

# **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

## **AGENDA**



**Monday 22 July 2019**

**at 10.00 am**

**in the Council Chamber,  
Civic Centre, Hartlepool.**

**MEMBERS:** FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Brewer, Brown, Hunter, Lindridge, Little, Marshall, Moore, Smith, Tennant and Young.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

**3. MINUTES**

- 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 18 June 2019.
- 3.2 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 4 March 2019.
- 3.3 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership held on 18 March 2019.

**4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS**

- 4.1 Developing a New Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 - *Chief Executive*
- 4.2 Community Safety Plan 2017-20 (Year 3) – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 4.3 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2020/21 to 2022/23 – *Director of Finance and Policy*



## **5. KEY DECISIONS**

- 5.1 Capital Maintenance Programme Update – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 5.2 Land at Brierton – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 5.3 Sport and Leisure Facilities Option Appraisal, Feasibility Study and Design – *Director of Adults and Community Based Services*
- 5.4 Reshaping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service – *Director, Children and Joint Commissioning Services and Director of Public Health*
- 5.5 Security and CCTV Community Monitoring Services – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 5.6 Enforced Sale Policy – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

## **6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 6.1 Neighbourhood Investment Programme and Highway Improvement Programme – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 6.2 Use of Child Poverty Reserve – Proposed Extension of Commissioning of Safe Families Provision – *Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services*

## **7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

No items.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT**

### **FOR INFORMATION**

Future meeting dates –

Tuesday 27 August, 2019 at 11.00 am – PLEASE NOTE – ADDITIONAL MEETING  
Monday 16 September, 2019 at 10.00 am  
Monday 14 October, 2019 at 10.00 am  
Monday 11 November, 2019 at 10.00 am  
Monday 9 December, 2019 at 10.00 am  
Monday 13 January, 2020 at 10.00 am  
Monday 10 February, 2020 at 10.00 am  
Monday 16 March, 2020 at 10.00 am



## **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

18 JUNE 2019

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

### **Present:**

Councillor Shane Moore (In the Chair)

Councillors: James Brewer, Paddy Brown, Dave Hunter, Jim Lindridge, Sue Little, Ann Marshall, Leisa Smith, John Tennant, and Mike Young.

Officers: Gill Alexander, Chief Executive  
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor  
Chris Little, Director of Finance and Policy  
John Morton, Assistant Director, Finance and Customer Services  
Denise McGuckin, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Julian Heward, Communications and Marketing Team  
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher.

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2019**

Received.

### **4. Urgent Works to Christ Church** (*Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*)

#### **Type of decision**

Key Decision, test (i). A General Exception Notice applies.

#### **Purpose of report**

To seek Finance and Policy's Committee approval to the proposed reallocation of the Council's property-related budget to cover the

unexpected and urgent works required to Christ Church, and to refer this proposal to Council for approval.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods reported that in November 2018 a piece masonry fell from Christ Church as a result of weathering and poor stone quality, which led to the area being fenced off for the safety of passing pedestrians.

A survey had been subsequently commissioned to assess the structural condition of Christ Church, using a qualified Stonemason, to help the Council understand the nature of the works required and estimated costs for these. The survey identified that urgent works were required to protect Christ Church from further erosion and remove the risk of further potential incidents and thereby protect the public.

There was currently no funding identified to cover the costs of these works as they were very much unexpected, which meant it had not been included in any allocation of funding from the Council's property budgets.

The estimated costs of the works were £245,000 and it was proposed to fund these by re-allocating the £190,000 of capital funding currently allocated to the Bowls Club, with the remaining £55,000 being funded from the corporate planned maintenance programme. The Director highlighted that approval of Council would be required to re-allocate the £190,000 of capital funding

The issues in relation to Christ Church has highlighted an issue in relation to how the Council responds to such incidents. It was proposed, therefore, to bring a further report to Committee to review how the capital maintenance allocation would be managed in the future.

The Committee discussed the issues around the funding of the works and the necessity for the works. The Director assured Members and a member of the public that an assessment of the works required had been undertaken by an appropriately specialised surveyor and while no guarantees could be given as to the exact final costs, officers would look to ensure that costs were kept within the financial proposals reported.

### **Decision**

1. That Council approval be sought to reallocate the capital funding of £190,000 for the Bowls Club previously allocated to this building to help fund the urgent works required to Christ Church;
2. That Council be requested to note that recent surveys had identified that the proposed works to the Bowls Club were not urgent, and they can be considered, therefore, as part of a future funding allocation. In the unlikely event that the condition of the Bowls Club building

deteriorated any necessary work would need to be prioritised from within the available corporate planned maintenance budget.

3. The Committee noted that £55,000 would also be allocated to the Christ Church Scheme from the corporate planned maintenance programme.
4. That approval be given an overall budget of £245,000 associated with carrying out the urgent repairs to Christ Church.

## **5. Irrecoverable Debts – Council Tax and Business Rates** *(Director of Finance and Policy)*

### **Type of decision**

Non Key Decision.

### **Purpose of report**

To seek Members' approval to write-out a number of Council Tax and Business Rates debts which are now considered irrecoverable.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The Assistant Director, Finance and Customer Services reported on the actions undertaken by the authority in the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates and the levels of collection within the year and over five years. Details of the debts proposed to be written out of the accounts were set out in schedules appended to the report. Appendices A, B, C, D, E and F to the report contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely (para3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The total amount for write out were as follows:

Council Tax £78,338.43

Appendix A – C Tax Deceased Debts- £15,648.94

Appendix B – C Tax Absconder Debts - £20,876.30

Appendix C – C Tax Bankrupt / Debt Relief Order Debts / Liquidation - £29,723.04

Appendix D – C Tax Miscellaneous- £12,090.15

Business Rates £337,419.14

Appendix E – Business Rates Sole Trader Bankrupt - £4,609.66

Appendix F – Business Rates Sole Trader Absconder / Miscellaneous - £64,908.50

### Appendix G – Business Rates Limited Company Liquidation / Dissolved - £267,900.98

Members congratulated the Finance Team on the levels of collection reported and reluctantly approved the write outs reported.

#### Decision

1. The Committee noted the effective recovery arrangements for Council Tax and Business Rates and the performance levels reported.
2. That approval be given to write-out irrecoverable Council Tax of £78,338.43 and Business Rates debts to the value of £337,419.14 noting that £190,197.60 (56%) of this Business Rates write out was the responsibility of Central Government.

## 6. **Risk Management Framework** (*Assistant Director, Corporate Services*)

#### Type of decision

Non-key decision.

#### Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to seek Finance and Policy Committee's agreement of a new Risk Management Framework for the Council.

#### Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Finance and Policy submitted the new proposed Risk Management Framework for Members' approval. The Framework built upon the previous one and reflected best practice. It had simplified the Council's approach, provided further clarity to officers about how risk should be considered within the Council and demonstrated the added value of appropriate risk management. Throughout the development of the proposed Framework the Head of Internal Audit has been involved providing feedback in order to ensure that the new Framework provides the required level of assurance and responds effectively to the concerns raised through the internal audit report.

The new proposed Risk Management Framework was considered by Audit and Governance Committee at their meeting on 6th June 2019. They confirmed that they were satisfied that it provided adequate assurance and agreed for it to go forward to this committee for approval.

In addition to the new Framework an officer toolkit had been developed to provide a handy guide for officers leading them step by step through the risk process and aims to ensure consistency in the process. A review of the Council's risk register will be undertaken and training and support would be

provided to officers across the organisation to ensure that risks were recorded and reported appropriately.

A new Strategic Risk Register was being prepared and regular updates would be brought to Finance and Policy within the six-monthly Council Plan Performance reports.

**Decision**

That the new Risk Management Framework, set out as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

**7. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

None.

The Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 22 July 2019 commencing at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre.

The meeting concluded at 10.35 am

**H MARTIN**

**CHIEF SOLICITOR**

**PUBLICATION DATE: 26 JUNE 2019**

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

### MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

4 MARCH 2019

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

#### **Present:**

Councillor C Akers-Belcher, Leader of Council (In the Chair)

#### **Prescribed Members:**

Elected Members, Hartlepool Borough Council – Councillors Buchan, Harrison and Thomas.

Representatives of Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group – Dr Nick Timlin and Nicola Bailey

Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council – Dr Pat Riordan

Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, Hartlepool Borough Council – Sally Robinson

Director of Adult and Community Based Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, - Jill Harrison

Representative of Healthwatch - Margaret Wrenn and Lynn Allison (as substitute for Ruby Marshall).

#### **Other Members:**

Assistant Director of Joint Commissioning, Hartlepool Borough Council – Danielle Swainston

Representative of the NHS England – Dr Tim Butler

Representative of Cleveland Police - Jason Harwin

Representative of Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust – Dominic Gardner

Representative of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust – Dr Deepak

Dwarakanath (as substitute for Julie Gillon)

Representative of GP Federation – Fiona Adamson

Representative of Hartlepool Voluntary and Community Sector – Tracy Woodhall

Observer – Statutory Scrutiny Representative, Hartlepool Borough Council - Councillor Loynes

Also in attendance:-

Councillors Cranney and Marshall, Hartlepool Borough Council

J Gray, Hartlepool Healthwatch

J Heaney, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group

D Pickard and L Stockton, Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board

A Baxter, Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board



C Fewster and S Piercy, Hartlepool Carers.  
Stuart MacDonald, Centre for Local Economic Strategies

Officers: Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager  
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

### **36. Apologies for Absence**

Ruby Marshall – Healthwatch Representative  
Gill Alexander – HBC Chief Executive  
Denise Ogden – Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

### **37. Declarations of interest by Members**

The Chair declared an interest as the manager of Hartlepool Healthwatch.  
Councillor Thomas declared an interest as an employee of Hartlepool Healthwatch and as a member of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board.

### **38. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2018 were confirmed.

The minutes of the Children's Strategic Partnership held on 27 November 2018 were received.

### **39. Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017/18 and Strategic Business Plan 2018/19** *(Director of Adult's and Community Based Services and Independent Chair of Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board)*

The Chair of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board presented the Board's annual report for 2017/18 and the strategic business plan for 2018/19. Members welcomed the annual report and thanked the Chair of the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board for her leadership. The Board praised the work undertaken across the services provided and particularly welcomed the work on domestic abuse. The format of the annual report was well received though Members indicated a desire for some more locality based statistical information in the future.

#### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes and endorses the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017/18 and Strategic Business Plan 2018/19.

#### **40. Annual Report of Local Safeguarding Children Board**

*(Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services and Independent Chair of Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board)*

The Chair of the Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board presented the Board's annual report for 2017/18. Members welcomed the report and commented on the severe pressures that were being placed on the Looked After Children's services of the local authority. The Chair commented on the increased pressure on LAC services due to the effects of families with substance misuse problems and questioned if the new approach to substance misuse support services was providing some improvements. The Chair of the Hartlepool Safeguarding Board stated that the proposed new contractual approach had been presented by the former Interim Director of Public Health and that it had been well received by the Board.

##### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the 2017/18 Annual Report of Hartlepool Safeguarding Children Board.

#### **41. Local Wealth Building**

Stuart MacDonald from the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) was present at the meeting and gave a presentation on the work undertaken by CLES in partnership with The Wharton Trust and The Annexe in Hartlepool on local community wealth building. CLES had been awarded £150m nationally from the Big Lottery Fund to promote the role of community businesses and was working in Hartlepool with The Wharton Trust and The Annexe in this regard. The presentation outlined the role 'anchor institutions' such as local authorities could play in enabling local businesses and third sector groups partake in delivering contracts and works retaining 'wealth' within the locality.

Members suggested that the wider benefits such as health improvement needed to be examined in greater detail and it was indicated that the Tees Valley Combined Authority would be well placed to provide coordination across the Tees Valley. The Chair commented that the Council had looked in detail at local procurement and had done much work around the four elements of local wealth building. The Chair considered that the Regeneration Services Committee would be best placed to further the potential of local wealth building linking together the many strategies already in place and thereafter referring the wider Tees Valley potential through to the Chair in his role as Portfolio Holder for Education, Employment and Skills with the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

##### **Decision**

1. That the presentation be noted.
2. That further consideration of the potential of local community wealth

building be referred to the Regeneration Services Committee

**42. Transforming Children's and Young People's Mental Health Provision – Refresh of Local Transformation Plans** (*Chief Officer (Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees (HAST) Clinical Commissioning Group)*)

It was reported that the Local Transformation Plan provided an update on the five year Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Plan for Hartlepool and Stockton-On-Tees. The original plan was established in line with the national ambition and principles set out in Future in Mind – Promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. A requirement of Future in Mind was for areas to develop a local plan focused on improving access to help and support when needed and improve how children and young people's mental health services were organised, commissioned and provided.

There was now a requirement that Local Transformation Plans were updated annually. The transformation plan provided a framework to improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health of all Children and Young people across Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees. The aim of the plan was to make it easier for children, young people, parents and carers to access help and support when needed and to improve mental health services for children and young people.

As part of the 2018/19 refresh the five areas below would will be developed as high-level objectives over the next 12 months:

- Develop a model for mental health services for children and young people across Hartlepool and Stockton-On-Tees; multi-agency design of a whole system approach to resilience, mental health and wellbeing.
- Develop a workforce and training directory
- Roll out the priorities laid out within the Governments Green Paper – Mental Health Leads in schools, development of Mental Health Support Teams.
- Develop a neurodevelopmental pathway
- Continue to work collaboratively as a system across Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees to reduce gaps and identify opportunities for new service models.

The Chair was concerned that as lead the Health and Wellbeing Board had not been involved in shaping the service model and he was therefore reticent to support the proposed direction. It was highlighted by representatives that the original plan, developed by the Clinical Commissioning Group, had been approved by the Board. Council Officers indicated that there were a number of different strands of policy being developed across the authority and the Children's Strategic Partnership that may all need to be linked and presented to the Board so it was aware of the work already underway. There was also concern expressed that there appeared to be little linkage with the Audit and

Governance Committee investigation into mental health prevention in Hartlepool which would conclude early in the new Municipal Year.

The Chair proposed that the current position relating to finance and the refresh be noted and that the next meeting receive a report reviewing the over-arching priorities.

#### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the refreshed Local Transformation Plan and financial proposals and that the next meeting further review the overarching priorities of the refreshed Local Transformation Plan.

#### **43. CQC Local System Review – Monitoring Report** (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services provided the Board with an update on the recent monitoring exercise undertaken by the Care Quality Commission following the Local System Review in Hartlepool in 2017.

#### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the outcome of the monitoring process that has been undertaken by the Care Quality Commission.

#### **44. Better Care Fund 2018/19: Q3 Performance Update** (*Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

The Director of Adult and Community Based Services updated the Health and Wellbeing Board on 2018/19 Quarter 3 performance against the indicators in the Hartlepool Better Care Fund Plan.

#### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board retrospectively approves the Hartlepool Better Care Fund Quarter 3 return and notes the current position in relation to performance.

#### **45. All Age Carers Strategy** (*Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services and Director of Adult and Community Based Services*)

The Assistant Director of Joint Commissioning reported on the development of an all age Carers Strategy requesting the involvement of partners in the development of the Strategy to ensure that there was a shared partnership approach.

Members welcomed the approach being taken to the development of the new strategy and highlighted the excellent work undertaken by Hartlepool Carers and particularly their support of young carers. It was suggested that best practice across the other Tees Valley authorities be examined during the development process.

### **Decision**

1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board supports the development of an all age Carers Strategy and partners committed to contribute to the strategy development.
2. That an all age Carers Strategy to be presented to a future meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board for approval.

## **46. CQC Feedback – Presentation** (*Tees, Esk and Wear Valley's NHS Foundation Trust*)

Details of the results of the Care Quality Commission inspection of the services provided by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley's NHS Foundation Trust were presented to the Board. The Trust had attained an overall 'Good' rating and the presentation outlined the areas that had been highlighted as requiring improvement.

Members questioned the difference in the ratings for ward based and community based services. It was indicated that the adult acute wards were a very demanding environment with patients' mental health issues frequently complicated by substance misuse. There were also a number of recommendations around records as the standard varied too widely across the organisation.

The issues highlighted around autism were raised and the Chair of the Adult Services Committee commented that these were national issues. The Trust representative commented that locally much of the issue centred on the sheer demand for assessments and the Trust was reviewing how to provide a wider skill base across the organisation in relation to autism.

### **Decision**

That the results of the Care Quality Commission inspection of the services provided by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley's NHS Foundation Trust be noted.

## **47. Health Inequalities Workshop – Feedback** (*Director of Public Health*)

The Director of Public Health reported that the Health and Wellbeing Board held a Workshop on the 10th December 2018, focusing on inequalities in the

uptake of services and how we tackle them together. The Workshop was attended by representatives from a variety of partner organisations and details of the format for the session were provided in an appendix to the report. A further appendix set out a summary of the discussions as part of the Workshop. The Director highlighted the outcomes of the small group exercise that looked at “What is driving inequality of access and how can partnerships help?”

The Director referred to the current re-procurement process for drug and alcohol services where there was a greater emphasis on prevention. There had been an increased number in deaths related to substance misuse since 2013 and an examination of each case was being undertaken to establish lessons that could be learned and applied in the future.

The Chair requested that a further report be submitted to the Board and that an assessment of the outputs of the face the public event be undertaken to determine future workshop topics.

### **Decision**

That the feedback from the Workshop be noted and that an evaluation of the Workshop feedback be undertaken and reported back to the Board prior to any further sessions being organised.

## **48. Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) - Supplementary Statements** *(Director of Public Health)*

The Director of Public Health submitted a report seeking ratification of Supplementary Statements issues since publication of the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) 2018. The Board was advised that one Statement had been issued since publication of the PNA in March 2018 and a copy of the Statement was submitted with the report which related to a pharmacy based in Victoria Road Hartlepool.

### **Decision**

That the report and the Supplementary Statements issued since publication of the PNA 2018 be noted and ratified.

## **49. Audit and Governance Committee’s Final Report – Maternity Services and Elective Care in Hartlepool** *(Chair of Audit and Governance Committee)*

The Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee presented the Committee’s report following the conclusion of its investigation into ‘The Provision of High Quality Maternity Services and Elective Surgery at the University Hospital of Hartlepool’. The Board was asked to receive the report

and consider the implementation of its recommendations, with a response to be submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee in writing within 28 days.

