitors.
 - A project has started to work collectively with the businesses at Navigation Point, Hartlepool Marina to promote the area, its businesses and events across Hartlepool.
- 4.23 Tourism, in conjunction with the Regeneration Team has also led on the development of the Vision brochure, DVD and the delivery of the Vision launch event held in January 2014, which attracted record numbers of delegates. The marketing campaign has been entered for the regional Institute of Public Relations competition which is judged later this year. At the same time Tourism works closely with other Council sections to help deliver

a range of activities such as the twice-yearly Hartlepool Town Hall Theatre and Cinema Guide and the delivery of the High Street Innovation fund Church Square Presents programme of events.

- 4.24 Headland Winter Festival – The service has led on the development of a new large-scale event to take place in November 2015. Working closely with established groups from the Hartlepool Headland community the three-day event - the 'Wintertide Festival' – will celebrate the history and heritage of the area and engage the whole community. The working group is now fully-incorporated with it's own terms of reference and independent financial framework. Funding has been secured from each Ward Councillors personal allowance as well as Tourism Marketing budget and is being sought from funders such as The Arts Council North East, Awards for All and The Fidelio Trust.
- 4.25 Hartlepool Explorer Bus – The Tourism service worked to develop the route and destinations involved in the Easter 2015 pilot of the free Hartlepool Explorer Bus. Following a positive two-week pilot service the bus will return for the school summer Holidays. The service links Seaton Carew, Town Centre, Marina and Headland areas in continuous, free-to-use provision.

5. HARTLEPOOL WORKING SOLUTIONS (HWS)

- 5.1 HWS has evolved over time and provides a broad range of interventions to support disadvantaged residents to become economically active but also supports businesses on recruitment and redundancy scenarios. At the same time HWS has forged strong links with Child and Adults to develop joint initiatives particularly relating to young people and vulnerable adults. Key activities are noted in the following sections.

5.2 Hartlepool Youth Investment Project (HYIP)

- 5.2.1 In October 2012, shortly after the launch of the Hartlepool Youth Investment Project (HYIP), youth unemployment was at 17.8% or 1,470 young people, which was the worst level for over fifteen years and the highest rate in Great Britain. Due to the dedication and efforts of the Council, partners and employers the youth unemployment rate has reduced significantly in under three years and is now at 6.1% or 500 young people(60% reduction) . This is the biggest reduction of any area in Great Britain over the same time period and Hartlepool is no longer in the bottom 10% of Local Authorities for youth unemployment.

5.3 Hartlepool Youth Enterprise Fund

- 5.3.1 The Youth Enterprise Fund, which offers £250 grants to young people aged 11 to 19 years old (up to 25 with additional needs) so they can start their own business, has been ongoing through a partnership between the Council's Economic Regeneration and Youth Support Service Teams. The grants are distributed by the Youth Support Service's Grant Givers Panel with support from business ambassadors and over the last quarter funding

has been distributed to young people for start-up clothing, gaming and technology companies.

5.4 **Youth Engagement And Support (YES) Project**

- 5.4.1 To date sixty nine young people aged 14 to 19 years old have started on the project with twenty one progressing to employment, seven into full time education.

5.5 **Youth Contract**

- 5.5.1 To date thirty three vulnerable young people have started on the project with four progressing into employment and a further 19 into full time education.

5.6 **Youth Guarantee**

- 5.6.1 Youth Guarantee has been successfully delivered to 233 Year 11 pupils. 222 successfully made the transition into education, employment or training (EET). The remaining pupils either moved out of the area or could not progress to EET due to serious illness.

- 5.6.2 HYIP- Entrepreneur event held on 17 March at HCFE. Students from Hartlepool Vi Form, HCFE and High Tunstall invited with 10 companies taking part in workshops and 15 display stands. Approx 100 students attended.

5.7 **Hartlepool Employer Core Offer**

- Niramax and Seneca Trust LGV2 Routeway – second routeway has been successful with 7 people entering work to date from 10 that completed the programme. Recruitment for third routeway is complete with 12 long term, unemployed JSA claimants signed up to programme and funding confirmed.
- Armed Forces Employability Pathway – Hartlepool model and date agreed via Hartlepool Afep Steering Group. 30 customers to be recruited to start ion programme 15 June start. Recruitment drive underway and also ERT have secured 30 potential work experience placements for right customers.
- Environmental apprenticeship programme 14/15 – 12 apprentices recruited on programme; 4 have gone into work; 6 due to leave June 15; 1 August and 1 October. Funding has been secured for 10 apprentices for 15/16 programme and recruitment will commence May 2015.

5.8 **Tees Valley Workforce Skills Project**

- The project is delivering training to 172 companies in Hartlepool alone, which equates to approximately 1,157 individual staff members.

- The most commonly provided training modules in Hartlepool are Food Hygiene, First Aid and Health and Safety, making up 75% of all training requests from employers.
- The Business Co-ordinator recently gave a presentation to eighteen organisations from the Voluntary and Community sector. This raised awareness of the project and increased uptake with five of the organisations signing up for training.

5.9 Project Development

- A Stage 1 application was submitted in December 2014 to Big Lottery (BIG) for £400k funding on behalf of Waverley Terrace Allotments (WTA). In February 2015 confirmation was received from BIG advising Stage 1 was successful and inviting a Stage 2 Application to be submitted by 13 June 2015.

A draft Application has been circulated for feedback and is on target to be submitted within the timescale. Completion of a Capital checklist (requirement of the Stage 2 application) and planning permission for the additional capital work is being completed by a representative of the Building Design and Construction Team.

The aims and objectives of the application are to enable WTA to become a sustainable body and allow current services to continue and be expanded. Additional resources such as an office block, car parking and welfare facilities, have been identified and the funding will provide the costs for a Business Co-ordinator and a Volunteer Co-ordinator to be employed. An evaluation of the current services is being carried out by a representative of the Economic Regeneration team.

