

# **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

22 November 2016

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor Marjorie James (In the Chair)

Councillors: Paul Beck, Sandra Belcher, Dave Hunter and Brenda Loynes

Officers: Denise Ogden, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Mike Blair, Technical Services Manager  
Helen Beaman, Passenger Transport Services Team Leader  
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer  
Lorraine Percival, Support Officer, Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

### **45. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor George Springer.

### **46. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Belcher declared a personal interest in Minute 49.

### **47. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2016**

Received

### **48. Minutes of the meeting of the Emergency Planning Joint Committee held on 14 September 2016**

Received

**49. Proposed 20 mph Speed Restrictions – Thornhill Gardens/Broomhill Gardens Area** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

**Type of decision**

Non-key

**Purpose of report**

To seek approval, from the Neighbourhood Services Committee, for the implementation of a 20 mph speed restriction within the above area, including - Birchill Gardens, Briarhill Gardens, Broomhill Gardens, Chester Road (109-143), Elmwood Place, Elmwood Road, Hart Lane (102-136), Hart Avenue, Lacey Grove, Ryehill Gardens, Thornhill Gardens and Thornhill Place.

**Issue(s) for consideration**

It was reported that following a request from a representative from the Small Business Federation which was raised during a meeting of the Hartlepool Borough Council Traffic Liaison Group, consultation had taken place with local residents within the area and Ward Members regarding the potential implementation of 20 mph speed restrictions as detailed in Appendix 1.

It was proposed that the scheme would be delivered using appropriate signage, details of which were included in the report.

From a total of 350 residential letters issued, 168 replies had been received. The response was positively in favour of the scheme with 143 responses in favour and 25 against.

The scheme would be funded via the Council's Local Transport Plan at an estimated cost of £1,000.

The Chair welcomed the format of the report with feedback from the consultation results presented by street.

**Decision**

That the proposed scheme to introduce a 20 mph speed limit in Thornhill Gardens/Broomhill Gardens area, as outlined in the report, be approved.

**50. Update – Review of Concessionary Travel Rates for Home to School Transport Provision** (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

**Type of decision**

For information

**Purpose of report**

To update the Committee on the take-up of Concessionary Travel Permits for Home to School Transport following Members' requests to receive an update following the November 2015 Committee meeting.

**Issue(s) for consideration**

The report provided background information to the Committee's decision in November 2015 to increase the rate in concessionary fares on a staged approach and the request that Members be provided with an update on take up of concessionary travel provision across the home to school transport service.

With regard to the current take-up of concessionary travel provision across the home to school transport services, Members were advised that there were currently 614 seats available on home to school transport vehicles, 318 students qualified under home to school transport legislation with 141 students accessing under the concessionary fares scheme. There were currently 155 vacant seats across all services.

Following a request by this Committee in November 2015, that opportunities be explored for the public to utilise the school bus services, Members were advised that it was impractical for the Council to offer seats on the home to school transport service to members of the public, the reasons for which were outlined, as set out in the report.

The Chair clarified that the projected income for the financial year 2016-17 was estimated at £36,475 and was pleased to note that take up of seats was good and could potentially increase over the winter months.

In response to a query in relation to transport facilities for children with special educational needs, the Chair advised that whilst alternative transport arrangements were available for children with special educational needs, there was also an option to utilise the mainstream service if appropriate.

## Decision

Members noted the continued strategy into the increase of concessionary seat charges as well as the monitoring and take up and subsequent impact.

## 51. **The Recycling Journey – Video Presentation** (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

### Issue(s) for consideration

The Passenger Transport Services Team Leader, who was in attendance at the meeting, provided the Committee with a video presentation in relation to the recycling journey. The video provided an overview of the recycling process at the Ward Recycling Facility and WRL Glass Plant:-

- Recyclables delivered into sorting facility where mixed products are analysed to ensure they are within the contract specification
- Mixed recyclables fed into metering bin and transferred to sorting facility
- Cabin Personnel remove contaminants before main sorting
- Before bailing sorted products there is a final handpick to remove any contaminants trapped within the product

Following conclusion of the video presentation, the Chair advised that a series of site visits had been arranged to recycling plants to give the Committee a better understanding of the recycling process with a view to Members conveying an accurate message to residents. The importance of Members supporting officers to get the message across to the public was highlighted.

Members were advised that a site visit to Suez was scheduled for 8 December at 1.00 pm and a visit to the Burn Road facility would also be organised in due course.

A discussion ensued in relation to the main contaminants identified during the recycling process and the impact as a result. It was noted that one of the main contaminants was babies' nappies and the need to educate parents in relation to this issue was emphasised. The various methods of reducing contamination levels and the most appropriate methods of publicising and sharing recycling information were debated as well as the reasons for contamination. The importance of educating individuals on the impact of contaminated products was discussed including the financial burden placed on the Council.

A number of suggestions were put forward in terms of addressing the problem including sharing this video with school children and Neighbourhood Forums as well as writing to parents. The Committee was advised that following conclusion of the site visits to the recycling facilities, a full education campaign would be rolled out and would include a video of Hartlepool's recycling arrangements. The Director advised that whilst the Council had continued to carry out recycling briefings in schools some difficulties had been experienced due to the current curriculum restrictions.

Various recycling experiences were shared with the Committee during which the Chair and Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods responded to queries raised in relation to the town's recycling procedures. The Chair indicated that the option to introduce enforcement measures to assist with reducing contamination levels was a matter for future consideration by the Committee.

### **Decision**

That the contents of the presentation and comments of Members be noted.

## **52. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 13 December at the rescheduled time of 4.00 pm. A site visit to Suez was also scheduled for 8 December at 1.00 pm.

The meeting concluded at 10.45 am.

**P J DEVLIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

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