Board Members welcomed the comprehensive report and the Trust representative stated that they were reviewing the recommendations set out in the investigation report. While the report focused on delivery, the majority of the services provide to mums were pre and post natal and it was clear mums were getting all the services they required presently. The risks in childbirth had increased substantially over recent years and those mums were safer where there was appropriate medical support. It was acknowledged, however, that the excellent midwife led service did need greater promotion.

The Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee commented that there was from the investigation a sense that young mums were being steered away from using the Hartlepool Birthing Centre which was an excellent facility. The Members of the Committee did wish to see the return of the consultant led service. The Trust representative stated there was a general shortage of consultants and doctors in all disciplines across the north east.

The Chair thanked the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee and the Statutory Scrutiny Manager for the comprehensive report and indicated that the implementation of the recommendations would be monitored.

### **Decision**

That the Health and Wellbeing Board receive the Audit and Governance Committee report and monitors the implementation of its recommendations through the relevant partner organisations.

## **50. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

None.

The Chair reminded Board Members of the forthcoming Face the Public event to be held on 11 March in the Civic Centre.

Meeting concluded at 12.30 pm.

CHAIR

## **SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD**

18 March 2019

The meeting commenced at 3.00pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **Present:**

Councillor: Christopher Akers-Belcher (In the Chair)

Councillors: Jim Lindridge

Denise McGuckin, Director of Regeneration and  
Neighbourhoods  
Chief Inspector Nigel Burnell, Cleveland Police

John Lovatt was in attendance as a substitute for Jill Harrison,  
Mr K Harrison was in attendance as a substitute for Alan Brown  
and Alison Peevor was in attendance as a substitute for Jean  
Golightly.

### **Also present:**

Philippa Rousell, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
Nic Marko, Hartlepool Mail

Officers: Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader  
Kate Ainger, Community Safety Research Officer  
Steve Hilton, Public Relations Officer  
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **51. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Jill Harrison (Director of Adult and Community Based Services), Superintendent Alison Jackson (Cleveland Police), John Graham (Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company), Alan Brown (Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority) and Jean Golightly (NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG).

### **52. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **53. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2019**

Confirmed.



## **54. Local Criminal Justice Partnership Performance Framework** *(Representative from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)*

### **Purpose of report**

A representative from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) had been invited to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership to provide a presentation and update on the Local Criminal Justice Partnership Performance Framework.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

The presentation outlined the outcomes, objectives and core deliverable for victims and witnesses and on reducing reoffending. It was noted that the Local Criminal Justice Partnership (LCJP) Plan had been launched in January 2019. It was highlighted that the LCJP had developed a local reoffending measure which provided key information in a more timely manner over whatever time period was requested without having to rely on national information which was often provided with two-year time delay. However, the information provided using a local reoffending measure did only provide information on offences committed in the Cleveland and Durham area.

It was highlighted that there was a data sharing protocol in place and a copy would be forwarded to the Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). The Chair questioned whether information on hate crime would be included within the performance data collected. The representative from the OPCC responded that this was not in the current plan.

The Chair thanked the representative from the OPCC for the very informative presentation.

### **Decision**

The presentation was noted.

## **55. Strategic Assessment January-December 2018** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

### **Purpose of report**

To receive the Strategic Assessment January-December 2018.

**Issue(s) for consideration**

A detailed and comprehensive presentation was provided to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership by the Community Safety Research Officer. It outlined the strategic objectives for 2017-2020 and the annual priorities for 2018-19. An update on the following key issues was provided:

- Recorded crime in Hartlepool;
- Substance misuse;
- Anti-social behaviour; and
- Deliberate fires.

A profile of the offenders with the highest number of offences by age, gender and the number of detected crimes was provided. The Community Safety Research Officer provided a snapshot of Safer Hartlepool Partnership Activity during 2018 which included multi-agency work; development of social media, crime prevention and support for victims.

In response to a question, the representative from Cleveland Police indicated that publicly reported crime was increasing across the Cleveland Police Force area as follows: Hartlepool – 7%, Redcar and Cleveland – 10%, Middlesbrough – 15% and Stockton – 20%, these increases reflected the national picture. The representative from the Community Safety Team Leader indicated that information on those figures would be circulated to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership. The Chair commented on the fact that Hartlepool had the lowest increase in publicly reported crimes which demonstrated the hard work and commitment from the Community Safety Team.

The Community Safety Research Officer responded to a question by indicating that the number of offenders may be higher than the number of detected crimes due to more than one offender being involved in some crimes. The representative from Cleveland Police confirmed that the increase in reported crimes could be associated with an increased awareness and confidence to report crimes along with better recording and identification of crimes.

A discussion ensued in relation to the reduction in the number of referrals made to the refuge. The Community Safety Research Officer explained that refuge accommodation was not always suitable for clients with complex needs and gave an overview of the alternative options available.

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods sought clarification on whether the Community Safety Team was involved in the Show Racism the Red Card initiative. The Chair commented that this needed a greater profile and would be followed up outside of the meeting.

The Chair highlighted that a number of secondary school pupils had expressed concerns that public perception was that children and young

people were mainly responsible for anti-social behaviour and this was not the case. It was noted that two-thirds of anti-social behaviour was caused by adults.

It was noted by the Chair that there had been a big increase in malicious communications such as via social media and clarification was sought on whether successful prosecutions were publicised as a form of deterrent. The representative from Cleveland Police commented that there were potentially a large volume of cases which could prove challenging in terms of priorities. It was suggested that the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) be invited to a future meeting to deliver a presentation on prosecutions of malicious communications.

The Strategic Assessment had also identified that increasing communications in relation to the work of the Partnership would help to improve public confidence and the Community Safety Research Officer suggested adding improved communication as a key priority for 2019-2020.

A discussion ensued on deliberate fires and the representative from Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority confirmed that there were a number of campaigns ongoing. In addition to this, the potential for operational fire fighters to visit schools were being explored. The Chair added that operational fire fighters could be invited to attend the ASBAD event later in the year.

### **Decision**

- (1) The key findings of the strategic assessment were discussed and the partnership agreed to the proposed annual priorities for 2019-2020, with the addition of Improved Communication.
- (2) The delivery structure to address existing and emerging priorities was agreed.
- (3) The Community Safety Team Leader to circulate information on publicly reported crime across the Cleveland Police Force Area.
- (4) Reference to prosecutions for malicious online communications would be included within the priorities of the Communications Task Group.

## **56. Violent Crime – Proposal for a Public Health Approach** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

### **Purpose of report**

To seek approval from the Safer Hartlepool Partnership for a public health approach to the issue of violent crime in Hartlepool.

### **Issue(s) for consideration**

In order to develop an evidence-based and best practice informed response to the issue of violence in Hartlepool, it was proposed to follow the examples set by Strathclyde and Glasgow and others to take a Public Health approach. A number of key steps to undertake this approach were outlined in the report. Work was already ongoing with an initial analysis report produced by the Community Safety Team with a number of other sources of information being brought together to ensure a full picture was provided. It was proposed that a time-limited Violent Crime Research Group be established with representatives from partner organisations who had access to the relevant data.

Once this information was collated, it was proposed that a Violent Crime Summit be held to develop a response. It was suggested that a representative from the Scottish Violence Reduction Unit be invited to the Summit to provide information on their approach to this work. In addition to this, a commitment from other key agencies was sought.

A timetable for the proposal was included in the report concluding with a Violent Crime Action Plan being produced for consideration and agreement by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership and partners in September 2019.

The Chair welcomed this approach. In response to question, the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods suggested that representation from the OPCC be included in the Violent Crime Research Group.

The representative from the OPCC informed the Partnership that there was already work being undertaken across the Cleveland area to develop a public health approach to tackling violence utilising funding obtained from the Early Intervention Youth Fund. The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods suggested that this work be shared with Council officers adding that a discussion with the OPCC to ensure that both pieces of work complimented each other would be welcomed. In addition to this, the Community Safety Team Leader would liaise with the OPCC to ensure this work was fed into the Hartlepool Borough Council Summit Group.

### **Decision**

- (1) The proposal to undertake a public health approach to the issue of violence in Hartlepool be approved.
- (2) Individual organisations, including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to confirm their commitment to the proposal and identify the relevant officer who will represent their organisation on the Violent Crime and Research Group.
- (3) The timetable for taking forward this proposal was noted.
- (4) That the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods and OPCC discuss the ongoing work in relation to the public health approach to tackling violence to ensure both pieces of work complimented each other.

- (5) That the Community Safety Team Leader liaise with the OPCC to ensure this work was fed into the Hartlepool Borough Council Summit.

**57. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance** *(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods)*

**Purpose of report**

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 3 – October-December 2018 (inclusive).

**Issue(s) for consideration**

The performance information provided provided an overview of Quarter 3 and compared current performance to the same time period in the previous year where appropriate. In line with reporting categories defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), recorded crime information was presented as:

- Victim-Based Crime; and
- Other Crimes against Society.

**Decision**

The performance in Quarter 3 was noted.

The meeting concluded at 4.00pm

CHAIR

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019



**Report of:** Chief Executive

**Subject:** DEVELOPING A NEW COUNCIL PLAN  
2020/21 – 2022/23

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Budget and Policy Framework

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to agree the proposed timetable for the development of a new Council Plan to cover the period 2020/21 to 2022/23. The report also seeks the Committee's approval to the acceleration of three new priorities through the existing Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The current Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20 was adopted by Council on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2017. The Plan, which was developed following the Your Say, Our Future consultation with residents and staff, sets out the priorities that the Council is committed to delivering by 2020. Finance and Policy Committee agreed an amended Council Plan 2017/18 - 2019/20 on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 following a mid-term review.

## 4. PROPOSAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COUNCIL PLAN

- 4.1 As the current plan is in its final year it is proposed that preparation begins on the development of a new Council Plan to cover the 2020/21 – 2022/23 period. The proposed timetable aims to have the new Plan adopted by Council before the end of the current municipal year.

4.2 **Proposed Timetable**

What	Who	When
Agree the outline timetable for the development of a new Council Plan to cover the period 2020/21 – 2022/23. Also to agree the acceleration of 3 new priorities in the current plan.	Finance and Policy Committee	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019
Consultation – online and face to face sessions with the public, partners, Elected Members and employees to identify community priorities for inclusion in the Council Plan.	Lead by Corporate Strategy & Performance Team	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept – 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2019 (4 weeks)
Drafting of the Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23.	Corporate Management Team	Oct - Nov 2019
Agree draft Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 to go out to consultation and the consultation plan.	Finance and Policy Committee	9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019
Consultation on the draft Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 – this will be online with written comments/responses accepted.	Lead by Corporate Strategy & Performance Team	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 – 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 (8 weeks)
Review consultation feedback and where necessary redraft Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23.	Corporate Management Team	Feb 2020
Agree Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 to go forward to Council for adoption.	Finance and Policy Committee	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2020
Adopt Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23.	Council	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2020

4.3 **Accelerated Priorities**

The following priorities have been identified for inclusion within the Council Plan for 2017/18 – 2019/20:

- Transforming outdoor play provision as part of our Neighbourhood Improvement Programme;
- Developing a Headland heritage and tourism strategy; and
- Accelerating an options appraisal and business case for sports and leisure facilities.

**5. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Council needs appropriate planning and performance management arrangements in place in order to manage its key strategic risks. The Council's Strategic Risk Register captures the strategic risks facing the Council in the delivery of the Council Plan and its key responsibilities and forms the third strand of the Council's performance management framework. The Register will be reviewed and updated to reflect the priorities identified in the new Council Plan.

**6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 The new Council Plan will be prepared alongside the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the 5 year Capital Plan as three parts of a single plan to ensure the links between the three are strengthened.

**7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 Whilst the Council Plan is not included in the list of plans and strategies required to be approved or adopted by the Local Authority under Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Committee System) (England) Regulations 2012, it is recommended good practice to do so and therefore is included as part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

**8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The planned consultation arrangements are set out in section 4.2 of the report and this will include early consultation with Elected Members through a Members Seminar in September.

**9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY**

- 9.1 The new Council Plan will continue to work to reduce child and family poverty within Hartlepool and a Child and Family Poverty Impact Assessment will be developed for the draft Plan. In addition, the consultation plan for the preparation of the new Council Plan will consider and reflect the needs of children and families in poverty.

**10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 The strategic priorities and key deliverables identified in the new Council Plan will aim to have a positive impact on the whole population of Hartlepool and the new Plan will include the Council's Equality Objectives as required through the Public Sector Equality Duty. An Equality Impact Assessment will be developed for the draft Plan. In addition, the consultation plan for the



preparation of the new Council Plan will consider and reflect the needs of those from the protected characteristics.

## **11. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

11.1 No implications.

## **12. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

12.1 No implications.

## **13. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 Finance and Policy Committee is recommended to:
- Agree to the development of a new Council Plan to cover the period 2020/21 - 2022/23 and the proposed timetable for developing it; and
  - Agree to the acceleration of 3 new priorities in the current year through the Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20.

## **14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

14.2 Finance & Policy Committee have overall responsibility for Performance Management and are the responsible Committee the Council Plan in the Council's budget and policy framework.

## **15. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

15.1 None

## **16. CONTACT OFFICER**

16.1 Gill Alexander  
Chief Executive  
01429 523001  
[Gill.alexander@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Gill.alexander@hartlepool.gov.uk)

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Finance and Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Solicitor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22nd JULY 2019



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

**Subject:** **COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2017-20 (YEAR 3)**

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Budget and Policy Framework

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To consider and comment on the Community Safety Plan 2017-20 (Year 3). **Appendix 1.**

2.2 To consider referral to Council for adoption of the Community Safety Plan (Year 3).

## 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established a statutory duty for the Local Authorities, Police, Fire Brigades, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Community Rehabilitation Companies and National Probation Service to work together to address local crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending issues. Collectively these six bodies are known as Responsible Authorities and make up the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

3.2 In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2007, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to produce a three year Community Safety Plan setting out how it intends to tackle crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool.

3.3 The current Community Safety Plan published in 2017 outlines the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's strategic objectives for a three year period, with a requirement to refresh the plan on an annual basis following completion of the annual strategic assessment.

- 3.4 The Community Safety Plan (Year 3) was agreed by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership on 21<sup>st</sup> June.
- 3.5 In accordance with the budget and policy framework the Finance and Policy Committee are asked to consider the content of the Community Safety Plan (Year 3) and refer to full Council for adoption.

#### 4. 2019-20 COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN / PROPOSED PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The Community Safety Plan Year 3 provides an overview of progress made by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership during 2018-19 with an update on end of year performance. It describes some of the Partnership activity undertaken to reduce crime and improve safety during the last 12 months, and incorporates the proposed 2019-20 annual priorities as recommended in the annual Partnership strategic assessment as follows:

Strategic Objectives 2017-20	Proposed Annual Priorities 2019-20
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	<p><b>Acquisitive Crime</b> – reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity with a particular focus on domestic burglary.</p> <p><b>Domestic Violence &amp; Abuse</b> – safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse and reduce repeat victimisation.</p>
Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	<p><b>Substance Misuse</b> – reduce the harm caused to individuals and their families and the community, by illegal drug and alcohol misuse, including alcohol related violence.</p>
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	<p><b>Anti-Social Behaviour</b> – reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational and enforcement action, and increase restorative interventions.</p> <p><b>Vulnerable Victims</b> – work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><b>Communication</b> – increase public confidence through the communication of positive results and crime prevention messages.</p>
Reduce Offending and Re-Offending	<p><b>Re-Offending</b> – reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity.</p>

## 5. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 5.1 Progress made against the Community Safety Plan will be managed and monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership, through quarterly performance reports and monitoring of Partnership Sub Group Action Plans. The Community Safety Plan incorporates performance indicators for 2019-20, along with a proposed delivery structure to progress the annual priorities outlined above.

## 6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have a statutory responsibility to develop and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in their local area. Part of this statutory responsibility is to produce an annual Community Safety Plan.

## 7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The annual priorities for Year 3 of the Community Safety Plan 2017-20 have been developed from the results of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's annual on-line survey and Face the Public Event and findings from the Annual Strategic Assessment.

## 8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 Based on the needs identified in the Partnerships strategic assessment, the Community Safety Plan (Year 3) sets out how the Safer Hartlepool Partnership will aim to protect and improve the safety of vulnerable Individuals, groups and localities in Hartlepool. **Appendix 2.**

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

- 9.1 The Community Safety Plan (Year 3) provides an agreed plan of action between statutory partners in relation to how they will discharge their Section 17 legal duties within the Borough.

## 10. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant Issues
Financial Considerations	No relevant Issues
Child and Family Poverty	See <b>Appendix 3</b>
Staff Considerations	No relevant Issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant Issues

**11. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 That Finance and Policy Committee considers the content of the Community Safety Plan 2017-20 (Year 3).
- 11.2 That in accordance with the budget and policy framework Finance and Policy Committee considers making a referral to full Council for the adoption of the Community Safety Plan 2017-20 (Year 3).

**12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 As a Responsible Authority, the Local Authority has a statutory duty to develop and implement strategies aimed at reducing crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending behaviour.

**13. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 SHP Annual Strategic assessment 2018.

**14. CONTACT OFFICER**

- 14.1 Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Victoria Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AY  
Email [denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523301

Rachel Parker  
Community Safety Team Leader  
Hartlepool Police Station  
Avenue Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AB  
Email [Rachel.parker@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.parker@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523100

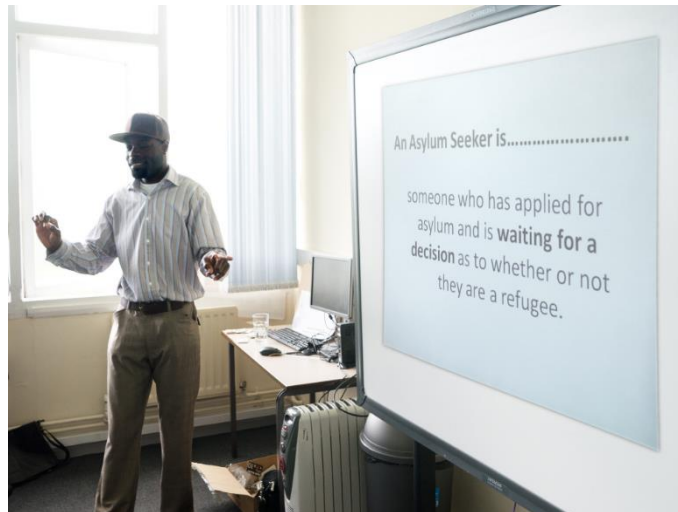
Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☒
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☒
- Chief Executive - Finance & Policy Committee only ☒



# Safer Hartlepool Partnership

## Community Safety Plan 2017 – 2020 (Year 3)



## Contents

Foreword.....	page 1
Introduction.....	page 2
Local Context.....	page 3
Partnership Activity 2018-19.....	page 4
Strategic Assessment 2018.....	page 5
Public Consultation.....	page 6
Partnership Strategic Objectives 2017-2020.....	page 7
Key Activities 2018.....	page 8
Delivering and Monitoring Performance.....	page 9
Partnership Plan 2018-2019.....	page 10
Appendices. ....	page 11





In 2017, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership introduced Hartlepool's Community Safety Strategy 2017-2020 where we set out our bold vision for maintaining and improving community safety in Hartlepool and identified our priorities to help us achieve this. These were to:

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

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher  
Chair of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership



Since that time, there have been a number of key community safety achievements, not least the introduction in March 2018 of the integrated Hartlepool Community Safety Team. During a highly successful first year, the Team have gone from strength to strength and strong working relationships have now developed between officers from the partner organisations that make up the multi-agency team.