- The Northern Lights Academy is a state of the art facility for art, dance, music and drama which opened in July 2010 and the Council's Economic Regeneration Team has worked with the organisation to submit a successful Big Lottery Fund Awards for All application for £9,550. This will provide funding for an expert consultant to develop a five year business plan for the centre as well as a full consultation exercise with the local community.
- The Owton Fens Community Association (OFCA) manages the Jutland Road Community Centre which offers a range of activities for children, young people, adults and families. The Council's Economic Regeneration Team has been working with the group to source and secure external funding to continue the excellent services which are delivered to residents within the local community.
- Hart Gables is the only specialist Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) support organisation in the Tees Valley and offers a range of counselling, hate crime support and awareness training. The Council's Economic Regeneration Team has supported the organisation to submit Big Lottery Fund Reaching Communities Stage 1 and Stage 2

funding applications, which if successful, will allow the range of services delivered to be extended across Hartlepool and Middlesbrough.

- Hart Church- successful Awards for All bid £7150 – working on community consultation strategy with Community Regen which will start 20th June. Hart Church want me to lead on co-ordination of project. The Council will assist in the development of the business plan. To be completed by end September 2015.

5.10 The outturn performance indicators for 2014/15 are noted below;

• Residents into Training	222
• Residents into Training – Long Term Unemployed	130
• Residents into Training – Young People	134
• Residents into Employment	93
• Residents into Employment – Long Term Unemployed	51
• Residents into Employment – Young People	63
• External Funding Defrayed (whole service)	£498,897

6. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no specific legal or financial implications for the purposes of this report.

7. IMPACT ON CHILD / FAMILY POVERTY

7.1 Being economically active is an accepted way of helping to alleviate child poverty and all the services of the Economic Regeneration Team are targeted at achieving economic growth and participation. In addition the service seeks to support value added businesses where, in general terms skills levels are higher and consequently wage levels are also correspondingly higher, providing better standards of living.

8. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 A range of activities support crime reduction measures. The business community is assisted with crime reduction measures including the BIDS at Longhill and Sandgate Industrial Estates. In addition, assisting residents to become economically active is an established method of assisting in the reduction of crime.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 The service provides universal access for all, but also targets specific groups that have multiple barriers to achieving economic participation and often have multiple barriers to progressing into education, training, employment and enterprise.

10. CONTRIBUTION TO OTHER COUNCIL PROJECTS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

10.1 This funding will benefit other Council business and employment initiatives and will also support a broad range of key Council partners including the voluntary and community sector. The project will positively contribute to the following indicators;

- Business start up rates;
- Business survival rates;
- Numbers of jobs created;
- Improving the Overall Employment Rate;
- Improving the Overall Youth Employment Rate;
- Reducing the Youth Unemployment Rate, and;
- Reducing the number of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That Members note the contents of this report and that further update reports will be submitted to this Committee.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 destinationhartlepool.com

13. CONTACT OFFICER

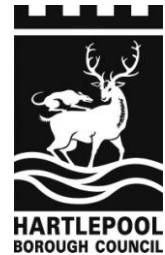
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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT FOR HERITAGE
AND COUNTRYSIDE – APRIL – JUNE 2015

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

This report is for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To update the Regeneration Services Committee on performance and progress across the key areas of Heritage and Countryside Services for the fourth quarter of 2014/2015.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Heritage and Countryside Service consists of five discrete service areas: Countryside Wardens, Rights of Way and the Local Access Forum, Ecology, Built Heritage and Tees Archaeology. The service is an amalgamation of parts of the Parks and Countryside and Landscape Planning and Conservation Teams.
- 3.2 The Countryside Wardens are responsible for the Local Nature Reserves within the Borough and organise and run the Countryside Volunteer Scheme. Their work includes the organisation of environmental education activities and events for schools and community groups offering guidance and advice to the public on countryside and conservation.
- 3.3 The Rights of Way Officer maintains the records of the rights of way network in Hartlepool and works with landowners, community groups and other interested parties to improve and enhance the network. The Local Access Forum Coordinator works alongside the Rights of Way Officer. The Tees Valley Local Access Forum is a joint LAF, comprising the four local authority areas (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton). It was set up as part of the requirements within the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. It provides independent advice to the four Local Authorities and other

national organisations, such as Natural England on a range of issues relating to making the countryside more accessible.

- 3.4 The Ecologist provides advice and carries out ecology surveys. The section also has wider roles across the Council including ensuring that the authority complies with statutory duties such as the Habitats Directive, Wildlife & Countryside Act and NERC (Natural Environment and Rural Communities) Act.
- 3.5 The section provides an advisory service offering guidance on works to listed buildings and properties in conservation areas. Alongside this project work includes working with community groups to raise the profile of the built heritage of Hartlepool and the development and delivery of conservation grant schemes.
- 3.6 Tees Archaeology is a shared service between Hartlepool and Stockton Borough Councils based in Sir William Gray House. The section provides the Local Planning Authorities and other relevant organisations with advice on the archaeological implications of planning proposals and maintains and updates a Heritage Environment Record (HER). Government policy requires authorities to hold a record of heritage assets, archaeological and historical sites and other information such as excavations, found objects and documentary sources within its area. It is also involved in a wide range of projects both in Hartlepool, Stockton and the wider region.

4. COUNTRYSIDE WARDENS

- 4.1 Throughout the Easter holidays the Wardens provided support and ran activities at a number of events held across the town. These ranged from making a wooden caterpillar planter at Summerhill, a litter pick and planting primroses in Stranton Cemetery, to helping clear areas of the village Wildlife Garden for Elwick Parish Council.
- 4.2 The entrance pillars to Seaton Park have finally been unveiled following a successful World War I project bid by the Friends of Seaton Park to the Heritage Lottery for £10K. The stone pillars were constructed last year and fitted with granite plaques to commemorate the World War I centenary. Staff ran workshops with a member of the Friends and students from Holy Trinity Primary created an individually designed ceramic tile to decorate the park side of the pillars with 204 glazed tiles. In addition to this work the volunteers and wardens have also assisted in the installation of four picnic benches.
- 4.3 The Countryside Team and the volunteers carried out repairs and in part replaced fencing in the lay-by on the A689 between Queens Meadow and Sappers Corner and at other points along the fence line. The fence not only provides a safe barrier between the Fens estate and the A689 but also prevents copious amounts of litter from entering the shelter belt, which forms a wildlife corridor extending along the southern boundary of the Fens. Other

maintenance and improvement works have included transplanting approximately 1000 polyanthus plants from formal beds in Ward Jackson Park to less formal areas of the park and some to Seaton Park and the clearance of debris and rotting vegetation from Burn Valley Beck.

- 4.4 A series of deliberately set fires has devastated large tracts of Seaton Dunes, an area notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest partly because of its rare and diverse sand dune plant communities. These areas totalled 2.55ha and this degree of damage is unprecedented in recent years. In the short to medium term the impact on the plant and invertebrate communities is one of total destruction. The Countryside team are working with the Friends of Teesmouth, Seaton Dunes and Common to look for ways of engaging with young people to educate them about the ecological damage caused by these attacks. Staff are attending a Primary School Conference on 1st July and will run an activity to address the problem.

5. RIGHTS OF WAY AND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

- 5.1 A number of urban fringe public footpaths have been resurfaced as part of a town-wide scheme to provide safer and more usable routes to school, employment, services and recreation. The paths will also have permissive cycle rights placed on them, to allow a broader section of the community access. Part of this work requires the removal of old and inaccessible countryside furniture (stiles), to be replaced with more accessible furniture (self-closing gates, kissing gates and 'A' Frames (Motorbike Inhibitors)). In addition to this a number of public path orders for diversion and extinguishments of the right of way network are being processed.
- 5.2 The Annual General Meeting of the Local Access Forum was held recently. Much of the work in this quarter has been focused on compiling the Annual Report for the Forum and considering ways in which membership of the Forum can be increased. Alongside this the group continues to feed into the work of projects across the Tees Valley such as River Tees Rediscovered and the English Coastal Path

6. ECOLOGY

- 6.1 A number of surveys have been carried out in recent months as part of the teams consultancy work for various clients including private individuals and a Housing Association. In addition surveys have been completed and advice provided on a number of in-house projects including a new survey at Tofts Farm in preparation for the proposed relocation of the Depot.
- 6.2 Advice continues to be provided on planning applications and wider ecological matters. This has included providing support to the Planning Services Section with a Habitats Regulations Assessment completed for the Seaton Regeneration Master Plan and the development of policies for the Natural Environment chapter of the Local Plan.

- 6.3 Work with the community this quarter included an environmental education class provided at St Helens Primary School and a talk given to Tangent Ladies group.

7 BUILT HERITAGE

- 7.1 This quarter has seen the development of a Heritage Strategy for the town with assistance from Historic England, Tees Archaeology and the Conservation Area Advisory Committee. The document sets out a positive approach to conservation and enhancement of the historic environment for the enjoyment of businesses, visitors and residents of the Borough. It will eventually become a Supplementary Planning Document and part of the suite of documents which make up the Local Plan. In addition to this comments and advice continues to be provided through the planning process on applications and queries received through Planning Services.
- 7.2 Work on this years Buildings at Risk Survey has begun with officers working with Hartlepool Police Cadets to survey buildings in the Headland and Church Street areas. The information and photographs taken by the Cadets will be fed into town wide surveys which will be carried out over the summer months. Assistance has also been provided to Tees Archaeology who are working with Stockton Council on a project funded by Historic England. Officers have shared experience from past schemes and assisted in workshops run to train volunteers in survey methods in order to assess listed buildings in Norton.

8 TEES ARCHAEOLOGY

- 8.1 Tees Archaeology has been commissioned by Historic England to work with a Maritime Archaeology Consultant to assess the importance of post 1840AD shipwrecks off the local coastline. This is a pilot project which will develop criteria to be used nationally to assess the importance of shipwrecks of this period and consider which should be protected by legal designations.
- 8.2 As part of the River Tees Rediscovered Landscape Partnership Project Tees Archaeology has delivered very well attended workshops in Egglescliffe, Low Worsall, Middlesbrough and most recently about the North Gare based at the EDF Visitor Centre at the Nuclear Power Station. This workshop was provided in partnership with English Nature and included a guided visit to the medieval salt mounds at Seaton Common and to view the remains of the World War II defences at North Gare.
- 8.3 There is a constant process of improving the Historic Environment Record (HER) which contains information about the Historic Environment of Hartlepool and Stockton. Tees Archaeology is also focused on making information about the Historic Environment as widely available as possible. This is achieved through the website for the service

(www.teesarchaeology.com). Basic information from the HER has now been made available online through our website. This has been accomplished with the help of a student placement from Teesside University and it is hoped that further placements will improve this and allow the addition of additional information.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

10. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 There are no Section 17 Implications.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 That the Regeneration Services Committee notes the content of the report and the progress made across key areas of the Heritage and Countryside Team.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 There are no background papers.

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAMS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For Information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update Members on potential funding available to “Coastal Community Teams” to enable them to be established, support development of a plan and/or progress initial priorities.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Various bidding rounds have been held previously for Coastal Communities over several years, in the form of competitive bids for relatively high levels of funding towards capital projects.

3.2 In the past, Hartlepool has bid for funding in respect of the development of a STEM (Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering) facility and towards the development of the Innovation and Skills Quarter. The STEM bid was accepted to progress beyond Expression of Interest (EOI) stage, however the timescales imposed to achieve full application were short, and the project was not developed sufficiently to allow a full application to be undertaken.