A key achievement by the team has been the successful use of powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act to curb persistent anti-social behaviour including the closure of 'drug-houses', execution of arrest warrants for drug dealing and other offences, the recovery of cash, drugs and stolen property and the serving of Community Protection Warnings and Notices. A highlight of the year was the successful prosecution of two 'neighbours from hell' resulting in one receiving a Criminal Behaviour Order and one receiving a Harassment Injunction.

Victims remain at the heart of the service and during 2018 over 200 victims were supported through the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS). We have also been able to improve pathways for victims of domestic abuse with complex needs through receipt of further funding for the Domestic Abuse Navigator project. This project brought together six local authorities (Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, Middlesbrough, Stockton, Durham and Darlington), housing providers, Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and a range of voluntary sector agencies. This partnership pioneered the development of a new model of support targeted at vulnerable victims of domestic abuse with complex needs and those from BAME backgrounds, including people with no recourse to public funds.

These case studies serve as brief examples of what we can achieve by collaborative working both locally and at a Cleveland wide level; and as we go into the final year of this Community Safety Plan we will continue to engage with residents, who are the eyes and ears of the community. Residents reporting issues and passing on intelligence to us is the back-bone of our service.



The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is Hartlepool's statutory Community Safety Partnership as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Partnership comprises of a core group of statutory partners, Elected Members and a range of other stakeholders from the public and voluntary sectors. Their main aim and purpose is to reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool. The full current membership is detailed in **Appendix A**.

It is a statutory requirement of all Community Safety Partnerships that they regularly prepare and publish a Plan that shows how they will work together to address community safety issues in the local area. The aim of this Plan is to inform people about the work of the Partnership, its priorities for the next three years and how these will be achieved.

Our priorities continue to be informed through analysis of crime and community safety data, and by listening to the views of those living and working in Hartlepool through surveys and events such as our annual Face the Public event, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership annual on-line survey, and Cleveland Police Public Confidence Survey.

The Partnerships vision is that 'Hartlepool will be a safe place to live, work and visit'. Our approach for achieving this vision will be to focus on 'prevention'. We want to stop problems from happening in the first place by tackling root causes, and where problems do exist we want to stop them from escalating by intervening early and focusing our resources where they are most needed. We also remain committed to safeguarding and protecting vulnerable people from harm, and exploitation in the community. To do this we will work collaboratively and flexibly to deliver integrated models of service delivery, in conjunction with other Boards and Partnerships such as the Safeguarding Children's Board, Tees-wide Safeguarding Adults Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and Local Criminal Justice Board.



Hartlepool is the smallest unitary authority in the North East region and the third smallest in the country comprising of some of the most disadvantaged areas in England. Issues around community safety can be understood by a number of contextual factors:

**Population**

At 92,500 the Hartlepool population has remained relatively unchanged over the last decade.

**Health & Wellbeing**

There is a higher prevalence of long term health problems, including mental health, in Hartlepool.

**Deprivation**

Hartlepool is the 18<sup>th</sup> most deprived local authority area out of 326 local authorities.

**Housing**

The percentage of long term empty properties in Hartlepool is higher than the Tees Valley average.

**Geography**

Community Safety issues are concentrated in geographic hotspots, particularly in the most deprived wards in Hartlepool.

**Unemployment**

Unemployment rates in Hartlepool are above the regional average and double the national average.

During the second year of the Community Safety Plan for 2017-2020, the Partnership has delivered a number of activities against its strategic priorities to make Hartlepool safer some of which are outlined below:

**Strategic Objective 1:  
Reduce crime and repeat  
victimisation**

Provided support to more than 200 victims of crime and anti-social behaviour through the Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS).

Promotion of 'Clare's Law' has led to an increase in the number of requests for information under the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme.

2 'neighbours from hell' successfully prosecuted at Court resulting in a Criminal Behaviour Order and Harassment Injunction.



**Strategic Objective 2:  
Reduce the harm caused by  
drugs and alcohol**

In 2018 Hartlepool achieved its highest ever testing rate for Hepatitis C testing among its substance misuse service users.

Following a 6 year reduction, just 27% of the treatment population are now in treatment for 6 or more years. This is better than the national average of 32%.

Nearly two thirds of service users reporting injecting drug use had stopped injecting in the first six months of their substance misuse treatment.



**Strategic Objective 3:  
Create confident, cohesive  
and safe communities**

Nearly 2,000 young people have been engaged with by the Targeted Outreach Service.

Proactively used powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to curb persistent anti-social behaviour.

27 Community Protection Warnings, 8 Community Protection Notices and 4 Fixed Penalty Notices issued to individuals engaging in serious ASB.

3 'drug houses' closed using Premise Closure Orders



**Strategic Objective 4:  
Reduce re-offending**

Preventative work undertaken by Hartlepool Youth Justice Service has resulted in fewer First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System.

Launch of the 'Divert: Cleveland Custody Diversion Scheme', which offers an alternative way to engage with first time and low-level offenders, instead of prosecuting them at Court.



The Safer Hartlepool Partnership Strategic Assessment contains information to aid the Partnership's understanding of the priority community safety issues in Hartlepool. The Assessment forms part of an intelligence-led approach to community safety which enables a more focused, resource-effective and partnership-oriented delivery of options.

**Strategic Objective 1: Reduce crime & repeat victimisation**

- 12% increase in crime, 1,263 more offences.
- 151% increase in stalking and harassment, 689 more offences
- 84% increase in public disorder, 294 more offences
- 23% reduction in burglary (business and community), 81 fewer offences
- 36% reduction in vehicle crime, 476 fewer offences

**Strategic Objective 2: Reduce the harm caused by drugs & alcohol**

- 24% reduction in the number of young people in treatment for substance misuse
- The rate of drug poisoning fatalities is almost three times the national average
- Hartlepool has one of the highest death rates from drug misuse, and from alcohol related liver disease, in the North East region
- Alcohol-specific hospital admissions are 4.5% above the regional average
- The rate of alcohol-specific hospital admissions for under-18s is almost half the regional average

**Strategic Objective 3: Create confident, cohesive & safe communities**

- 17% reduction in anti-social behaviour, 1,215 fewer incidents
- The percentage of people who think that the police and local authority are dealing with the crime and anti-social behaviour issues that matter locally has declined by around 10%
- 9% increase in hate crime, 12 more offences, with evidence of an increase in the number of 'on street' incidents in neighbourhoods and public places

**Strategic Objective 4: Reduce offending and re-offending**

- 1,866 offenders were detected in relation to 1,505 crimes
- 1,424 offenders (76.3%) were detected in relation to 2 or more crimes
- The number of offenders committing 15 or more offences has more than doubled
- The number of young people entering the criminal justice system is following a decreasing trend

A range of consultation activities are carried out throughout the year, including:

- The annual Community Safety Survey
- The annual 'Face the Public' event
- Cleveland Police's Local Public Confidence Survey

The annual Community Safety Survey highlighted that many residents feel that crime and anti-social behaviour is a problem in their area and that this is getting worse compared to the previous 12 months. However, the Survey results also suggest that there is a discrepancy between people's perception of crime and anti-social behaviour and their actual experience of being victims. Although the comments throughout the survey indicate that fear of crime is high, only 56% of respondents had been a victim of crime in the past 12 months. Of these, the majority were victims of 'minor' crimes such as criminal damage or had their vehicle broken into. Only 26 respondents had been the victim of more serious crimes such as burglary, assault/violence or robbery.

When asked if they had reported the crime to the Police, 60% had done so. Of those who hadn't, the most common reason for not doing so was that the incident was dealt with by other means (most commonly that it was resolved by the bank/insurance company or the damage was minor so they victim just fixed it themselves). A high proportion also commented that the lack (or anticipated lack) of a Police response meant they did not report the incident, which suggests there is further work to be done around encouraging the reporting of incidents to help us tackle crime in Hartlepool.

The Survey also revealed that residents have concerns around levels of violence, particularly violence associated with young people and there were lots of references to 'gangs' in the free text comments, although the context of these comments suggests that this phrase is primarily used to mean loose groups of young people in one place rather than official, named 'Gangs' with territories, etc. However, in contrast, when asked 'how big a problem' is physical violence in your local area, 85% of respondents selected 'not a problem at all' or 'not a very big problem'. Further research into the violence situation in Hartlepool is planned for 2019 to help clarify this discrepancy and to establish an accurate picture of violence in Hartlepool.

Suggestions made by attendees to the Partnership's Face the Public event held in March 2019 as to how these concerns could be addressed included getting schools more involved, for example through providing lessons about racism and providing more support for parents. Challenging negative perceptions about the town by promoting positive role models and success stories was also highlighted.



Based on the findings in the annual Strategic Assessment and consultation with the local community, the Partnership will retain the following four strategic objectives during the lifetime of the three year plan:

Strategic Objectives 2017-2020	
Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	Reduce offending and re-offending

## Partnership Priorities 2019-2020

Annual Priorities 2019-2020	
<b>Re-offending</b> –reduce re-offending through a combination of prevention, diversion and enforcement activity.	<b>Acquisitive Crime</b> —reduce acquisitive crime through raising awareness and encouraging preventative activity.
<b>Domestic Violence and Abuse</b> –safeguard individuals and their families from violence and abuse and implement programmes to tackle those identified as ‘high risk’.	<b>Anti-social behaviour</b> —reduce anti-social behaviour through a combination of diversionary, educational, and enforcement action and restorative interventions.
<b>Substance misuse</b> —reduce the harm caused to individuals, their family and the community, by drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence.	<b>Vulnerable Victims</b> - work together to identify and support vulnerable victims and communities experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour.
<b>Communications</b> – increase public confidence through communication of positive results and crime prevention messages	

Partnerships	Crime Prevention	Anti-Social Behaviour	Vulnerable Victims
<p>Improve multi-agency problem solving approaches through the provision of training to key front-line staff.</p> <p>Undertake multi-agency prevention and disruption activities in relation to organised crime.</p>	<p>Undertake a Public Health approach to tackle violence</p> <p>Continue to provide crime prevention advice and target hardening to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour</p>	<p>Focus on reducing parental conflict to build on the foundations laid by the Troubled Families Team utilising a 'whole-family' approach to tackle families who make their neighbours' lives a misery.</p> <p>Build on the learning from initial use of ASB powers to ensure problems are tackled more quickly and efficiently.</p>	<p>Promotion of support services available to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour following the appointment of a new Victim Services Officer.</p>
Domestic Violence & Abuse	Substance Misuse	Offenders	Communications
<p>Develop a new and updated Domestic Abuse Strategy for 2020-2023.</p> <p>Deliver a communications campaign promoting domestic abuse services, myth-busting and breaking down barriers.</p>	<p>Improve understanding of drug-related deaths through the work of the Tees-wide Drug Related Deaths Coordinator, coroner and police to look at patterns and trend across the region and what learning can be achieved on the back of this.</p>	<p>Embed the Divert Scheme to engage with first time and low-level offenders, as an alternative to prosecuting them at Court.</p>	<p>Develop a refreshed Partnership Communications Strategy to ensure that the activities of the Task Groups are communicated to partners and residents.</p>

This chart outlines the Partnership delivery structure as amended to reflect the additional priority around communications outlined above. Performance monitoring will be undertaken on a quarterly basis to assess progress against key priorities drawn from the strategic assessment and identify any emerging issues using the indicators outlined in **Appendix B**





SHP Vision	"Hartlepool is a safe place to live, work and visit"				
Landscape	Increased crime in Hartlepool	Fewer resources	Organisational Change	Rise in complex cases impacting on demand	
Statutory Functions	Crime and Disorder	Anti Social Behaviour	Substance Misuse	Reducing re-offending	
Strategic Objectives	Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	Create confident, cohesive and safe communities	Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse	Reduce re-offending	
Priorities	Reduce Acquisitive Crime with a focus on domestic burglary Safeguard individuals and their families from domestic abuse	Reduce Anti Social Behaviour and support Vulnerable Victims and Communities	Reduce the harm to individuals, and the community by drug and alcohol misuse and alcohol related violence	Reducing offending and re-offending by a combination of education, diversion and enforcement	
Cross Cutting Themes	Early intervention & prevention	Vulnerable individuals with complex needs	Substance misuse	Domestic abuse	Child sexual Exploitation
Supporting Partnerships	Health & Wellbeing Board	Hartlepool Safeguarding Childrens Board	Tees Adult Safeguarding Board	Local Criminal Justice Board	Youth Justice Board
Performance Measures	Reduce crime and repeat victimisation	Create confident, cohesive And safe communities	Reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol misuse	Reduce re-offending	
	Total recorded crime rate per 1,000 population  % of violent crime that is domestic related  % of repeat cases of domestic abuse (MARAC)	Anti-social behaviour rate per 1,000 population Number of reported hate crimes and incidents  % of people who think the Police & Local Authority are dealing with crime & ASB issues that matter locally  % of people who feel that they belong to their local area	% of opiate users successfully completing treatment  % of non opiate users that have successfully completed treatment  Rate of alcohol related hospital admissions per 10,000 population  Number of young people known to substance misuse services	Number of first time entrants into the criminal justice system  Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders  % of offenders that re-offend  Average number of re-offences per offender	

## Membership of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership

### 4.2 Appendix 1

Membership of the Partnership reflects the statutory requirements and consists of senior representatives from the five responsible authorities<sup>1</sup> plus additional stakeholders as follows:

Responsible Authorities	Other Members
<p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Two Elected Members including Leader of the Council</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Chief Executive</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council - Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Assistant Director Neighbourhoods and Environment</p> <p>Cleveland Police – Chief Superintendent – Neighbourhoods and Partnerships</p> <p>Cleveland Fire and Rescue Authority – District Manager</p> <p>Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company - Director of Operations</p> <p>Cleveland National Probation Service – Head of Area</p> <p>Representative of Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group</p> <p>Youth Justice Board - Chair</p>	<p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Director of Public Health</p> <p>Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Director of Children’s and Joint Commissioning Services</p> <p>Hartlepool Borough Council – Director of Adult and Community Based Services</p> <p>Representative of Voluntary &amp; Community Sector – Chief Executive, Safe in Tees Valley</p> <p>Thirteen – Director of Customer Support Services</p>

This group is the ‘strategy group’ for the purposes of the statutory regulations. New members may be added to the Partnership by agreement of existing members. There is also the potential for co-opting members onto the Partnership to undertake specific pieces of work or for specialist knowledge and skills as and when required.

<sup>1</sup> Responsible Authorities – Police, Local Authority, Fire and Rescue Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group, National Probation Service, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company

## Strategic Objectives and Performance Indicators 2019-2020

## 4.2 Appendix 1

Strategic Objective	Performance Indicators
<b>Reduce crime and repeat victimisation</b>	Total recorded crime rate per 1,000 population
	Domestic burglary rate per 1,000 household
	Vehicle crime rate per 1,000 population
	Robbery rate per 1,000 population
	Shoplifting rate per 1,000 population
	Violent crime (including sexual violence) rate per 1,000 population*
	% of violent crime (including sexual violence) that is domestic related
	% of repeat cases of domestic violence (MARAC)
	Violent crime (including sexual violence) hospital admissions for violence per 100,000 population*
<b>Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse</b>	Drug offences per 1,000 population
	% of people who think drug use or dealing is a problem
	% of opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment*
	% of non-opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment*
	% of alcohol users that have successfully completed alcohol treatment
	Alcohol related hospital admissions rate per 100,000 population*
	Number of young people known to substance misuse services

\*Indicators link to the Public Health Outcome Framework

Strategic Objective	Performance Indicators	4.2 Appendix 1
<b>Create confident, cohesive &amp; safe communities</b>	Anti-social behaviour incidents per 1,000 population	
	Public order offences per 1,000 population	
	Criminal damage rate per 1,000 population	
	Deliberate fires rate per 1,000 population	
	Number of reported hate crimes & incidents	
	% of the population affected by noise - number of complaints about noise	
	% of people who feel safe during the day	
	% of people who feel safe after dark	
	% of people who think rubbish or litter lying around is a problem	
	% of people who think groups hanging around the streets is a problem	
	% of people who think people being drunk or rowdy in a public place is a problem	
	% of people who think vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property is a problem	
	% of people who think noisy neighbours or loud parties is a problem	
	% of people who think abandoned or burnt out cars are a problem	
	% of people who think that they belong to their local area	
	% of people who feel that they can influence decisions that affect their local area	
	% of people who believe that people from different back grounds get on well together	
	% of people who think that people in the area pull together to improve the local area	
<b>Reduce offending &amp; re-offending</b>	Rate of first-time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 population*	
	Re-offending levels - percentage of offenders who re-offend*	
	Re-offending levels – average number of re-offences per offender*	
	Re-offending rate of Prolific & Priority Offenders	
	Re-offending rate of High Crime Causers	
	% of Troubled Families who have reduced their offending behaviour	

\*Indicators link to the Public Health Outcome Framework



Protecting local communities



CLEVELAND  
POLICE



Durham Tees Valley  
Community Rehabilitation Company

thirteen

thirteen group  
thirteen  
Erasmus Housing  
Housing Hartlepool  
Tees Valley Housing  
Tristar Homes

**NHS**  
*Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees  
Clinical Commissioning Group*



National  
Probation  
Service



## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Department	Division	Section	Owner/Officer
R&N	Neighbourhoods	Community Safety	Denise Ogden / Rachel Parker
Service, policy, practice being reviewed/changed or planned	Community Safety		
Why are you making the change?	The Safer Hartlepool Partnership is required to refresh the priorities in its 3 year Community Safety Plan on an annual basis		
How might this impact (positively/negatively) on people who share protected characteristics?			
		Please tick	
		POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY
Age		Yes	
The priorities outlined in the Community Safety Plan aim to ensure that vulnerable young people and the elderly are safeguarded from becoming victims of crimes and anti-social behaviour.			
Disability		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Gender Re-assignment		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Race		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Religion		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Gender		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Sexual Orientation		Yes	
Promoting community cohesion is a theme which runs throughout the Community Safety Plan to reduce any tensions and prevent hate in our communities			
Marriage & Civil Partnership			
Please describe...			
Pregnancy & Maternity			
Please describe...			
Has there been consultation /is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this policy? How has this affected your decision making?	Consultation with the Hartlepool community was undertaken as part of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership "Face the Public" event. This consultation has been used to refresh the annual priorities to reduce crime and disorder and the harm caused by substance misuse.		
As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative/maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships?	The priorities in the Community Safety Plan aim to improve positive outcomes for the Hartlepool community.		

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Describe how you will address and monitor the impact		1. No Impact - No Major Change <i>Please Detail</i>	
		2. Adjust/Change Policy <i>Please Detail</i>	
		3. Adverse Impact but Continue as is <i>Please Detail</i>	
		4. Stop/Remove Policy/Proposal <i>Please Detail</i>	
Initial Assessment	00/00/00	Reviewed	00/00/00
Completed	00/00/00	Published	00/00/00

## 4.2 APPENDIX 3

### POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<b>1. Is this decision a Budget &amp; Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES</b> If YES please answer question 2 below				
<b>2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? NO</b> If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21				
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
<b>Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?</b>				
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE



## 4.2 APPENDIX 3

### POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Overall impact of Policy / Decision			
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE		ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE	
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE		STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE	
<b>Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty.</b>			
<b>Economic</b>			
Children in Low Income Families (%)			
Children in Working Households (%)			
Overall employment rate (%)			
Proportion of young people who are NEET			
Adults with Learning difficulties in employment			
<b>Education</b>			
Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM			
Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
<b>Housing</b>			
Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims			
Number of affordable homes built			
<b>Health</b>			
Prevalence of underweight children in reception year			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year			
Prevalence of underweight children in year 6			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6			
Life expectancy			

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22nd July 2019



**Report of:** Director of Finance and Policy

**Subject:** MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)  
2020/21 TO 2022/23

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Budget and Policy Framework.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the MTFS and to enable Members to approve the 2020/21 budget timetable.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Previous MTFS reports advised Members that there have been significant and permanent changes in the funding arrangements for local authorities over the last nine years. The two most significant changes have been:-

- **a permanent reduction in Government funding allocated to councils**, with more deprived areas, including Hartlepool facing disproportionate cuts in funding;

For Hartlepool Government Funding (Revenue Support Grant and Top up grant) in 2019/20 will be approximately **£25.5m**, compared to **£46.4m** in 2013/14, which is a reduction of **£20.9m** i.e. a reduction of **45%**.

- **a shift in funding for councils from Government grant on to Council Tax.**

Since 2015/16 this has been driven by the Government's national Council Tax Referendum Limits, including the introduction of the Adult Social Care Council Tax precept. The Government's policy in relation to Council Tax referendum limits, including the Adult Social Precept, also makes it difficult for councils to explain why budgets and services are being cut when the amount paid locally is increasing.

These changes provide a greater benefit for areas with higher property values as each 1% increase in Council Tax generates more income.

The Government's Council Tax policy has resulted in:

- A £6.9 billion (23.8%) increase in Council Tax income between 2015/16 and 2019/20 – this is the third highest percentage increase in all Government taxes.

For illustrative purposes the increase of £6.9m in national Council Tax income could have been achieved by increasing the 2015/16 national baseline for all tax revenues by 1%.

- The above figure includes the Adult Social Care precept which will generate £1.8 billion of additional Council Tax income in 2019/20. **For Hartlepool the Adult Social Care precept provides recurring funding in 2019/20 of £2.9m, which is 9.3% of Adult Social Care spending.**
- An increase in the percentage of national funding for local services funded from Council Tax from **49.3%** in 2015/16 to **61.5%** in 2019/20.

3.2 Further information in relation to the above issues is provided in **Appendix A**, which also provides details of the following issues which have also had a significant financial impact:

- Unfunded national budget pressures
- Transfer of responsibility for Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) from the Government to individual councils
- Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)
- Transfer of Public Health Responsibilities from the NHS

#### 4. 2019/20 BUDGET

4.1 In addition, to a further reduction in Government funding for 2019/20, the Council also faced significant budget pressures, including increased Looked after Children costs and the impact of unfunded national pay awards. In total the Council faced a total budget deficit of £8.162m and the following table summarises how this deficit was addressed.

2019/20 Budget Deficit

	£'m
Core Deficit (includes Government funding cut of <b>£2.794m</b> and inflation)	3.891
Add - Pay Award	2.150
Add - Looked After Children costs	3.500
Less - Approved savings & corporate savings	(1.379)
Deficit <b>before</b> Council Tax increase & forecast housing growth	<b>8.162</b>
Less - Forecast Housing Growth	(0.658)
Less - Core Council Tax increase	(1.128)
Less - Social Care Council Tax increase	(0.389)
Less - Budget Savings	(1.040)
Less - Forecast Social Care funding	(1.100)
Less – Distribution of national Business Rates levy and New Homes Bonus changes	(0.102)
<b>Approved use of Budget Support Fund Reserve</b>	<b>3.745</b>

- 4.2 As highlighted in the above table the 2019/20 budget was only balance by using £3.745m of reserves. The adoption of this strategy was designed to provide a longer lead time to address the recurring budget deficit. Council recognised that using reserves does not provide a permanent solution, as this approach simply deferred a budget deficit to 2020/21, as detailed in the next section.

## 5. 2020/21 to 2022/23 BUDGET

- 5.1 As reported previously the financial outlook for 2020/21 onwards is the most uncertain position the Council has ever faced. This uncertainty is driven by a broad range of factors outside the Council's control, as summarised below and detailed in **Appendix B**.

- **Government Spending Review**
- **Fair Funding Review and 75% Business Rates Retention**
- **Sustainability of the improved Better Care Funding**
- **Sustainability of Public Health Funding**
- **Adult Social Care Green paper**
- **Government Council Tax Referendum limits**

- 5.2 Individually one of these issues would be challenging, collectively they represent the most uncertain and challenging position the Council has ever faced. There is an increasing probability that the Government will not complete a Spending Review during the current year to provide a three year public sector funding settlement for 2020/21 to 2022/23. Therefore, there may only be a one year financial settlement.

- 5.3 It is difficult to see how the Fair Funding Review can be implemented until the Spending Review is completed as this will determine the total national funding for councils. Therefore, it is expected that the Fair Funding Review will also be delayed until 2021/22. This is a key issue for the Council as the Fair Funding Review is expected to cover existing funding regimes covering **35% (£33.5m)** of existing Government funding allocated to the Council.
- 5.4 The position will not be clear until the Government makes formal announcements about both the Spending Review and the Fair Funding review.
- 5.5 **Forecast Budget Deficits 2020/21 to 2021/22**
- 5.6 The current MTFS covers the three years 2019/20 to 2021/22.
- 5.7 The budget forecasts for 2020/21 and 2021/22 are based on two planning scenarios, firstly a Government grant freeze and secondly further annual Government grant of 2% and result in the following forecast deficits:

**Forecast 2020/21 and 2021/22 Budget Deficits**

	2020/21	2021/22	Total	Total Deficit as percentage of 2019/20 budget
	£'m	£'m	£'m	
Government Grant freeze	4.830	0.832	5.662	5.8%
Annual 2% Government Grant cut	5.726	1.710	7.436	7.7%

**Note** - 2020/21 figures include deficit deferred from 2019/20 of £3.745m by using reserves.

- 5.8 As the Council has already managed nine years of austerity up to 2019/20 the budget deficits facing the Council for the next two years are the most challenging financial position the Council has ever faced. To address these deficits work is progressing to identify budget reductions from five work streams, as detailed below, and further details will be reported to a future meeting:
- Overheads
  - Income Generation
  - Transforming Child & Adult, Care & Wellbeing Services
  - Waste Management & Environmental Services
  - Service Prioritisation

- 5.9 The current scenarios are based on continuing Council Tax increases in line with Government Council Tax referendum limits and the continued achievement of housing growth. In total these measures are forecast to achieve additional recurring income of **£3m** by 2021/22. If this additional income is not achieved the budget deficits would increase to between **£8.662m** and **£10.436m**, respectively **9%** and **11%** of the 2019/20 budget.
- 5.10 **Looked After Children**
- 5.11 The financial pressures in relation to looked after children have so far not been recognised by the Government in the funding they allocate to Councils. For Hartlepool this is one of the key reasons for the 2020/21 budget deficit. The other main factor relates to unfunded national pay awards.
- 5.12 At a local level, the number of looked after children and financial pressures associated with this are increasing. Projections based on the first three months of the current year indicate there will be a budget overspend at the year-end of £0.75m, based on current trends and demand continuing. Unless something changes to reduce these trends there will also be a similar unfunded budget pressure in 2020/21. Proposals for addressing these unbudgeted additional budget pressures will be reported to a future meeting, as part of the development of an outturn strategy for 2019/20 and detailed budget proposals for 2020/21.
- 5.13 As summarised in the following table demand has increased significantly within children service over recent years:

	2017	2018	2019 (provisional)
Children in Need	1,319	1,365	1,525
Child Protection	152	169	131
Children Looked After	255	278	292

- 5.14 The Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services has identified that many of the drivers of demand in children's services are external to children's services, for example, those that predominantly relate to adult needs, issues and behaviours, such as substance misuse, domestic violence and adult mental health. There are also structural changes, which councils have very little influence over, that have had an impact upon children becoming and remaining looked after for longer, these include:
- Changes in legislation and case law for example Care Act 2014, Children and Social Work Act 2017 both of which increase the statutory duties of the local authority. Changes to case law mean more children subject are to care orders that ever before including where children remain living with their parents and expectations that family arrangements will be tested and financially supported by the local authority.

- New and emerging contextual safeguarding risks and demand, for example transfers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and sexual and criminal exploitation;
  - Wider social determinants linked to the impact of Universal Credit roll out, changes to housing provision and increasing poverty, deprivation, vulnerability and need in the town. Whilst we are not able to demonstrate a direct causal link it undoubtedly impacts upon the experiences and opportunities of children within the town.
- 5.15 The Director, Children's and Joint Commissioning Services has analysed existing data and identified areas where the residents have the highest reliance on services and greatest needs and vulnerabilities. The data has also been matched against community resources and planned development.
- 5.16 On the basis of this analysis it is proposed the Council pilot a new service model with the aim of reducing the demand placed upon children's services through adopting a model that addresses the vulnerabilities within families using a multi-disciplinary whole family and system approach.
- 5.17 The current children's social care model focusses on an intervention from the children's social worker and a referral process to secure intervention and services from other agencies aimed at addressing adult issues so that they can improve their parenting. The pilot model will bring together an integrated team of both children's and specialist adult workers to provide an integrated family approach through timely and focused interventions to address adult issues whilst safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children. This approach will:
- Reduce the hand off points between services, improve relationships and deliver intervention through a single integrated family plan;
  - Improve information sharing;
  - Support sharing of best practice;
  - Prioritise interventions with adults who have dependent children;
  - Reduce the possibility of families playing professionals off against one another;
  - Reduce noncompliance be that disguised or otherwise;
  - Trial a model whereby there is a dedicated worker to undertake assessment, provide interventions and develop effective pathways into adult services, currently this type of post does not exist within children services;
  - Provide dedicated support for domestic violence and substance misuse through an increase in the current commissioned services contracts; and
  - Strengthen links with the Community safety team, Troubled Families initiatives, Housing, DWP and community resources and knowledge.
- 5.18 The proposed model aims to address the safeguarding concerns within the family, delivering timely dedicated interventions thus reducing need, escalation and reliance on council intervention. Whilst at the same time

building community assets, resilience and support so that families have access to opportunities and support to improve their lives moving forward.

- 5.19 To provide the capacity for the new model the following staffing resources will be required: a Team Manager, Children's Social Workers, Adult Social Worker/CPN, Family Support Worker and Substance Misuse Worker. The full year cost of the team, including employers' national insurance and pension costs, is £0.230m.
- 5.20 There is currently no funding within the base budget for these costs. As part of the budget strategy approved by Council one off funding of £7.909m was released from the reserves review. Part of this amount (£3.847m) is earmarked to support the 2019/20 budget, which left £4.062m on the basis that no unforeseen budget pressures arise, for example a further increase in Looked after Children, The MTFS approved that the uncommitted resources would be available to:

- **Support "Invest to save initiatives"**

This investment would need to be based on robust business cases which provide recurring saving from 2020/21. For example recurring savings in electricity costs may be achievable by investing in energy savings initiatives for Council buildings; or new service delivery options may require pump priming to achieve recurring savings; or rationalisation of accommodation to achieve recurring savings may require funding for one off transition costs;

- **Support the achievement of recurring 2020/21 budget savings**

This support would be targeted at initiatives where there is a robust business case which provides a recurring saving, but the full year value cannot be achieved in 2020/21 and will not be achieved until 2021/22 owing to the lead in time required. For example, there may be a specific consultation requirement and timescale to implement the service change, or a slightly longer lead is needed to design and implement a new service model.

- 5.21 It is proposed that £0.350m is committed from the above resources to fund the new Children's Service pilot. This amount will cover the part year cost in 2019/20 and full year cost in 2020/21. If this initiative is successful the unfunded Looked after Children budget pressures should reduce, hopefully by more than the recurring annual cost of the team. The sustainability of the team will need to be reviewed during 2020/21 and if it is delivering results recurring funding will need to be included in the 2021/22 budget, which would increase the budget deficit in that year, although hopefully by less than would be required for increased Looked after Children costs if this initiative had not been implemented.



## 5.22 Choice Based Lettings

- 5.23 A detailed report will be consider by the Regeneration Services Committee on 24th July 2019 which will advise Members that on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018 notification was received from Thirteen Group giving six months' notice of their intention to leave the Compass Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Partnership and adopt its own lettings policy from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 Thirteen Group agreed to extend its notice by 3 months and intend to leave on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.
- 5.24 The Regeneration Services Committee report advises Members that the remaining CBL Partners have all confirmed their commitment to maintaining the Partnership (Darlington Borough Council, Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, Beyond Housing (formerly Coast and Country Housing), Home Group and North Star). The report assesses three alternative options for the future delivery of this service. All three options result in an increased cost to the Council, although the recommended option is the lowest additional cost and the most effective option.
- 5.25 The Regeneration Services Committee has recommended that Finance and Policy Committee includes the additional cost of £37,000 as a budget pressure. On the basis that Members approve this funding request there will be a corresponding increase in the forecast budget deficit for 2020/21.

## 6. BUDGET TIMETABLE

- 6.1 To enable detailed budget proposals to be considered by individual Policy Committees and final proposals to be referred by Finance and Policy Committee it is recommended that the following budget timetable is adopted:

Committee	Issues to be considered
Finance and Policy Committee 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	MTFS update – including overview of potential corporate savings, which can be implemented with no / minimal impact on services, and resulting budget deficit still to be addressed
Individual Policy Committees 16 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019  (note a Children's Services Committee will need to be scheduled within this timescale)	Detailed savings proposals for 2020/21
Finance and Policy Committee 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	MTFS update - including feedback from individual Policy Committees on detailed savings proposals for 2020/21

Finance and Policy Committee 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 #	MTFS update to reflect provisional 2020/21 Local Government Finance Settlement announcement and determine budget proposals to be referred to full Council
Council 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 #	Consider detailed budget proposals referred by Finance and Policy Committee
Finance and Policy Committee 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 ##	Approval statutory Council Tax calculations, including precepts set by other bodies, to be referred to full Council.
Council 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 ##	Consider statutory Council Tax calculations, including precepts set by other bodies, referred to by Finance and Policy Committee

# These reports are scheduled in line with the timetable adopted in previous years. However, there is a significant risk around the impact and timing of the provisional Local Governance Finance Settlement announcement by the Government, which may not be made until very late in December. If this is delayed the report to Finance and Policy Committee may be delayed until the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and the report to Council delayed until 20<sup>th</sup> February. If this is the case this report may also include the statutory Council Tax calculations, subject to the Police and Crime Commissioner, and Cleveland Fire Authority having received their grant figures from the Government.

## These reports will be subject to the timing of the final Local Governance Finance Settlement announcement by the Government and if this is delayed an additional Finance and Policy Committee and Council meeting may be required to set the budget and council tax before the 11<sup>th</sup> March statutory deadline.

## 7. CONSULTATION AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Section 6 details the formal budget timetable, including arrangements for Member briefings. Details for public consultation will be developed as the budget process progresses and this will be aligned with consultation on the Council Plan, with the first consultation being undertaken during September 2019.