3.3 The initial bid in respect of the Innovation and Skills Quarter was not accepted for progression beyond EOI stage.

4. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

4.1 The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has now published bidding criteria for the establishment of a “Coastal Community Team”, with potential funding to enable it to be established, support development of a plan and/or progress initial priorities

4.2 Membership of the Team should be from a cross section of local community together with representation from the Local Authority.

- 4.3 From their knowledge of local economic issues, the Team will develop a plan for making improvements, either building on an existing plan or developing an entirely new initiative.
- 4.4 Whilst the Team can choose their own priorities, DCLG suggests the following areas:
- Enhancing the attractiveness and accessibility of public areas
 - Providing increased community facilities
 - Promoting the visitor economy
 - Encouraging sustainable uses of heritage/cultural assets
 - Creating links to support the growth and performance of the retail sector.
- 4.5 Revenue funding of £10,000 is available to up to 110 Coastal Community Teams in England. If the bid is successful, the Local Authority will act as the accountable body, and funding must be spent by March 2016.
- 4.6 It is proposed that a Coastal Revival Fund will also be established, subject to a separate bidding process, which will be to support the development of local assets of heritage or community value in order to make them sustainable into the future, and also deliver economic benefit to the community. Whilst this fund is not being made available exclusively to those areas with a Coastal Community Team, they will be encouraged to apply when the bidding process is published.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Hartlepool already has a strong track record of building strong, inclusive partnerships.
- 5.2 Due to the time constraints in the bidding process, in terms of developing a Coastal Community Team, a subgroup of the Economic Forum has been created, as this provides representation from the necessary cross section of the local community.
- 5.3 The Hartlepool Regeneration Masterplan provides the strategic framework within which the Team will operate and from which priorities will be determined, should the bid be successful.

6. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific legal or financial implications for the purposes of this report.

7. IMPACT ON CHILD / FAMILY POVERTY

- 7.1 Being economically active is an accepted way of helping to alleviate child poverty and the services of the priorities of this fund will be targeted at achieving economic growth.

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

- 8.1 There are no Section 17 implications in respect of this project.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations involved in the development of the Coastal Community Team.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That Members note the contents of this report and that further update reports will be submitted to this Committee.

13. CONTACT OFFICER

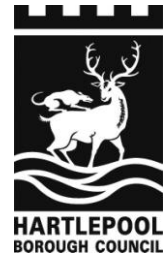
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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: QUARTERLY UPDATE REPORT FOR PLANNING
SERVICES JANUARY – MARCH 2015

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

This report is for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To update the Regeneration Services Committee on performance and progress across the key areas of Planning Services for the fourth quarter of 2014/2015.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Planning Service consists of two discrete teams: Development Control and Planning Policy.
- 3.2 The Development Control Team focuses on assessing proposals for new development and their impact on their surroundings, particularly in the form of planning applications. The service encourages the use of an advisory service (One Stop Shop) to enable proposals to be considered informally before applications are submitted, helping to improve the quality of development where appropriate. The section is also responsible for monitoring development and, where necessary, implementing enforcement action against unauthorised development, including derelict and untidy buildings and land.
- 3.3 Planning Policy is responsible for spatial planning policy and sustainable development policy, this includes the preparation, monitoring and review of the statutory Local Development Framework including the Local Plan, which will establish the overarching planning policy framework for the Borough and will eventually replace the adopted Hartlepool Local Plan 2006. The section also provides policy advice in relation to planning applications and guidance on development activities, including the preparation of development briefs.

4. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

- 4.1 In terms of the performance for the year 94% of all planning applications were approved, this demonstrates the proactive, pro-development nature of the planning team.
- 4.2 In terms of major applications (such as minerals and waste developments, residential developments over 10 dwellings, the creation of floorspace over 1,000 square metres or sites over 1 hectare) which have been received, 88% were determined within the required target date (13 weeks or longer with the applicant's consent) well above the national target of 60%.
- 4.3 In terms of minor planning applications (such as residential developments up to 9 dwellings, the creation of floor space less than 1,000 square metres or sites less than 1 hectare) for the quarter, 79% were determined within the 8 week target; well above the national target of 65%.
- 4.4 With regard to other planning applications (such as change of use, householder development, advertisements, notifications etc) for the quarter, 91% were determined within the 8 week target date well above the national target of 80%.
- 4.5 This quarter the Council lost one appeal at Quarry Farm (81 dwellings) which was allowed.
- 4.6 The applications received this quarter have generated a fee income of £82,571 with an overall income of £837,985 for the financial year 2014/15; compared to 2013/14 of £372,837. This is a significant increase in fees received compared to previous years; the knock on effect being that the service has to process and determine more and more complex applications during this time.
- 4.7 This quarter 121 informal enquiries (pre-application advice in the form of the 'One Stop Shop') have been received; 81% of them being responded to within the 15 working day time period.
- 4.8 Planning Services receives complaints regarding potential planning breaches which are then investigated by the Council's Planning Enforcement Officer; 37 Complaints were received this quarter. This quarter 54 % of complaints were completed in 4 Months, the low number being due to a high number of complaints received this quarter and longstanding complaints (outside the 4 Month target) which were reported to Planning Committee for closing by Members.

5. PLANNING POLICY

- 5.1 Officers have completed the public consultation on the Issues and Options Paper which is the first stage of the new Local Plan. The aim of this stage is to seek public thoughts and open the debate on what kind of place residents,

businesses and all other stakeholders want Hartlepool to be in the future. Specifically it will focus on the most appropriate locations for development to occur over the next 15 years. The Council received 45 responses to the consultation; the results will be published, along with the Council's response to those comments in a Consultation Statement document.

- 5.2 Officer are now working on the Draft Local Plan taking into consideration the results of the public consultation on the Issues and Options paper.
- 5.3 The main evidence base documents that underpin the Local Plan include, the Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA), Employment Land Review (ELR), The Open Space Assessment, Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). All of these documents have been completed. The Planning Policy section is now in discussions with Statutory Consultees (primarily Highways England), Neighbouring Local Authorities and landowners/developers in order to develop the Draft Local Plan and ensure that the preferred development approach is deliverable.
- 5.4 Officers have also been offering professional planning advice to the Neighbourhood Planning Groups which have been established in the Borough to support the Community Regeneration Team.
- 5.5 In the last quarter the Planning Policy section has, as part of its regular workload, been heavily involved in the processing of major planning applications. This is primarily providing professional advice to seek and negotiate developer contributions which subsequently involves viability testing. Examples include applications at the South West Extension, Wynyard and High Tunstall.
- 5.6 Arboricultural Officers continue to survey publicly owned trees in various locations within the town. These inspections are carried out on a cyclical basis with trees examined to identify any risks they may pose to the public or signs of obvious defects which can then in turn be reported to enable appropriate remedial action to take place. Officers have also carried out a review of a number of Tree Preservation Orders to ensure that the information remains up to date in areas where tree works have been carried out.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

7. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 There are no Section 17 Implications.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That the Regeneration Services Committee notes the content of the report and the progress made across key areas of the Planning Services Team.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 There are no background papers.

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: NORTH LINEAR PARK PROJECT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to notify the Committee of the proposal to submit a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grant application based on the area around the former Hartlepool to Haswell railway line.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Hartlepool Heritage and Green Spaces Group (formerly North Linear Park Steering Group) is made up of local residents and representatives from interest groups. They have met on a regular basis for a number of years to discuss proposals in and around the area with the main focus of work developing and connecting the public spaces in the North West part of the town.
- 3.2 After initial discussions with the HLF an application was submitted in 2014 for a project in the area. The Local Authority was notified at the beginning of 2015 that the application was unsuccessful however feedback from the HLF was positive and officers were encouraged to consider revising the submission. It was considered that there was scope to pursue an amended application for this area.

4. HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND APPLICATION

- 4.1 The North Linear Park extends from Hartlepool Headland to the County Durham border and includes the communities of Hart Station and Clavering.

- 4.2 The project will raise awareness of the natural and built heritage in the area and improve access to that heritage. The Linear Park is dominated by the old railway which was constructed in 1835 to link Durham Collieries to new coal staithes built at Hartlepool. The success of the venture led directly to the development of West Hartlepool. The project area includes evidence of industrial activity and 20th century defences and encompasses the most diverse suite of habitats in Hartlepool ranging from ancient semi-natural woodland through calcareous grassland, open mosaic habitat, dune and inter-tidal habitats. Much of this landscape is accessible and enjoyed by many. The project will develop areas of natural habitat and involve the community in a series of activities, guided walks and workshops.
- 4.3 The North Linear Park contains some important and varied natural and built heritage sites which vary in scope and scale from hidden but important archaeological sites to the visible evolving landscape all along the historic railway. The Project will improve access, raise local awareness and increase involvement in the natural and built heritage of the area.
- 4.4 The application is for an initial grant to support the development of the project. Should this be successful the first phase would be an audit of the historic environment in order to inform the detailed content of the second phase of the project and to provide information that can be made available to the local community. This would include liaising with residents and interested parties to develop individual projects.
- 4.5 A further application would then be made within a year of the initial application for the second phase of the project. Examples of the type of projects that would be run in this phase of the scheme include,
- The creation of two new access links between existing public footpaths to improve the current infrastructure and to make the most of the surroundings as well as linking and enhancing the experience for people accessing the England Coast Path National Trail.
 - The promotion of the current local footpath network to encourage its use by local people through a programme of organised walks including guides to identify the natural and built heritage that can be seen along the route.
 - A series of workshops showing local people how they can find out about their own heritage. These will be combined with visits to raise the profile of particular aspects of the heritage of the area.
 - Local people will take part in Geophysical Surveys and Archaeological Excavations to reveal aspects of the heritage of the area. This will look in particular at the location of a rare First World War Sound Mirror and Medieval Settlement in the area.
 - A Building Recording project in the area will train local volunteers in how to record buildings and raise their awareness of the built heritage of the area.
 - Local volunteers will be trained in carrying out Oral History interviews and a project will take place which will try to capture the

changes in the area that have happened since the Second World War, a period when many of the communities in the area came into being.

- Local volunteers will be trained in species identification and survey techniques with a view to trying to rediscover 'the lost beasts of Hartlepool' or to add to our knowledge of the distribution of other key species in the project area.
- Local people will be encouraged to provide positive management of a number of Local Wildlife Sites in order to restore their interest features and carry out some habitat creation.
- The Biodiversity and management of High Springwell Community Woodland will be improved through greater community engagement and training.
- A pond/ wetland area will be created in Central Park. This will be a valuable addition to the wildlife habitats in the area as, currently, the only other publically accessible wetlands in the project area are two small ponds on the Hart to Haswell Walkway. Volunteers will be involved in the creation, maintenance and monitoring of the pond/ wetland.

- 4.6 These activities will be brought together through the provision of - guided walks / visits; information leaflets and reports which will be produced in a range of physical and media formats. An educational programme will be provided working with local schools which will involve specialist staff going into schools and schools taking part in site visits.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The main costs to Hartlepool Borough Council are staff time to support the development of the application.
- 5.2 Should the application be successful funding would be provided for an officer to support the development of the project. There would be sufficient grant to cover the core costs of any post for the whole development period where upon a further grant application would then be submitted.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equality or diversity implications.

7. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 There are no Section 17 Implications.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 Committee is requested to note the proposal to submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund in August 2015 for a development grant to support the development of a project based around the Hartlepool to Haswell Railway.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 9.1 The potential benefits that could accrue from the project are extremely high. The project would support work with community groups and volunteers from the wider area resulting in an increased awareness of the heritage and natural environment of this part of Hartlepool, and improved access within the area.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 There are no background papers.