7.2 The following areas will be addressed in future MTFS reports and will reflect the development of detailed budget proposals:

- Risk Implications
- Legal Considerations
- Child and Family Poverty Considerations
- Staff Consideration
- Asset Management Considerations
- Robustness advice from the Director of Finance and Policy - Local Government Act 2003 requirements
- Equality and Diversity Considerations

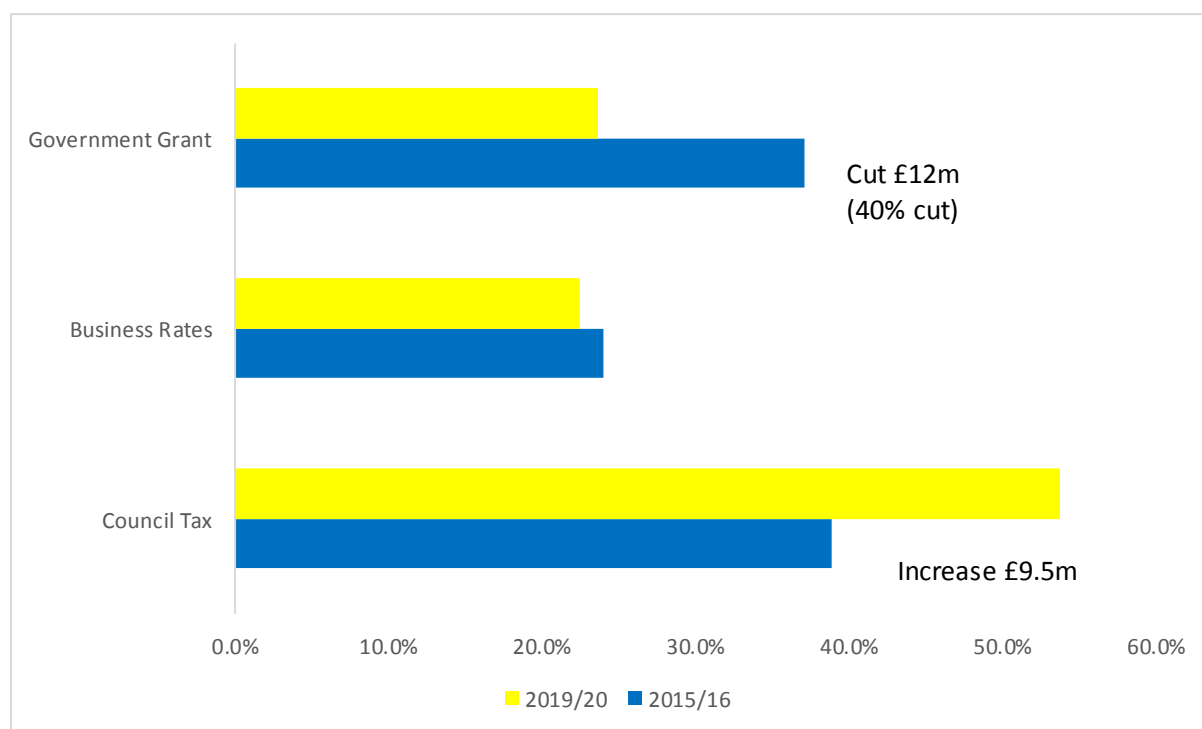
## 8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The financial position and sustainability of Local Government has been significantly affected by a range of **external factors**, including;
- The impact of austerity which by 2019/20 will have resulted in nine successive years of Government Funding cuts. A cut in Government funding for Hartlepool of **45%**;
  - The Government's policy of shifting a greater proportion of funding from Government grant to Council Tax, including the introduction of the Adult Social Care precept in 2016/17.
  - Unfunded budget pressures, including the increased cost of Looked after Children, national pay awards for 2018 and 2019 and the apprenticeship levy.
- 8.2 The changes made up to 2019/20 define the financial baseline for councils for future years. However, as reported previously the previous cuts in Government funding have had a disproportionate impact on areas with higher levels of deprivation and a low Council Tax base, including Hartlepool.
- 8.3 Looking ahead to 2020/21 and future years the financial position remains extremely uncertain and challenging, and will be affected by a range of Government policies, including;
- The 2019 Spending Review – which will determine funding for 2020/21 and future years
  - The increase in Business Rates Retention from 50% to 75%;
  - The Fair Funding Review, particularly the review of Looked After Children funding;
  - The Green Paper on Adult Social Care funding which will need to provide a sustainable funding base;
  - Future Government Council Tax policy;
- 8.4 Delays to the Brexit process mean that the Government has not made decisions in relation to the above issues. It is becoming increasingly likely that key decisions will not be made until after the 31st October Brexit deadline. For councils this means key changes planned for 2020/21 are now likely to be delayed until 2021/22.
- 8.5 **Impact on Hartlepool**
- 8.6 The Council had previously adopted a multi-year MTFS covering 2016/17 to 2019/20. To balance previous years' budgets the Council has implemented difficult decisions in relation to:

- The delivery of significant recurring savings. This included reducing staffing levels by approximately 500 posts, providing a recurring saving of £12.4m (inclusion of employers National Insurance and Pension costs);
- Implemented Council Tax increases (including the Adult Social Care precept) in line with Government Council Tax referendum limits – without this recurring income and the benefits of housing growth additional cuts of £9.5m would have been required;
- Used reserves to help provide a lead time to implement permanent budget cuts.

8.7 As a result of cuts in Government Grant and the national Council Tax referendum regime there has been a significant shift in how the Council's services are funded. As summarised in the following table:

#### **Core Funding Changes 2015/16 to 2019/20**



8.8 As summarised below the increase in Council Tax income of **£9.5m** consists of three components and shows that the Adult Social Care precept and Core Tax increases of **£6.190m** only covers **52%** of the Government grant cut of **£12m**. This increases to **80%** when account is taken of housing growth.

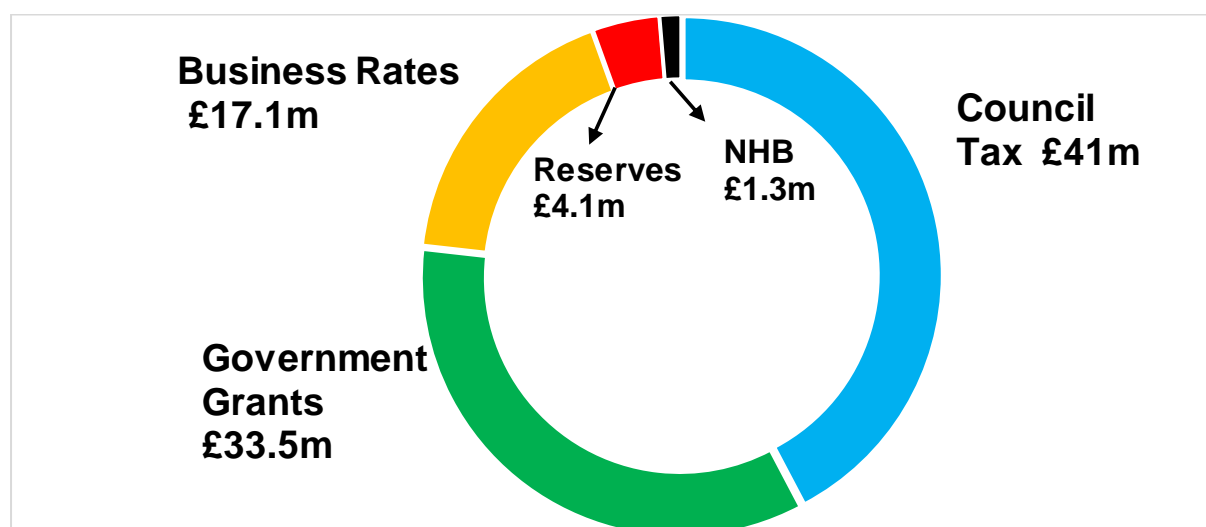
**Analysis of Council Tax income increase between 2015/16 and 2019/20**

	Increase in recurring income from 2015/16 to 2019/20	Percentage of £12m Government Grant cut covered by Council Tax increase
Core Council Tax increase	£3.270m	27%
Adult Social Care precept	£2.920m	25%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>£6.190m</b>	<b>52%</b>
Housing Growth	£3.310m	28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9.500m</b>	<b>80%</b>

8.9 The previous table highlights the underlying problem with the current funding system and the impact on councils with a low Council Tax base, including Hartlepool, as Council Tax increases have not kept pace with Government grants cuts. Therefore, the resulting funding shortfall, plus the impact of inflation, national pay awards and service pressures has had to be addressed by making budget cuts. **This will continue in 2020/21 and future years if the Government does not address this issue through the Fair Funding Review.**

8.10 This position is underlined by the following summary which shows:

- Government Grant (including main Revenue Support Grant and Top-up grant, plus grants anticipated to be included in Fair Funding Review i.e. Public Health Grant, improved Better Care Fund and Social Care Grant) makes up **£33.5m (35%)** of the Council's recurring 2019/20 resources – which underlines the importance of the Fair Funding Review for Hartlepool;
- Council Tax makes up **£41m (42%)** of resources – this is significantly less than the national percentage of **60%** and reflects Hartlepool's low Council Tax base and high service demands.

**2019/20 Resources - £97m****8.11 2020/21 and 2021/22 Budget**

- 8.12 The MTFS approved in February deferred part of the 2019/20 deficit (i.e. £3.745m) to 2020/21 by using reserves to provide a longer lead time to develop detailed saving proposals.
- 8.13 Two planning scenarios for 2020/21 and 2021/22 have been identified, firstly a two year Government grant freeze and secondly annual Government grant cuts of 2%. On this basis the forecast deficits are between **£5.662m** and **£7.436m**, which equate to between **5.8%** and **7.7%** respectively of the current budget. Detailed proposal for addressing these deficits will be reported to a future meeting.
- 8.14 To put the forecast deficit of £5.662m into context it equates to a Government grant increase of 17%, or an increase in Council Tax income of 14% - neither of which is not going to happen.
- 8.15 There is a risk that the Fair Funding Review does not address social need and deprivation issues, which may result in reduced resources for areas with greatest need, including Hartlepool. This would repeat the impact of funding cuts over the last nine years and therefore increase the current forecast deficits.
- 8.16 The current forecasts are based on Council Tax increasing in line with Government referendum limits and the achievement of continued housing growth. If this additional recurring income is not achieved the budget deficits would increase by **£3m** i.e. deficits if between **£8.662m** and **£10.436m**, which equate to between **9%** and **11%** respectively of the current budget.

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 It is recommended that Members:

- i) Note the report and the forecast budget deficits for 2020/21 and 2021/22 of between £5.699m and £7.473m, which now includes the Choice Based Letting recurring budget pressure of £37,000;
- ii) Approve the budget timetable detailed in section 6, noting that the timing of some reports and decisions will depend on when Government funding announcements are made, which is more uncertain than in previous years.
- iii) Note the forecast 2019/20 overspend on Looked after Children costs of £0.75m and that a future report will detail proposals for managing this position and the recurring impact in 2020/21;
- iv) Approve the release of £0.350m from the one off resources earmarked to support “Invest to save initiatives” and/or the “phased delivery of recurring savings” of £4.062m, to establish a new Children’s Service Team with the objective of reducing demand. To note this funding will meet the 2019/20 part year and 2020/21 full year costs, and if this work is successful there will be a recurring budget pressure in 2021/22 of £0.230m.

## 10. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To update the Finance and Policy Committee on the financial challenges faces the Council and to approve 2020/21 budget timetable.

## 11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Council - Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2019/20 to 2021/22 – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Council - MTFS 2019/20 to 2021/22 – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019

## 12. CONTACT OFFICER

Chris Little  
 Director of Finance and Policy  
 Email: [chris.little@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:chris.little@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
 Telephone: 01429 523003

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive



Director of Finance and Policy



Chief Solicitor



**Appendix A****Summary of Key Financial Issues up to 2019/20**

- Significant cuts in Government funding allocated to councils**


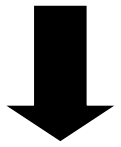
At a national level councils have faced significantly higher cuts in funding than most other parts of the public sector. The cuts in Council funding have had a disproportionate impact on more deprived areas, including the North East and Hartlepool, which were more dependent on Government funding when austerity commenced.

For Hartlepool this means that Government Funding (Revenue Support Grant and Top up grant) in 2019/20 will be approximately **£25.5m**, compared to **£46.4m** in 2013/14, which is a reduction of **£20.9m** i.e. a reduction of **45%**.

- Funding switch from Government funding on to Council Tax**

The reductions in Government funding and national Council Tax referendum limits set by the Government, including the introduction of the Adult Social Care precept, have shifted the burden of funding local authority services from national tax payers on to Council Tax, as summarised in the following table:

Change in National funding 2015/16 to 2019/20

	Council Tax		Govt. funding
2015/16	49.3%		50.7%
2019/20	<u>61.5%</u>		<u>38.5%</u>
Change	<b>+12.2%</b>		<b>-12.2%</b> 

*Note - Government funding consists of Revenue Support Grant, Top-up Grant, Business Rates income, Improved Better Care Fund, New Homes Bonus & Rural Services Delivery Grant.*

As detailed in the following table the national tax forecasts reflect the Government's planning assumption that individual councils, Police and



Crime Commissioners, and Fire and Rescue authorities will increase Council Tax in line with Government Council Tax referendum limits, (including the introduction of the Adult Social Care precepts and the increase in the Police referendum limit from £12 to £24 for 2019/20), and policy changes in relation to other taxes. These figures show an overall increase in forecast Council Tax income of £6.9 billion over the period 2015/16 to 2019/20. This is an increase of 23.8% and is the third highest percentage increase in different types of taxes.

For illustrative purposes the increase of £6.9m in national Council Tax income could have been achieved by increasing the 2015/16 national for all tax revenues by 1%.

### **Changes in National Tax income 2015/16 to 2019/20**

	2015/16 Outturn	2019/20 Forecast	Increase between 15/16 and 19/20	
	£'billion	£'billion	£'billion	
Income Tax	168.9	192.9	24.0	14.2%
National Insurance	114.1	141.9	27.8	24.4%
Value Added Tax	116.4	137.2	20.8	17.9%
Corporation Tax	44.4	60.0	15.6	35.1%
<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>23.8%</b>
Business Rates	28.8	30.9	2.1	7.3%
Fuel Duty	27.6	28.3	0.7	2.5%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>529.2</b>	<b>627.1</b>	<b>97.9</b>	<b>18.5%</b>
Other Taxes	150.6	182.7	32.1	21.3%
<b>Total All Taxes</b>	<b>679.8</b>	<b>809.8</b>	<b>130.0</b>	<b>19.1%</b>

- Unfunded budget pressures**

Councils have faced recurring annual inflationary and service demand pressures over the last nine years. As Government funding has also reduced significantly over this period councils have had to manage these issues by cutting services and increasing Council tax.

The level of budget pressures impacting on the 2019/20 budget increased significantly as additional Government funding was not provided for national pressures in relation to Looked after Children service demands (£3.5m for Hartlepool) and the national pay award (£2.150m for Hartlepool).

Both these pressures are national issues and by 2020 the Local Government Association are forecasting a funding shortfall of £2 billion in relation to Looked after Children pressures.

- **Transfer of responsibility for Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) from the Government to individual councils**

In 2013/14 the Government abolished the national Council Tax Benefit scheme and transferred this responsibility to individual councils via the new LCTS arrangements. At the same time the Government cut the national funding by 10%. For Hartlepool the funding cut was 13% (£1.52m).

This change had a greater negative impact on councils serving more deprived areas as they previously had higher numbers of households eligible for means tested Council Tax Benefit, who then became eligible for LCTS.

This is a significant ongoing challenge for low income working age households as these changes have been implemented at the same time as other Welfare Reforms. Therefore, these households have simultaneously faced a cash freeze / reduction in Welfare Benefits and a requirement from 2013/14 to pay increased Council Tax contributions as a result of the abolition of the national Council Tax Benefit scheme by the Government.

For Council, including Hartlepool, with a high proportion of low income households, these changes significantly increased the workload in relation to the collection of Council Tax.

Owing to the financial position of the Council a 12% LCTS scheme has been in place since 2014/15, which equates to recurring annual Council Tax income of approximately £1m. Hartlepool's scheme is more favourable than the other Tees Valley schemes which range between 15% and 20%.

A recent Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS) report identified that the average LCTS award cut nationally in 2018/19 was 19%, the most common cut being 20%, which was adopted by about a quarter of Councils. The IFS report also indicated that "reducing a household's LCTS entitlement significantly increases the probability that the household will be in arrears particularly those households that previously received 100% Council Tax Benefit".

- **Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)**

Since 2017/18 cuts in the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) have been partly addressed through the introduction of the Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF). However, whilst councils have 100% flexibility regarding the use of RSG, the Government have placed restrictions around the use of the iBCF which can only be used to fund Adult Social Care.

In 2019/20 the Council receives iBCF funding of £4.7m, which equates to 15% of Adult Social Care spending.

- **Transfer of Public Health Responsibilities from the NHS**

In 2013/14 Public Health responsibilities transferred from the NHS to councils. Further changes were then made in 2015/16 when children's community health services were transferred to Councils.

In 2019/20 the Council's Public Health Grant is £8.5m, which on a like for like basis is **£1.3m (13%)** less than when these services were transferred.

**Appendix B****Issues impacting on 2020/21 to 2022/23 Budget****• Government Spending Review**

This will determine the total funding for all public services and the Government had indicated they would complete this during 2019, covering the period 2020/21 to 2022/23.

However, owing to delays in the Brexit process, it is increasingly unlikely that Spending Review will be completed in 2019. Therefore, it seems likely that there will be a one year financial settlement for the public sector for 2020/21, including for Councils. A delay in the Spending Review increases financial uncertainty.

It is worth noting that the Chancellor's previous Budget did not provide departmental resource budgets for 2020/21 and future years. Instead it provided details of total departmental resource budgets split between NHS England and all other Departmental spending. When account is taken of the Government's commitment to increase NHS spending the rest of Government Departments will continue to face significant financial challenges beyond 2020/21.

**The key questions for the Spending Review are:-**

- (1) How will council funding be prioritised against other Government departments, (excluding NHS England), including education, defence, police and prisons; and**
- (2) Will the Government continue to shift funding for local services onto Council Tax?**

**• Fair Funding Review and 75% Business Rates Retention**

These proposals are a fundamental change in the national funding system for councils. Under the current system Councils retain 50% of Business Rates. As part of the proposal to increase to 75% retention the Government has indicated that some existing grants will be removed and replaced with the additional Business Rates income retained by councils. The Government has not yet defined which existing grants will be replaced, but this may include the Public Health grant and the improved Better Care Fund.

However, the new system will still need to include arrangements to re-distribute resources as Business Rates income varies significantly between areas and does not reflect service demands at an individual authority level, or the existing level of grant funding allocated to individual councils.

To illustrate the complexity of these proposals the Fair Funding system will need to address a potential funding reduction of £25.006m for Hartlepool - as summarised below:

	£'m
Grant to be replaced under Fair Funding regime	
- Revenue Support Grant	7.780
- Top Up Grant	10.356
- Public Health Grant	8.533
- Improved Better Care Fund	4.700
- Social Care grant	1.357
- Business Rates Levy grant	0.430
- Miscellaneous Grants	0.400
<b>Sub Total – Existing grant regimes</b>	<b>33.556</b>
<b>Less</b> additional retained Business Rates moving from 50% to 75% retention	(8.550)
<b>Potential Funding reduction to be addressed by Fair Funding Review formula</b>	<b>25.006</b>

Further updates will be provided once the Government provides more information.

It is difficult to see how the Fair Funding Review can be implemented until the Spending Review is completed as this will determine the total national funding for councils. Therefore, it is expected that the Fair Funding Review will also be delayed until 2021/22. The final position will not be clear until the Government makes formal announcements about both the Spending Review and the Fair Funding review.

- **Sustainability of Public Health Funding and the improved Better Care Funding**

As indicated in previous paragraphs these resources currently provide the Council with annual funding of £13.233m (Public Health Grant of £8.533m and improved Better Care Fund of £4.7m). It is currently unclear whether this funding will continue as separate grants, or whether it will be included in the Fair Funding review.

The Government may also make changes to the Public Health funding formula, which would result in a funding cut for Hartlepool.

- **Adult Social Care Green paper**

The Government indicated they would issue an Adult Social Care Green paper in 2017 to set out new funding proposals, which it is hoped will provide a sustainable funding system for Adult Social Care.

Publication has been delayed six times and the Government has indicated they will publish “at the earliest opportunity”, although they have not set a date for publication. This continued uncertainty makes financial planning for councils and individual households extremely challenging.

It is now extremely unlikely that any changes will be implemented for 2020/21. As financial pressures will continue in relation to Adult Social Care this delay will mean that the Government either needs to provide additional one off funding for 2020/21, or continue the Adult Social Care Council Tax precept.

- **Government Council Tax Referendum limits**

The Government has not made any announcements in relation to Council Tax referendum limits for 2020/21 onwards, including whether the Adult Social care precept will continue.

The detailed supporting documents to the Chancellor's October 2018 Budget provided forecast tax revenues up to 2023/24. As summarised in the following table these forecast anticipate increased tax revenues in future years, including an increase in national Council Tax income of £4.5 billion, a 12.5% increase over the period 2019/20 to 2023/24.

The additional forecast national Council Tax income will be reflected in the next Spending Review when the Government determines the level of grant funding for councils. Therefore, if councils do not increase Council Tax income they will face future funding shortfalls.

### **National Forecast Tax Revenues 2019/20 to 2023/14**

	2019/20 Forecast	2023/24 Forecast	Increase between 19/20 and 23/24	
	£'billion	£'billion	£'billion	
Income Tax	192.9	229.9	37.0	19.2%
National Insurance	141.9	165.5	23.6	16.6%
Value Added Tax	137.2	155.3	18.1	13.2%
Corporation Tax	60.0	66.0	6.0	10.0%
<b>Council Tax</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
Business Rates	30.9	34.5	3.6	11.7%
Fuel Duty	28.3	32.0	3.7	13.1%
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>627.1</b>	<b>723.6</b>	<b>96.5</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
Other Taxes	182.7	211.9	29.2	16.0%
<b>Total All Taxes</b>	<b>809.8</b>	<b>935.5</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019



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

**Subject:** CAPITAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME UPDATE.

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

- 1.1 This is a Key Decision test (i) as it is a decision which is financially significant because it will result in income, expenditure or savings with a gross full year effect of £100,000 or greater.
- 1.2 General Exception applies as there is a need to bring an update report to Committee to reflect a change in some of the works proposed following further survey work and the need to realign budgets to meet priorities.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 This report updates Members on the current financial position and seeks approval to reallocate some of the Capital building maintenance budget due to priority changes or the need for a variation to the original funding approval.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At Finance and Policy Committee, held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018, the capital maintenance programme for 2018/2020 was approved.
- 3.2 The report stated that costs included in the report were budget estimates based on outline proposals and condition data. It is at detailed design stage that more accurate costs can be determined and therefore costs can vary from those originally proposed. It is possible that the scope of work for a scheme can change or that a scheme is removed from the programme due to other emerging priorities.

#### 4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Council unfortunately has limited resources available to support the proposals detailed in the original report presented to Members in February 2018. This report advises on the changes and variations to the original funding approval.
- 4.2 Table 1 identifies the budget position prior to detailed design completion.
- 4.3 In respect of funding previously allocated to Mill House for maintenance improvements, it is proposed that some schemes be placed on hold and part of the funding be reallocated to commission the feasibility design development of a replacement leisure facility. This proposal is supported by a report that will also be considered by Members of Finance and Policy Committee later in on the agenda with respect to the Mill house Leisure Centre. Table 2 sets out changes to the original programme.
- 4.4 Table 1. Previous budget position.

<b>Capital Building Maintenance Budget</b>	<b>£</b>
Capital Fund 2018/20	971,000
Unallocated from previous years	<u>72,838</u>
	1,043,838
Funding already committed (see February 2018 report)	<u>(941,000)</u>
	102,838
Mill House Schemes previously Committed to be reallocated	<u>183,000</u>
	<u>285,838</u>

Table 2

<b>Changes to the original programme</b>	<b>£</b>
Mill House Leisure Centre Feasibility Study contribution	(175,371)
Town Hall Theatre Boiler replacement, Fire alarm upgrade and Theatre Fire Power Cabling Upgrade (additional costs)	(50,191)
Civic Centre Lift Replacement (additional costs)	(53,844)
	<b>279,406</b>

- 4.5 The proposals in relation to the Capital Building Maintenance leaves £6,430.98 as a contingency fund against the overall programme.

#### 5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals outlined in the report will address the most essential condition issues and will therefore mitigate the risks outlined above. In addition the Corporate Property budgets include an element for reactive and planned



maintenance costs which are earmarked to fund all routine, re-active and emergency repairs that may arise in year. These budgets will be managed in conjunction with the Capital Building Maintenance Programme to minimise the financial risks associated with the issues outlined above.

## **6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 These are covered in Table 1 and 2 which details changes to the current capital programmes for 2018-2020.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The Council's Strategic Asset Management team has been consulted in respect of future property and asset management plans.
- 7.2 The Council's Health and Safety and Building Control teams have also been consulted as part of the fire risk assessment / survey process.
- 7.3 The Council's Finance team have also contributed to the production of this report.

## **8. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 Improving our buildings contributes towards staff wellbeing.

## **9. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 The proposals outlined in the report will address the most essential asset management issues relating to building condition within the available budget.

## **10. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Legal Considerations	No Relevant Issues
Equality and Diversity Considerations	See <b>Appendix 1</b>
Child and Family Poverty Considerations	See <b>Appendix 2</b>
Section 17 of the Crime an Disorder Act 1998 Considerations	No Relevant Issues

## **11. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 In accordance with the authority delegated by Council within the approved MTFS it is recommended that Members note the position of the Capital Building Maintenance Fund as detailed in Tables 1 and 2 and approve the variations to the original funding approval.

## 12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 To enable projects to be implemented as detailed in the report and to inform Members of priority changes or the need for a variation to the original funding approval.

## 13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 13.1 Capital Maintenance Programme 2018/19 to 2019/20 report to F&P 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

## 14. CONTACT OFFICER

- 14.1 Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Victoria Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AY  
Email [denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523301

Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☐
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☐
- Chief Executive - Finance & Policy Committee only ☐

## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Department	Division	Section	Owner/Officer
Regeneration & Neighbourhoods	Neighbourhoods	BD&C	C Bolton
Service, policy, practice being reviewed/changed or planned	The Capital Programme 2018/2020		
Why are you making the change?			
How might this impact (positively/negatively) on people who share protected characteristics?			
	Please tick	POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY
Age		✓	
<p>Please describe...</p> <p>The works included in the capital programme relate to condition in most cases, however, in doing so address other issues including H&amp;S and access e.g. replacement passenger lift and improving access to Council buildings.</p>			
Disability		✓	
<p>Please describe...</p> <p>The works included in the capital programme relate to condition in most cases, however, in doing so address other issues including H&amp;S and access e.g. replacement passenger lift and improving access to Council buildings.</p>			
Gender Re-assignment			
Please describe... N/A			
Race			
Please describe... N/A			
Religion			
Please describe... N/A			
Gender			
Please describe... N/A			
Sexual Orientation			
Please describe... N/A			
Marriage & Civil Partnership			
Please describe... N/A			
Pregnancy & Maternity		✓	
<p>Please describe...</p> <p>The works included in the capital programme relate to condition in most cases, however, in doing so address other issues including H&amp;S and access e.g. replacement passenger lift and improving access to Council buildings.</p>			

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Has there been consultation /is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this policy? How has this affected your decision making?		There has been no public consultation, as the programme is determined by using technical / condition survey data.	
As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative/maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships?		The Capital Programme works will improve the condition of Council Properties.	
Describe how you will address and monitor the impact		1. No Impact - No Major Change <i>Please Detail</i>	
		2. Adjust/Change Policy <i>Please Detail</i>	
		3. Adverse Impact but Continue as is <i>Please Detail</i>	
		4. Stop/Remove Policy/Proposal <i>Please Detail</i>	
Initial Assessment	00/00/00	Reviewed	00/00/00
Completed	00/00/00	Published	00/00/00
Department	Division	Section	Owner/Officer
Service, policy, practice being reviewed/changed or planned			
Why are you making the change?			
How might this impact (positively/negatively) on people who share protected characteristics?			
		<i>Please tick</i>	
		POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY
Age			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Disability			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Gender Re-assignment			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Race			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Religion			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Gender			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Sexual Orientation			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
Marriage & Civil Partnership			

**EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<i>Please describe...</i>			
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>			
<i>Please describe...</i>			
<b>Has there been consultation /is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this policy? How has this affected your decision making?</b>			
<b>As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative/maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships?</b>			
<b>Describe how you will address and monitor the impact</b>		<b>1. No Impact - No Major Change</b> <i>Please Detail</i>	
		<b>2. Adjust/Change Policy</b> <i>Please Detail</i>	
		<b>3. Adverse Impact but Continue as is</b> <i>Please Detail</i>	
		<b>4. Stop/Remove Policy/Proposal</b> <i>Please Detail</i>	
<b>Initial Assessment</b>	<i>00/00/00</i>	<b>Reviewed</b>	<i>00/00/00</i>
<b>Completed</b>	<i>00/00/00</i>	<b>Published</b>	<i>00/00/00</i>

# POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## 5.1 APPENDIX 2

<b>1. Is this decision a Budget &amp; Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES / <del>NO</del></b> If YES please answer question 2 below				
<b>2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? <del>YES</del> / NO</b> If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21				
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
<b>Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?</b>				
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
<b>Overall impact of Policy / Decision</b>				
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE			ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE	
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE			STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE	

# POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## 5.1 APPENDIX 2

<b>Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty.</b>				
<b>Economic</b>				
Children in Low Income Families (%)				
Children in Working Households (%)				
Overall employment rate (%)				
Proportion of young people who are NEET				
Adults with Learning difficulties in employment				
<b>Education</b>				
Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4)				
Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM				
Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4)				
<b>Housing</b>				
Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims				
Number of affordable homes built				
<b>Health</b>				
Prevalence of underweight children in reception year				
Prevalence of obese children in reception year				
Prevalence of underweight children in year 6				
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6				
Life expectancy				
<b>1. Is this decision a Budget &amp; Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES / NO</b> If YES please answer question 2 below				
<b>2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES / NO</b> If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21				
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				

# POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## 5.1 APPENDIX 2

Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
<b>Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?</b>				
<b>Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)</b>	<b>POSITIVE IMPACT</b>	<b>NEGATIVE IMPACT</b>	<b>NO IMPACT</b>	<b>REASON &amp; EVIDENCE</b>
<b>Overall impact of Policy / Decision</b>				
<b>NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE</b>		<b>ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE</b>		
<b>ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE</b>		<b>STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE</b>		
<b>Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty.</b>				
<b>Economic</b>				
Children in Low Income Families (%)				
Children in Working Households (%)				
Overall employment rate (%)				
Proportion of young people who are NEET				
Adults with Learning difficulties in employment				
<b>Education</b>				
Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4)				
Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM				
Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4)				
<b>Housing</b>				
Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims				
Number of affordable homes built				
<b>Health</b>				
Prevalence of underweight children in reception year				
Prevalence of obese children in reception year				
Prevalence of underweight children in year 6				
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6				
Life expectancy				





**FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE****22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019****Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods**Subject:** **LAND AT BRIERTON**

---

**1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY**

- 1.1 Key Decision (test (i) or (ii)) Forward Plan Reference No. RN32/18.

**2. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 2.1 To seek approval to a sale of land at the former Brierton school site.
- 2.2 The report had been intended for submission to the Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019, however, due to delays in the agreement of final terms there was a departure from the Forward Plan.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Following the closure of Brierton School in 2009, the school site underwent re-use and redevelopment to provide the accommodation for the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and the Pupil Referral Unit, both formerly at Seaton Lane, and enhancement of the sporting facilities with the construction of a 3G pitch and improvements to the playing fields. The western part of the site, extending to approximately 7.87 acres / 3.18 ha has been surplus since the temporary use of the site in 2010/11. It is shown hatched and denoted "Sale Area" on the plan at **APPENDIX 2**. It has been identified as a residential development site since the closure of the school and an outline planning permission (now lapsed) was obtained for it in conjunction with the detailed planning consent required for the works to CETL and the PRU.
- 3.2 The development site was formerly occupied in part by school buildings, car parking and playground and in part by a section of the playing field. Under the Academies Act 2010 and the School Standards and Frameworks Act 1998 it was necessary to obtain consents from the Secretary of State for Education for the disposal of the site.
- 3.3 Whilst the site does not currently have planning permission for residential development, as noted above, it formerly had an outline permission for 107 dwellings, granted as part of the planning permission for the alterations and

redevelopment of the rest of the site. The principle of residential development on the site has therefore been established and a Development Brief was prepared by the Council's Planning Division prior to it being marketed in 2017. The brief confirmed that the site is considered suitable for residential development and on the basis that it would be developed primarily for private market housing stated that the Council would seek an element of affordable bungalows for the elderly but no other affordable housing given the supply of such accommodation in the area.

- 3.4 The marketing of the site was delayed by the lengthy process involved in obtaining the required statutory consents for the disposal, and also timing of the marketing so as not to coincide with other significant development site sales. Consent was obtained for the disposal of the playing field element on the basis that the receipt from the former playing field area would be spent on the sports element of the project at Brierton. This work was completed in 2017/18.
- 3.5 The site was then marketed in the autumn of 2017 with offers for both outright purchase and joint venture proposals being invited. A number of tenders were received and, following evaluation of the tenders, discussions were held with one of the tenderers with a view to a sale or joint venture for a private residential development but unfortunately these were unsuccessful.
- 3.6 However, subsequently an offer has been received from a major housing association for a development comprising approximately 50 no. affordable rented bungalows and 30 no. shared ownership bungalows, all for the elderly. The development will therefore present a significant provision of elderly persons' affordable accommodation. The context of this can be set out as follows:

The Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) identifies that within the Manor House Ward there is generally a shortage of both detached properties and bungalows. Also identified is a need for older persons' accommodation (1&2 bed).

- 3.7 The terms of the offer are as set out in **CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX 3 This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).**
- 3.8 The prospective purchaser carried out due diligence work in relation to development viability and significant abnormal costs were identified, principally in relation to drainage requirements, although it will also be necessary to remove the former school building foundations and hard surfaced areas, which had been anticipated. These factors impact on the market value of the site.

#### 4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 To sell the site in line with the terms of sale as set out in in **CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX 3 This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information.**

#### 5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The Council previously set a capital receipts target to provide funding to offset the removal of Housing Market Renewal funding in 2011 by the Government. Owing to challenging economic and housing market conditions over the last four years these capital receipts have taken longer to achieve than initially anticipated. The remaining target is £2.411m. The sale of the land will result in a substantial capital receipt which will contribute to the capital receipts target.
- 5.2 The construction of the development will also result in the payment of New Homes Bonus (subject to continuation of the scheme) and additional Council Tax.
- 5.3 Marketing and security costs of the site to date total approximately £7,000 and will be deducted from the net receipt outlined in **CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX 3 This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information.** The Council's surveyors' and legal costs are being recovered as part of the sale price of the site. A short term letting of the site as a works compound netted £500 in 2014/15.

#### 6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Solicitor will be instructed to act for the Council in the sale.

#### 7. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The decision to adopt a commercial approach to asset management requires the Council to realise the full value of any properties or property rights that it disposes of.

## 8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant issues
Consultation	No relevant issues
Equality and Diversity Considerations	No relevant issues
Child and Family Poverty	No relevant issues – See <b>Appendix 1</b>
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998 Considerations	No relevant issues

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Committee is recommended to approve the sale in line with the terms of sale as set out in **CONFIDENTIAL APPENDIX 3 This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3), information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information.**

## 10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The site has been included in the Council's Capital Receipts programme for some years and the financing of the redevelopment of the remainder of the Brierton site was based in part on a sale of the upper site.
- 10.2 The completion of the sale will result in a significant capital receipt and the construction of the development will also result in the payment of New Homes Bonus (subject to continuation of the scheme) and additional Council Tax.
- 10.3 The proposed development will provide a significant increase in affordable housing for the elderly in the area. There is a good level of demand in the area and Borough-wide and the development should therefore prove popular and meet demand for a number of years.