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: THE MOVING FORWARD PROJECT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To inform the Committee of additional funding acquired from the Skills Funding Agency to deliver a Community Learning Mental health pilot project.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Within the last autumn statement it was announced that Community Learning providers would be able to secure additional funding to deliver a Community Learning Mental health pilot.

3.2 The offer of the possibility of additional funding was received in January 2015 and was to be allocated against two key themes namely:-

- Developing a staff training programme to support those delivering on the project
- Developing and delivering a range of short informal training sessions suitable to the needs of the client group

3.3 Hartlepool Adult Education is a Community Learning provider and therefore welcomed the opportunity to seek additional funding to support learners with a mental health need.

3.4 The service was informed that they were successful in acquiring the funding in March 2015. However owing to restrictions placed on providers during the 'purdah' period officers were instructed not to proceed with any activities or make the decision public until after all Ministers had been confirmed.

3.5 The funding allocated will be available over two academic years i.e. 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 and is for a maximum of £80,000. The autumn

statement also set aside a further £15 million which may be available in 2016-2017.

- 3.6 A key part of the project is to ensure that the activities of the project complement any existing provision which is already available through other organisations and that the activities also match the identified needs of partners and service users.
- 3.7 To date the service has been in contact with a number of organisations to determine if they would like to be a partner in the pilot and to seek their views on priorities. In particular there has been consultation with Child and Adult services who have identified a need to support adults who have a mild to moderate mental health need. Particular groups have been identified as those suffering Anxiety, Depression or Substance misuse and it is these groups that the project will support

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The additional funding allocation to Hartlepool will be used to provide a staff training programme for staff involved with the project and will support the delivery of activities to support those adults with a mild mental health need to participate in learning activities.
- 4.2 The project will work in partnership with a range of organisations to provide coordinated assessment and support for the target group to allow participation and progression to further learning.
- 4.3 All participants who are recruited or referred to the project will have a recognised standard assessment prior to their commencement and will be supported throughout with a learning mentor and personal mentor.
- 4.4 The project team will work with the designated team from The Department of Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) to contribute to the evaluation of the National pilot and to share good practice across all the Community Learning Providers.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 This project is fully funded from the grant from the Skills Funding Agency so there are no financial implications for Hartlepool Borough Council or for the other partners.

6. STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 As the amount of funding is specifically targeted to a client group and will be undertaken over a short timescale and is limited to the two key themes so there will be no additional staffing requirements. All activities will be covered

by existing staff. The funding is to be used on training and development of existing staff.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 This project will support adults who have mild to moderate mental health issues. This client group have difficulty in accessing similar mainstream programmes.

8. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Members of the Regeneration Services Committee note the report.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The additional funding will allow the service to increase the participation in learning by those adults who may be suffering from mild mental health issues.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are no background papers.

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

17th July 2015



Report of: Assistant Director (Regeneration)

Subject: ESTATES & REGENERATION UPDATE REPORT –
DECEMBER 2014 - JUNE 2015

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 The report is for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update the Regeneration Services Committee about progress across key areas of the Estates & Regeneration Section relating to capital receipts & property management together with progress in relation to the masterplan, other regeneration initiatives and capital investment and funding bids.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The report provides an update on progress across key areas of the service.

Development and Regeneration

3.2 Seaton Masterplan

3.2.1 The regeneration proposals for Seaton Carew include residential development on three Council owned sites that will release money to deliver a range of projects.

3.2.2 The identified improvements include a comprehensive redevelopment scheme for the Front, the creation of new family orientated visitor facilities and the creation of a new Community Hub.

3.2.3 A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is currently being prepared to underpin the regeneration proposals. The purpose of the Seaton Carew Masterplan SPD is to provide detailed guidance setting out the type of development that's most appropriate to the regeneration of the resort. The SPD will form part of the Hartlepool Local Plan and will become a material consideration when determining planning applications in this area.

- 3.2.4 The draft SPD has recently been the subject of a comprehensive public consultation exercise which received over 380 responses. The Seaton Carew Masterplan SPD is currently being revised in light of the consultation results. The SPD is expected to be presented to the Regeneration Services Committee in August and Council for adoption in September 2015.
- 3.2.5 As reported to the Finance and Policy Committee on the 23rd March 2015, the Finance and Policy Committee approved the preparatory work for the use of compulsory purchase powers under Section 226(1)(a) of the town and country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to acquire the Longscar site, subject to negotiation with the owners to resolve the matter without the need to the Council to invoke its CPO powers. Work is currently progressing on the acquisition of the Longscar building.
- 3.2.6 Finance and Policy also agreed on 1st June 2015 that the Seaton Carew capital receipts and expenditure commitments be noted and that the costs of purchasing the Longscar Hall site were anticipated to be less than forecast also be noted. In addition, the funding allocated for the provision of community facilities will be reviewed. Therefore, in accordance with the Council resolution on 5th September 2013, a further report would be submit to a future meeting when the position is more certain to enable the Committee to make recommendations to Council
- 3.2.7 A more detailed update on the regeneration of Seaton Carew will be presented to the Finance and Policy Committee on the 27th July 2015.
- 3.3 **Hartlepool Regeneration Masterplan** –The Masterplan is currently being finalised with the production of a detailed delivery plan which sets out the assumptions adopted in terms of costs and values, financial viability, land ownership, funding proposals and economic impact. It sets out details of the assessment processes undertaken and the specific delivery approaches proposed to ensure that the Hartlepool Regeneration Masterplan can be delivered and aspirations fulfilled. The final Masterplan is anticipated to be reported to the Regeneration services Committee in September 2015.
- 3.4 **Local Growth Fund** –The Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership recently agreed an expansion of its Growth Deal with the Government which will see an extra £13.9m invested in the Tees Valley between 2016 and 2021.
- 3.4.1 £5.4m has been identified for the Innovation and Skills Quarter to deliver the ambitions identified in the Hartlepool Vision.
- 3.4.2 The project will involve the creation workspace, highways and public realm improvements around the Church Street area.
- 3.4.3 A project management document is currently being prepared to guide the development of the project. Feasibility work has also been commissioned to prepare feasibility work relating to the creation of a creative industry sector managed workspace facility, primarily for new small and Medium sized Enterprises in the Church Street area, maximising the opportunities from the

expansion of Cleveland College of Art and Design. This will underpin the evidence required for the Local Growth fund due diligence process.

- 3.4.4 DTZ have been appointed to undertake a comprehensive market assessment of both the current and future demand for creative workspace together with an assessment of appropriate buildings and the costs of conversion. This work will inform the LGF business case to evidence the viability proposal and secure the funding allocation.
- 3.5 **Friarage Manor House** - Thirteen have now acquired the Friarage Manor House and surrounding land from the Henry Smith Education and Non-Education Trusts. Planning Permission has been secured for the conversion of the Friarage Manor House into flats and the development of the surrounding land into affordable housing and bungalows. Work on site has been delayed whilst the Archaeology Method Statement is agreed between Thirteen and Tees Archaeology.
- 3.6 **Manor House** - The Manor House and surrounding land on Brierton Lane is blighting the local area as a significant proportion is derelict and has been the target of vandalism and arson.
- 3.7 The section have intervened to engage with the 3 owners of property within the site to try and facilitate the comprehensive redevelopment of the land thereby improving the environment and providing modern affordable residential units.
- 3.8 Terms have been agreed for the Council to purchase the Manor House from the mortgagees in possession and sell to the owner of the remaining site whilst also facilitating the relocation of the occupants of an adjoining property. This enables their property to be included within the overall site thereby achieving a comprehensive redevelopment and removing blight that has existed over a significant period of time.

4. CAPITAL RECEIPTS

- 4.1 An update of the progress in achieving the capital receipts target of £6.5m was reported to the Finance and Policy Committee on 1st June 2015. As Members will be aware from previous reports these resources are committed to funding capital expenditure commitments previously approved by the Council in relation to the Housing Market Renewal capital scheme and development of the former Brierton School site. The following shows table summarises the position at the 31st March 2015 and shows there as been significant progress during 2014/15 in achieving this target. It is anticipated that the remaining capital receipts target will be achieved in 2015/16. If all existing planned land sales are achieved in 2015/16 the capital receipts target will be exceeded. This position needs to be managed carefully and it was recommended to the Finance and Policy Committee that further expenditure commitments are not approved until the additional capital receipts are achieved. Further updates will be reported to the Finance and Policy Committee as part of the development of the 2016/17 budget and to

enable Members to approve a strategy for using future capital receipts which underpins the Council's overall financial strategy and reflects the actual Government grant cuts for 2016/17 and future years.

Progress in achieving Capital Receipts Target of £6.5m

	Position 31.03.14 £'m	Position 31.03.15 £'m
Capital Receipts Target	6.500	6.500
Capital Receipts Achieved	2.200	#3.955
Balance still to be achieved	4.300	2.545

includes second instalment of agreed capital receipt to be received 2015/16.

The report to the Finance and Policy Committee also advised Members that the available capital receipts at the 31st March 2015 were not sufficient to fund capital expenditure incurred at this date in relation to the Housing Market Renewal capital scheme and development of the former Brierton School site and there was a temporary shortfall of £556,000. In accordance with the strategy approved within the MTFS this shortfall has been funded from temporary Prudential Borrowing. The equivalent level of temporary Prudential Borrowing at the 31st March 2014 was £1.128m. It is anticipated that capital receipts to be achieved in 2015/16 will address this shortfall and 2015/16 capital expenditure on the HMR and former Brierton School site schemes. However, the achievement of these capital receipts will require carefully management to ensure that Prudential Borrowing does not need to be used at the end of 2015/16.

- 4.2 **Former Henry Smith's site on King Oswy Drive** - The sale of the site has now completed and Seneca Housing have commenced the development of 104 houses.
- 4.3 **Former Educational Development Centre Site Seaton Lane** - Planning permission has been granted for the development of 3 separate Care facilities for a range of complex uses and completion of the sale is expected by the end of June.
- 4.4 **Brierton** - Formal submissions have been made to the Department of Education seeking approval for consent to release 7.9 acres of former playing field land for disposal for housing development. The capital receipt will be used to fund both the realignment of the sports facilities and the refurbishment works to the main building. Consent has not yet been achieved and a period of further consultation may be necessary to satisfy outstanding DFE due diligence requirements.
- 4.5 **Land at Eskdale Road** - 0.8 acres of land at Eskdale Road has been sold for the development of 16 affordable bungalows for rent. The site is being developed for Endeavour Housing.

- 4.6 **The Willows Building** - As a result of changes in the allocation of the contract to deliver the provision of an Alcohol & Drug Recovery Hub Centre, the property is being sold to Lifeline rather than DISC who will work in partnership with the Council to deliver this service.
- 4.7 **Central Park** - Following the grant of revised planning permission for the Britmag sites the sale of land to facilitate the construction of a new access road has now completed.
- 4.8 **Lynn Street Depot** - Contracts for the sale of Lynn Street Depot to CCAD are agreed and Church Street offices have been vacated. Completion is dependent on the re provision of funding through TVU and an additional loan being approved by the Council. It is anticipated that completion will take place at the end of June once all necessary approvals have been secured
- 4.9 **Tofts Farm** - The purchase of a 5 acre site at Tofts Farm to re locate the depot has been completed and work is ongoing to convert the building in to the Councils operational depot. The property extends to 82,000 sq ft building which will be adapted to incorporate a workshop, test station and integrated vehicle, horticultural and stores facility.
- 4.10 **Historic Maritime Experience (HME)** - Terms are being finalised with the National Museum of the Royal Navy for them to take a lease with an option to purchase the existing HME subject to conditions requiring the facilitation of additional attractions to increase visitor numbers and enhance the facility to become a regional and national visitor attraction.
- 4.11 **Vision Retail Park** - A sale of 0.5 acres of land at the Marina has been agreed with M7 who have recently purchased property and who are undertaking a scheme of refurbishment.