## 11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 There are no Background Papers in this instance.

## 12. CONTACT OFFICERS

Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Victoria Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AY  
Email [denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523301

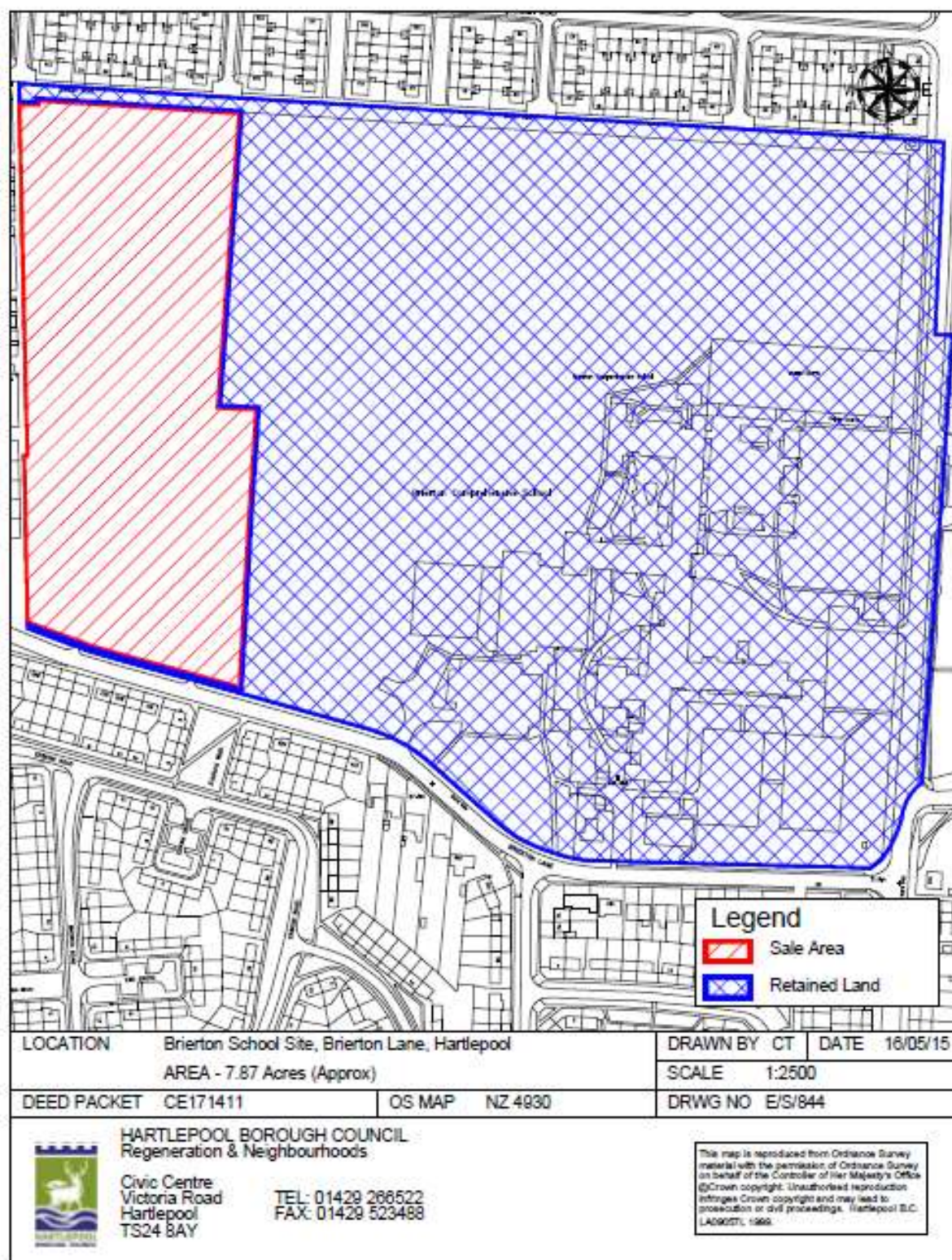
Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☒
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☒
- Chief Executive - Finance & Policy Committee only ☒

<b>1. Is this decision a Budget &amp; Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES</b>				
If YES please answer question 2 below				
<b>2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? NO</b>				
If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21				
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
<b>Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?</b>				
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE

Overall impact of Policy / Decision			
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE		ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE	
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE		STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE	
<b>Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty.</b>			
<b>Economic</b>			
Children in Low Income Families (%)			
Children in Working Households (%)			
Overall employment rate (%)			
Proportion of young people who are NEET			
Adults with Learning difficulties in employment			
<b>Education</b>			
Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM			
Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
<b>Housing</b>			
Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims			
Number of affordable homes built			
<b>Health</b>			
Prevalence of underweight children in reception year			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year			
Prevalence of underweight children in year 6			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6			
Life expectancy			





# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22 JULY 2019



**Report of:** Director of Adults and Community Based Services

**Subject:** SPORT AND LEISURE FACILITIES OPTION  
APPRAISAL, FEASIBILITY STUDY AND DESIGN

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

For decision – relates to Forward Plan Reference No.07/18

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

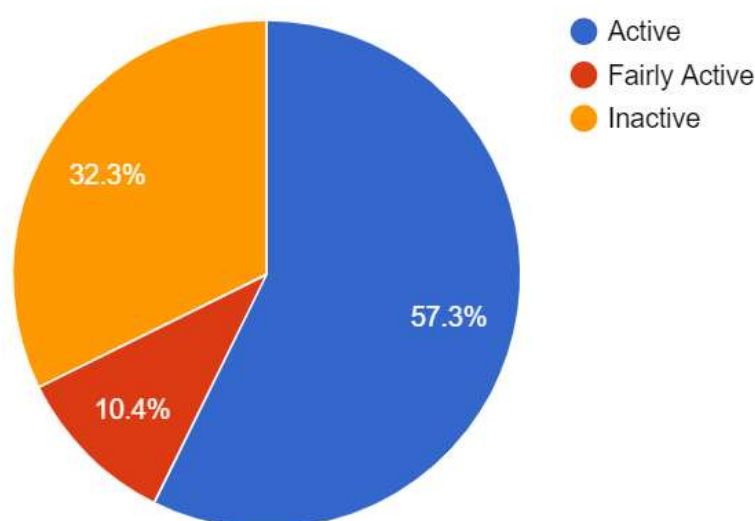
- 2.1 To seek support from the Finance & Policy Committee to progress an option appraisal, feasibility study and design works of a modern leisure facility to stage 2 of RIBA (Royal Institute for British Architects) plan of works, to replace Mill House Leisure Centre.
- 2.2 To seek approval to reallocate funding from the Capital Maintenance Programme to conduct a robust option appraisal, feasibility study and design works for the replacement of Mill House Leisure Centre and improvement of the Borough's sport and leisure facilities.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Mill House Leisure Centre was built in 1972. The condition of the building is deteriorating and will require significant investment of approximately £1.3 million in the next five years to continue to operate safely and efficiently, according to a recent conditions survey.
- 3.2 Mill House Leisure Centre has exceeded its lifespan and is no longer fit for purpose to meet the needs of the local population and compete in the wider leisure and physical activity marketplace.
- 3.3 Hartlepool Playing Pitch and Indoor Facilities Strategy also identifies the significance of replacing Mill House Leisure Centre to ensure water space is protected for the population and to prevent a pressure in accordance to Sport England's Facility Planning Model.

- 3.4 Sustaining and improving the leisure, sport and physical activity offer in Hartlepool through the development of a new leisure facility is crucial for the health and wellbeing of the population. According to the Local Authority Health Profile from Public Health England life expectancy is 11.7 years lower for men and 10.2 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Hartlepool than in the least deprived areas. In Year 6, 23.3% of children are classified as obese, which is worse than the average for England and estimated levels of adult excess weight and physical activity are also worse than the England average. Approximately a third of our population is defined as inactive according to Hartlepool Active Lives Profile (Figure 1) and this is higher than the national average (25% inactive).
- 3.5 Physical activity contributes significantly towards the health and well-being outcomes of our population, including prevention and management of long term limiting conditions. The major causes of illness and premature death in Hartlepool are circulatory diseases, respiratory diseases, digestive diseases and cancer. There is strong evidence showing that physical activity can reduce the risk of some of these diseases significantly. According to the National Institute for Cancer, physical activity can reduce the risk of colon cancer by 24%, endometrial cancer by 20% and breast cancer by 12%.
- There is also significant evidence showing the association between physical activity and improved mental health. This is often linked to improved sleep, improved mood, better management of stress and anxiety and supporting people to be socially connected.
- 3.6 Providing access to high quality water space to deliver a safe, inclusive and effective learn to swim offer is a priority. Hartlepool is a coastal town and swimming is a lifesaving skill. We aspire through improved facilities to increase the access and attainment for more children to be able to swim.

Figure 1:

**Physical Activity Levels within Hartlepool**

- 3.7 The option appraisal, feasibility study and design will be informed by a programme of consultation that will be conducted throughout July and August 2019. The consultation will:
- support identification of barriers to participation within sport and leisure activities;
  - understand local population demand:
  - explore motivations for participation: and
  - explore the facility mix that would attract people to significantly increase engagement, participation and retention in sport, leisure and physical activity.

A programme of consultation has been developed and will include open user and non-user public engagement (through surveys and face the public events) as well as targeted engagement with education, sports clubs, health, children services, adult services and Elected Members.

- 3.8 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 approved by Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017, delegated authority to the Finance and Policy Committee to approve schemes to be funded from the £1m one-off resources identified to fund capital priorities.

Using this delegated authority a report on the “Capital Maintenance Programme 2018/19 to 2019/20” was taken to Finance and Policy Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018. This Report approved a number of schemes relating to capital maintenance works at Mill House Leisure Centre in 2018/19 and 2019/20.

#### **4. PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 The development of new facilities will require significant capital investment and the feasibility study will be underpinned by a business model and investment strategy. The option that is confirmed for progression will need to provide the best opportunities for reducing running costs and attracting external funding. The Council’s building and design team has estimated a cost of £175,000 to fulfil the requirements of a feasibility study. The feasibility programme will be managed in house to enable access to an expert team who provide value for money, understand the needs of the programme and services, are able to fulfil timescales and can build on existing highly effective relationships and communications.
- 4.2 Given the age and life expectancy of Mill House Leisure Centre it is important to accelerate the timescales for progressing the options appraisal and feasibility study. At this stage the Council does not have an identified budget to meet the costs of feasibility studies of this nature. Within the approved Capital Maintenance Programme however there are a number of schemes linked to Mill House Leisure Centre valued at £223,000.



- 4.3 To date approximately £38,000 of the allocated works within the Capital Maintenance Programme have been completed and £10,000 has been allocated for further essential pool plant works. £175,000 remains available for continued improvements to Mill House Leisure Centre and it is proposed that this is re-allocated to enable option appraisal, feasibility and design works to commence.
- 4.4 The timescale for progressing the option appraisal, feasibility and design works is as follows:

Action	Timescale
Consultation outline, feasibility study, option appraisal and outline investment strategy	July-September 2019
Preferred option and investment strategy considered by Finance and Policy Committee	14 October 2019
Concept and outline business case approved	March 2020
RIBA stage 2 plans complete	December 2019 – March 2020
RIBA stage 3	2020/21

## 5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There is a risk associated to withdrawing this level of funding from planned capital maintenance works, however this needs to be considered against continued investment into a property with limited useful life expectancy. This risk will be mitigated within the planned maintenance budget should urgent works become necessary before the completion of a new facility.
- 5.2 If options appraisal, feasibility and design work does not commence in the immediate future to enable progression of a new leisure centre development, there is a risk in the medium term that Mill House Leisure Centre is unable to operate safely and effectively without significant investment potentially resulting in closure and public not having access to leisure, specifically aquatic provision.
- 5.3 There is a risk on not securing sufficient funding for the capital cost of a new facility and we will work to mitigate this risk by ensuring the scheme is eligible for external and achieves savings to support the repayment of Prudential Borrowing, to mitigate the impact of having to fund Prudential Borrowing as a budget pressure.

**6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 £175,000 of Capital Maintenance Budget will be invested into a feasibility programme to support the development of a new leisure offer for Hartlepool.
- 6.2 A whole system review of leisure services will be conducted to inform a business model and identify any service efficiencies to support investment into a new leisure development.
- 6.3 An investment strategy will be developed to enable progression beyond RIBA 2.

**7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 No legal considerations.

**8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 A robust programme of consultation will be conducted over an 8 week period targeting specific cohorts of the population and also providing open access to consultation opportunities.

**9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY**

- 9.1 Child and family poverty will be considered as part of the consultation period assessing how facilities can be financially accessible for all and this will also be considering in the business modelling.

**10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 Consultation will be inclusive and feasibility works will take into consideration all equality and diversity considerations as part of the process.

**11. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

- 11.1 No staffing considerations have been identified at this stage.

**12. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 12.1 Consideration of all leisure assets will be undertaken as part of the feasibility works and the Playing Pitch & Indoor Facility Strategy demonstrates assessment and analysis of assets based on need.

**13. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 It is recommended that the Finance and Policy Committee approve the re-allocation of £175,000 from the planned Capital Maintenance Budget to meet the costs of the option appraisal, feasibility and design to RIBA 2 for the replacement of sport and leisure facilities for the Borough.
- 13.2 The Finance and Policy Committee are also asked to approve the timescales proposed for delivery the programme, detailed in paragraph 4.4.

**14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 14.1 To enable the future development of a new leisure offer to fulfil the needs and demands of the Borough and considering the remaining useful lifespan of Mill House Leisure Centre.

**15. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 15.1 Adult and Community Based Services Committee, Playing Pitch and Indoor Facility Strategy Report, 18 July 2019.
- 15.2 The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 approved by Council on 23 February 2017.
- 15.3 Capital Maintenance Programme 2018/19 to 2019/20, Finance and Policy Committee, 12 February 2018 (Forward plan reference 07/18).

**16. CONTACT OFFICERS**

- 16.1 Gemma Ptak – Assistant Director (Preventative and Community Based Services)  
01429 523441  
[Gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Gemma.ptak@hartlepool.gov.uk)

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive



Director of Policy and Finance



Chief Solicitor



# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22 July 2019



**Report of:** Director, Children and Joint Commissioning Services  
and Director of Public Health

**Subject:** RESHAPING DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT  
SERVICES

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

For decision relates to Key Decision (test (i) & (ii) apply) Forward Plan  
Reference No. CJCS082/18

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To seek agreement from Finance and Policy Committee to approve the model for the future delivery of Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services and agree the procurement process for a new integrated model commencing from 01 April 2020.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Drug and alcohol dependency in Hartlepool causes significant harm to both individuals and communities. Investment in prevention, treatment and recovery interventions helps to reduce this burden. For example, drug and alcohol users accessing substance misuse treatment services are less likely to be prone to illness and diseases and commit fewer crimes. Furthermore, treatment does not only improve the lives of those in receipt of services, but also that of their families and the communities in which they live.
- 3.2 Currently, Hartlepool has the highest death rates from drug misuse and alcohol related liver disease in the North East region. Nationally these rates are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in England respectively. Substance misuse is also a major factor in the rising demand for children's social care services with high numbers of children becoming subject to child protection plans or looked after as a consequence of parental substance misuse.



- 3.3 A report was presented to Finance and Policy Committee on 11 March 2019 outlining an option appraisal for the future delivery arrangements for the drug and alcohol treatment service. This meeting considered the following options:

Option 1: Current service model – In-house provision of psychosocial support and commissioned provision for clinical prescribing element with pharmacy contracts for needle exchange.

Option 2: Bring all services in house – including clinical elements, under Council-employed head of drug and alcohol service.

Option 3: Contract out all services – engage external providers with view to entering into a contract with one experienced provider to provide the entire service.

Option 4: Enhanced current service (variant on option 1 – retain and strengthen in-house element (under experienced leadership) to receive all new referrals and provide immediate social and psychological support, and engage with external providers to provide the clinical element (prescribing, sexual health, blood-borne virus screening, wound care, primary care).

- 3.4 The meeting considered the options and upon officer recommendation, decided *‘that the recommendation to support option 4 as the preferred option for service delivery be supported as it provided the most effective and integrated model for the delivery of substance misuse treatment and support services.’*

## 4 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 Since this time, Council officers have been developing the service specification and, at the same time, engaged a public health consultant with specialist knowledge in the design, development and delivery of substance misuse services. Through the development of the new specification, reviewing the current arrangements and considering examples of nationally recognised best practice, the need for a seamless model of service delivery that fully integrates the prescribing and psycho / social service delivery elements has been identified as the best way forward.
- 4.2 There is a need to address the critical challenge in relation to how the service has been commissioned in the past i.e. with two providers and the need to strengthen the integration of the offer. It is therefore proposed that an alternative approach is taken to the commissioning of the drug and alcohol treatment service based on the following identified priorities:
- The need to bring the two currently separate services together under a single commissioning arrangements which will integrate and improve arrangements;

- The need to strengthen preventative services and work in neighbourhoods with service users, carers and families;
  - Provision of a single co-located clinical service based in new premises and a one stop shop model augmented by a separate recovery hub;
  - Strengthened clinical leadership and management across the whole system with one identified clinical leadership structure.
- 4.3 In order to deliver on these priorities, it is proposed that the Council moves to a model where the whole service is commissioned. This option provides the opportunity to deliver an evidence based whole treatment system around a key worker model that provides integrated prescribing, enhanced physical health care and psycho-social interventions under one leadership structure.
- 4.4 Alongside this, the Council's Children's and Joint Commissioning Services proposes to pilot a new integrated model which aims to reduce demand within children's services. This model will pilot a new way of working that addresses the vulnerabilities within families using a multi-disciplinary whole family and system approach. It is proposed that a new pilot team is established working in an area of the town where the residents have the highest reliance on services and brings together an integrated team of both children's and specialist adult workers. As part of this team, adult substance misuse workers will be seconded into children's services to deliver timely and focused interventions to address adult issues whilst safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and strengthening communities.
- 4.5 Whilst the commissioning process is being implemented, it is further proposed that the leadership and management of the service is strengthened to bring renewed rigour and oversight to the current arrangements. In order to achieve this, additional leadership capacity will be deployed to manage the delivery of drug and alcohol treatment services and provide better join up between the treatment and psycho-social elements.

## **5. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Failure to secure the provision of an effective substance misuse prevention, treatment and support service will increase the financial and social impact of these issues on the people and communities of Hartlepool.
- 5.2 If the Council is not clear about the service specification and requirements of the delivery model, there is a risk that services will be ineffective in tackling this issue, potential providers will not be interested in delivering this service thus creating a reputational risk for the Council.

## **6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no changes to the financial arrangements and the commissioning will be undertaken within the current budget allocation from the Public Health grant.

- 6.2 The table at confidential **Appendix 1** outlines the current budget and cost projections for the service and contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (As amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely (para 3) information relating to financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

## **7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The commissioning of a new integrated service will require adherence to the Council's procurement Contract Procedure Rules and TUPE may apply.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 In developing the needs analysis and service specification, consultation has been undertaken with key informants including, people who use the service, people who refer in to the service, and people whose work overlaps with the service (especially schools, criminal justice system and local NHS).

## **9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE.)**

- 9.1 Reduction or cessation of service provision for those with needs arising from substance misuse is likely to have a detrimental impact on child and family poverty.

## **10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE.)**

- 10.1 Commissioning and/or delivery of a new service to an updated specification will enhance service provision with no adverse effect on any of the protected groups.

## **11. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

- 11.1 TUPE Regulations would need to be applied as the commissioning process is progressed. There are currently 22 members of staff within the in house service (21 full time equivalent) to whom TUPE may apply. If proposal contained within this report is approved by Finance and Policy Committee the staffing implications will be discussed in full with staff and trade unions.