5. NON OPERATIONAL PROPERTY

- 5.1 Brenda Road Wind Turbines -Terms have been agreed subject to planning consent being granted to Seneca Energy for the construction of a Wind Turbine on Council land on a 25 year lease.
- 5.2 Wind Turbines – A review and appraisal of suitable sites for the construction of wind turbines and the construction of a solar farm has been undertaken across the portfolio. A number of sites have been identified as having potential and options for either the Council to lease the land to Turbine operators or the Council acquiring the turbines and then generating electricity for which feed in tariff payments will be received are being investigated.

6. OPERATIONAL PROPERTY

- 6.1 As the Council continues to review its services consideration of the delivery options and the opportunity to critically analyse current and future delivery models is creating the drive necessary to instil creativity and challenge as to

whether the current property base is fit for purpose and if not what would be more appropriate. Consideration of the options to harness technology and work more flexibly including sharing resources with other partner organisations has been achieved to an extent but this offers even greater opportunity. As a consequence of the rationalisation of the portfolio significant savings in excess of £500K pa in running costs have been achieved to date and reflected in the base budget.

7. STATUTORY VALUATIONS

- 7.1 The section is responsible for undertaking asset valuations across the portfolio for inclusion within the Council's Annual Accounts. These are a statutory requirement and subject to review by District Audit. All valuations have to be undertaken on a 5 year rolling programme requiring 270 detailed valuations to be undertaken by qualified in house Chartered Surveyors each year.
- 7.2 All the valuations for 2014/15 have been undertaken including an additional 17 that have been carried out on behalf of Cleveland Fire Brigade on a recharge basis.

8. CAPITAL INVESTMENT

- 8.1 The section is responsible for prioritising the allocation of various capital monies, liaising with the Schools and the Councils Consultancy Group to agree the works and manage the implementation to minimise disruption to the operation of the schools whilst maximising the benefit of limited resources.
- 8.2 **2015/16 Schools' Capital Works Programme**
 - 8.2.1 The 2015/16 Schools' Capital Programme was approved by Children's Services Committee in March 2015. The works approved totalled £871,010. The works are currently being designed and procured and some pre-start meetings have taken place with headteachers and the appointed contractors. The majority of the works will be carried out during the summer holiday period.
- 8.3 **Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP)- Phase 1**
 - 8.3.1 This programme is to address the schools which are deemed to be in the worst condition and in need of urgent repair. Hartlepool has secured capital grant funding, circa £17m to re-build three of its schools in this phase.
 - 8.3.2 The three schools are all on target to be complete on time. Holy Trinity CE Primary School and Barnard Grove Primary School will be open for the new term in September 2015. Manor College of Technology is progressing well and it is hoped it will be complete and open for Easter 2016.

8.4 Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP)- Phase 2

8.4.1 On 18th December 2014, Regeneration Services Committee noted that further expressions of interest had been submitted to the Education Funding Agency (EFA) for inclusion of PSBP-Phase 2 and a decision was pending regarding further schools to benefit from this programme.

8.4.2 On 9 February 2015, the EFA announced the names of all the successful schools to be taken forward into Phase 2 of the PSBP. The Council were informed that two out of the five expressions of interest made, had been successful, these being:

- High Tunstall College of Science
- English Martyrs RC School & Sixth Form College

8.4.3 EFA and Technical Officers have recently visited both schools to carry out scoping exercises. PSBP2 will run from 2015 to 2021. The EFA plan to communicate the programme of work for all schools in the autumn, so that schools are clear when works will start and be complete on site.

9. PROPOSALS

9.1 It is proposed that Members note the wide range and scale of the work undertaken by the section and this report provides an overview of the current and ongoing workload / issues.

10. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 The value of the Council's property portfolio is substantial and this represents both a significant asset and liability. Active management is required in order to maximise returns and minimise expenditure.

10.2 Operating costs are significant and ongoing rationalisation needs to continue to minimise occupation whilst investing in key buildings to improve efficiency and maximise use.

10.3 Opportunities to increase revenue and capital income streams from active management and creative property/development transactions are key to supplementing the capital programme and generating income for investment in the portfolio to ensure the Council occupy modern and efficient buildings to enhance service delivery.

10.4 There are significant pressures within the section to deliver the wide range of key regeneration projects whilst also ensuring land sales are finalised to meet the capital receipts target.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 Failure to acknowledge the cost/benefit of the property assets of the Council may lead to significant unnecessary expenditure in running costs and missed opportunities to maximise the returns both financially and economically from property rationalisation and development opportunities.

12. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 There are no legal considerations.

13. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 13.1 There are no equality or diversity considerations as part of the report proposals.

14. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 14.1 The relocation of staff from Church Street offices to facilitate the sale of the depot is essential to facilitate the sale of the depot, however all moves will be the subject of consultation to ensure the smooth transition.

15. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 15.1 The attention of the Committee is drawn to the Asset Management element of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The decision by Cabinet in January 2009 requires a commercial, proactive approach to be taken on Asset Management issues.

16. SECTION 17 OF THE CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 CONSIDERATIONS

- 16.1 The implications of The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 have been considered and there are no matters affecting these proposals.

17. CONCLUSIONS

- 17.1 There are a significant number of key property transactions that are ongoing both to achieve the ambitious Capital receipt target of £6.5M by 2016/17 but also to facilitate the Councils regeneration objectives.

18. RECOMMENDATION(S)

18.1 Members are recommended:

- 1) Note the contents of the report including the range, depth and recent achievements across all the key areas of the Estates and Regeneration Service.
- 2) Note the achievements in the period December - June 2015

19. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 19.1 To ensure that Members are informed about key activities across the Estates & Regeneration Service and that delivery is being focussed on the delivery of the most strategic projects.

20. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 20.1 There are no background papers to the body of this report.

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