**12. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 12.1 The asset requirements for delivery of the new service delivery model are included within the service specification for any commissioned provision. There will be a requirement that accommodation for the new delivery model is provided as part of any successful bid which will enable the services to move out of the current premises in Whitby Street.
- 12.2 The premises at Gladstone House will be developed to offer a recovery hub.

**13. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 Finance and Policy Committee is asked to approve the proposal to move to a model where the whole drug and alcohol treatment service is commissioned.
- 13.2 Finance and Policy Committee is asked to approve the procurement process for a new integrated model commencing from 01 April 2020.
- 13.3 Finance and Policy Committee to note the proposal to strengthen the leadership arrangements during the interim period.

**14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 14.1 The proposal to commission a single integrated service is the most effective and integrated model for the delivery of services that will achieve the ambition of the Council to move resources towards prevention. This option provides the opportunity to commission an evidence based whole treatment model of delivery that embraces current evidenced based integrated treatment under one clinical leadership structure and strengthens the prevention offer particularly with young people.

**15. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Finance and Policy Committee 11 March 2019 'Reshaping Drug and Alcohol treatment Services'

## 16. CONTACT OFFICERS

Pat Riordan  
Director of Public Health  
[Par.riordan@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Par.riordan@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
01429 523910

Sally Robinson  
Director, Children and Joint Commissioning Services  
[sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
01429 523910

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Finance and Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Solicitor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019



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

**Subject:** **SECURITY AND CCTV COMMUNITY MONITORING SERVICES**

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

- 1.1 This is a Key Decision test (i) as it is a decision which is financially significant because it will result in income, expenditure or savings with a gross full year effect of £100,000 or greater.
- 1.2 General Exception applies because the Council are considering a tendering exercise to merge together the Security Contract and Community Monitoring Operation, and in order to meet the associated procurement timescales prior to the existing contract ending, a report to Committee is required for decision.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Committee with details of a proposed tendering exercise to be carried out in 2019 for the provision of the Community Monitoring service in conjunction with Security Services.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 Finance and Policy Committee agreed to relocate the Council's Community Monitoring service to the Civic Centre and that the monitoring centre remain within the Civic Centre for a period of no less than four years, before any relocation would be considered, unless an appropriate robust business case can be made for an earlier date.
- 3.2 Prior to this the service was located at Cameron's Greenbank Offices and community monitoring was provided under a service level agreement between the Council and Thirteen Group.
- 3.3 A report was taken to Finance and Policy Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018 which reviewed the operation and performance of the security contract and whether it should remain a contracted out function. The contractor's performance was evaluated and a confidential appendix provided detailed

analysis of costs. The Committee determined that the provision of security services should remain a contracted out function and re-tendered when the current contract comes to an end.

- 3.4 The report also examined whether a more integrated approach between Security and the Community Monitoring service was possible. The decision of the Committee was that a full review of the Community Monitoring service be undertaken to examine if the continued provision of the service in-house was the most appropriate means of continuing the service or whether there were sufficient synergies in incorporating the service within the Council's overall security services contract to warrant further examination of the future provision of the service by Members. The remainder of this report deals principally with the review of community monitoring and the opportunity for this service to be linked with security within a single tendering exercise to be carried out later in the year.

#### **4. CCTV COMMUNITY MONITORING SERVICE**

- 4.1 As agreed by Finance and Policy Committee on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 the monitoring of the Council's Public Space CCTV was brought in house in April 2016.
- 4.2 The Service was relocated to the Council's Community Monitoring Centre in May 2017.
- 4.3 The service is managed by the Community Safety Section within Environment and Neighbourhood Services Division. This section currently has responsibility for providing public space CCTV monitoring and the policies and procedures in relation to the use of CCTV including the gathering, storage and retrieval of information in line with data protection guidelines, legislation and British Standards Codes of Practice. The CCTV monitoring service is delivered on a 24/7 (168 hours per week).
- 4.4 The Centre operates as the 24/7 single point of contact for all alarm companies to inform the Council that a building alarm has been activated. The Centre will then notify our current security provider of the alarm activation and provide them with the relevant key pack to access the building. The Community Monitoring Centre is then responsible for building surveillance to help manage any incident, track and identify any suspects present and help safeguard Security personnel attending the site. This is done using any external or internal CCTV cameras from the building or any public space CCTV cameras in the area
- 4.5 The current CCTV monitoring service has experienced problems since being taken 'in house' these have centred around provision of cover at times when staff are off due to sickness. This has resulted in the use of contractor and agency staff to maintain provision of the service. The level of training required to operate public space CCTV is such that all staff working in the facility are required to have a Level 2 award for working as a CCTV Operator (public open surveillance) within the private security industry (BTEC

Intermediate Award) and are licensed by the security industries authority as CCTV operatives.

- 4.6 The planning of rotas in particular arranging emergency cover and induction for agency / contractors staff is undertaken by the Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader, along with the provision and training / induction on our procedures and equipment which is impacting on other operational requirements.

## **5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 5.1 A detailed specification for the Community Monitoring service has been drafted alongside the requirements for the provision of security, however until tenders have been invited it is not possible to determine if this will result in savings to the existing budget.
- 5.2 In view of the significant budget deficit facing the Council for 2020/21 the tendering process will be undertaken to provide the option to retain an in-house Community Monitoring service if this is the most cost effective option.

## **6. LINKS WITH THE SECURITY SERVICE**

- 6.1 The Council's Community Monitoring Centre already operates in an integrated manner with the Security Service. The Centre operates as the 24/7 single point of contact for all alarm companies to inform the Council that a building alarm has been activated. The Centre will then notify the Council's Security provider of the alarm activation and provide them with the relevant key pack to access the building. The Community Monitoring Centre is then responsible for building surveillance to help manage any incident, track and identify any suspects present and help safeguard Security personnel attending the site. This is done using any external or internal CCTV cameras from the building or any public space CCTV cameras in the area.

## **7. PROPOSALS**

- 7.1 It is proposed that the delivery of the Community Monitoring service is included in the security services tendering exercise. However it is proposed that the service will continue to be provided from the existing monitoring centre.
- 7.2 The Community Monitoring and Security services will continue to work together in an integrated manner to prevent and detect crime, anti-social behaviour and damage to Council buildings and assets as well as for premises monitored on behalf of organisations who buy the service.



**8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 Should a change in the current provider(s) occur, the Council would need to abide by TUPE regulations that apply. This may necessitate the transfer of several staff to the new provider(s).

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

- 9.1 This report does not propose any reductions in the security provision but rather assesses an alternative delivery model. There are therefore no Section 17 considerations relating to this report.

**10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 Should outsourcing occur, there is a possibility of community monitoring personnel currently employed by the Council needing to be transferred to the Contractor under TUPE regulations.

**11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 11.1 The service under review contributes significantly to the protection of Council's assets and buildings. This report does not propose any reductions in the security provision and no adverse impact should therefore arise.

**12. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Child and Family Poverty	No relevant Issues
Equality and Diversity	No relevant Issues
Consultation	A report to Members of F&P was taken in June 2018.

**13. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 It is recommended that a tendering exercise is carried out in 2019 for the provision of:-
- i) A combined Community Monitoring and Security service, and/or
  - ii) Security service only and the retention of an in-house Community Monitoring service, in line with the contract specification.

#### **14. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 14.1 The primary reason for the recommendation is to determine the most financially sustainable service model for the provision of the Community Monitoring service and security service, while also ensuring that we deliver a 24/7 service.

#### **15. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 15.1 Finance and Policy Committee report Security Arrangements 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

#### **16. CONTACT OFFICER**

- 16.1 Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Victoria Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AY  
Email [denise.Mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.Mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523301

Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☐
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☐
- Chief Executive - Finance and Policy Committee only ☐

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019



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

**Subject:** ENFORCED SALE POLICY

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key Decision (ii). Forward Plan Reference No. RN 06/19

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a policy to use Law of Property Act 1925 powers to enforce the sale of land or property to recover debts registered, in favour of the Council, against the title of such.

## 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 There are a number of statutes which confer the power to the Council to take action in default of the owner and allows a charge to be made against the title of the property or land to which it relates until the debt is recovered.

3.2 The debts resulting from action taken by the Council are pursued for recovery using the Council's usual processes but there are cases where these debts are not recovered. All debts associated with these actions are registered as local land charges and may be recovered when the property changes hands but this can take a considerable period of time.

3.3 Enforced Sale may be considered as a tool to bring empty properties back into use and is a less time consuming alternative to the use of a Compulsory Purchase Order.

3.4 The enforced sale powers under the Law of Property Act 1925 cannot be used with respect to Council Tax and Business Rates debts. Such debts are pursued by other means, namely action in the County and/or Magistrates courts following prescribed rules and regulations.

## 4. PROPOSALS

4.1 It is proposed that the Enforced Sale Policy attached in **Appendix 1** is approved. This will enable the Council to recover debts associated with the taking of enforcement action which have not been recovered pursuant to the

Council's usual debt recovery processes. It may also result in the return to occupation of problematic vacant properties following an ownership change.

## 5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Before a sale can be enforced, it is a requirement that the charge is registered with HM Land Registry and there is a small cost associated with this which can be met from existing budgets. In addition there will be legal costs associated with this process, however, all costs incurred during the enforced sale process, including staff costs can be deducted from the proceeds of the sale. Any surplus from the sale must be paid to the owner of the property registered with HM Land Registry. Where an owner cannot be traced, the excess funds are paid into court or an interest bearing account until the first person entitled makes a claim. The funds must be held for 12 years and if unclaimed after this period, the funds revert to the Council and may be used to fund capital projects.
- 5.2 Where the proceeds of sale do not cover the debt and the Council's costs, the debt becomes a personal debt and pursued appropriately. This will be mitigated to some extent as careful consideration will be given to the suitability of a property/land before pursuing this course of action and the likelihood that costs will be recovered taken into account. In some cases a decision may be made to write off this debt.
- 5.3 It is likely that many owners faced with the prospect of having their property forcibly sold will clear their debts before implementation of the enforced sale.

## 6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 Legal considerations are set out in the proposed Enforced Sale Policy.

## 7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant issues
Consultation	No relevant issues
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	See <b>Appendix 2</b>
Equality and Diversity Considerations	No relevant issues
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998 Considerations	No relevant issues
Staff Considerations	No relevant issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant issues

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Enforced Sale Policy is approved.

## 9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 It is considered necessary to have a policy which clearly sets out when we will consider enforcing the sales of property or land to recover debts owed to the Council; the criteria for determining whether this would be the most appropriate power to use; the limitations of the power; and roles and responsibilities. The policy will assist officers in making fair, considered, consistent and transparent decisions that can be explained to land and property owners and, if necessary, defended on appeal.

## 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 There are no background papers.

## 11. CONTACT OFFICER

Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
TS24 8AY

Tel: (01429) 523301

E-mail: [denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)

### AUTHOR OF REPORT

Joanne Burnley  
Environmental Health Manager (Housing)  
Civic Centre  
Hartlepool Borough Council  
TS24 8AY

Tel: (01429) 523324

E-mail: [joanne.burnley@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.burnley@hartlepool.gov.uk)

Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☒
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☒
- Chief Executive - Finance & Policy Committee only ☒

## **Hartlepool Borough Council**

### **Enforced Sale Policy**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 The power to force the sale of land or buildings is set out in the Law of Property Act 1925. This power may be used when a financial charge is registered against the property and the usual debt recovery process has been followed without success. This power is not available for charging orders registered with respect to council tax or business rates debts.
- 1.2 This policy sets out when we will consider enforcing the sales of property or land to recover debts owed to the Council; the criteria for determining whether this would be the most appropriate power to use; the limitations of the power; and roles and responsibilities.
- 1.3 The purpose of this policy is assist officers in making fair, considered, consistent and transparent decisions that can be explained to land and property owners and, if necessary, defended on appeal.
- 1.4 Enforced sale is an option which could be considered to return an unoccupied building into occupation and is an alternative to using Compulsory Purchase Orders which would result in the Council acquiring such buildings.
- 1.5 The powers to use enforced sale are statute based. Where a statute confers the necessary rights, the Council can either recover the expenses incurred through the usual debt recovery process or by using enforced sale powers through registering the debt against the legal title and forcing the sale to recover the debt. Relevant legislation is listed in Appendix A.

#### **2.0 Criteria for Considering Enforced Sale**

- 2.1 The use of enforced sale powers will be considered where the property or land has a financial charge registered against it where the debt exceeds £1000. In exceptional circumstances where the land or property is vacant, the owner can't be traced and there are significant issues, a lower level of debt may be considered.
- 2.2 Powers will be considered where the owner is either unknown to the Council, or has not engaged with officers to improve the property and take steps to ensure that debts are paid.
- 2.3 The Council would generally only consider this power as an option in relation to unoccupied land or buildings but there may be exceptional circumstances where this could be considered for occupied sites where there is a particular issue. These cases will be considered on an individual basis in conjunction with Legal Services.

- 2.4 The enforced sale tool will only be used as a last resort after all other debt recovery options have been considered and exhausted or have been deemed inappropriate.
- 2.5 Before this policy can apply, the debt has to have been owed to the Council for at least three months but action must be taken within 12 years due to the Statute of Limitations.

### **3.0 What the Power will be used for**

- 3.1 The power will be used to recover debts owed to the Local Authority which are registered as Land Charges against the property.
- 3.2 The power will be considered as an option to bring an empty building back into use, if it is considered the most appropriate tool to use in the circumstances.
- 3.3 The power will only be exercised in areas not subject to (or proposed to be subject to) Compulsory Purchase Orders.

### **4.0 Limitations of the Powers**

- 4.1 As the purpose of this power is to recover debts owing to the Council, we must be satisfied that there is a reasonable prospect of the debt being recovered from the sale of the building/land. Where a property is mortgaged or there are other first priority charges, we must either have a charge registered which takes priority or we must be satisfied that there will be sufficient equity in the building/land once the mortgage has been discharged. Factors to consider will be house price movements since the charge was registered and the age of the charge. The older the charge, the increased possibility that the value of the property and equity available may have increased although that can never be guaranteed.
- 4.2 When considering using this tool to effect the re-occupation of a building or land, the Council will take into consideration the likelihood that the sale will result in re-occupation, but it should not be relied upon as a tool to bring empty properties back into use.
- 4.3 Enforced sale to recover debts has the effect of transferring ownership of land or buildings to a third party and the Council does not take ownership at any point during the process. If the Council wants to acquire the building or land, Compulsory Purchase powers may be more appropriate.
- 4.4 If using this power to bring about re-occupation of a vacant building or land, there is a risk that the debtor will clear the debt before a sale can take place.
- 4.5 The Council is required to ensure that the best price is obtained for the building or land and so must demonstrate that a robust marketing strategy is in place.

- 4.6 There is a risk that the building or land is unsold and the Council would have to bear any losses.

## **5.0 Roles and Responsibilities**

- 5.1 The decision to pursue an enforced sale under the provisions of the Law of Property Act 1925 rests with the Chief Solicitor and approval will be given having regard to the limitations of the power set out in section 4 and to the report providing by the department.
- 5.2 Prior to proposing this course of action, the initiating officer will prepare report which includes the following:
- a) Address to which the debt relates;
  - b) Legislation which conveys the power to register a legal charge;
  - c) Copies of legal notices served and evidence of proper service;
  - d) Description of work carried out;
  - e) Details of charge raised, costs incurred and copy of related debtor invoice;
  - f) Details of recovery attempts;
  - g) Copy of title which shows the registration of the charge;
  - h) Details of any other charges registered against the title which may affect the and
  - i) Copies of any relevant correspondence with the property owner.



**POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>1. Is this decision a Budget &amp; Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES / NO</b>				
If YES please answer question 2 below				
<b>2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES / NO</b>				
If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21	✓	x		
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
<b>Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?</b>				
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE

**POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

<b>Overall impact of Policy / Decision</b>			
<b>NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE</b>		<b>ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE</b>	
<b>ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE</b>		<b>STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE</b>	
<b>Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty.</b>			
<b>Economic</b>			
Children in Low Income Families (%)			
Children in Working Households (%)			
Overall employment rate (%)			
Proportion of young people who are NEET			
Adults with Learning difficulties in employment			
<b>Education</b>			
Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM			
Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4)			
<b>Housing</b>			
Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims			
Number of affordable homes built			
<b>Health</b>			
Prevalence of underweight children in reception year			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year			
Prevalence of underweight children in year 6			
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6			
Life expectancy			

# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019



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

**Subject:** NEIGHBOURHOOD INVESTMENT PROGRAMME  
AND HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Non-key decision

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To provide an update on the capital investment programme that will deliver improvements to neighbourhoods across Hartlepool through the Neighbourhood Investment Programme and Highway Improvement Programme.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In March 2017 the Finance and Policy Committee considered a programme of capital investment to deliver improvements to neighbourhoods across Hartlepool.
- 3.2 Schemes were submitted by Ward Members for consideration and assessed on the following criteria,
- A scheme falls within an area in need of physical and social regeneration.
  - The scheme contributes towards community wellbeing.
  - The scheme has a positive impact on community safety.
- 3.3 Alongside this scheme a programme of highway improvement works were agreed by the Neighbourhood Service Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.
- 3.4 The two programmes will run concurrently and both benefit from funds provided from Thirteen Group.

#### 4. PROPOSALS

##### Neighbourhood Investment Programme (NIP)

- 4.1 A Document has been produced outlining the details available on each scheme and information on works which have been completed. A copy of the Neighbourhood Investment Programme can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 At the meeting of this Committee on the 17th December 2018 it was agreed that the funding allocated for barrier works would be realigned to a project to install CCTV across the four parks in Hartlepool. Further investigation has taken place in order to develop this scheme and as a result the works have been extended to include CCTV in Church Square, Church Street, Summerhill and the Water Front. Final estimates for these works are still being developed however it is anticipated that the cost will be within the £400,000 originally earmarked for barrier works.
- 4.3 Since the last committee a number of new projects have come forward to be delivered as part of the Neighbourhood Investment Programme. External funding is proposed to deliver the renewal of Seaton Carew Tennis Courts with support from Sport England and Seaton Development Trust. It is estimated that the works will cost £175,200.
- 4.4 An assessment of street cleaning equipment has been made. The conclusion drawn was that an additional machine is required which will provide a deeper clean in our regeneration and neighbourhood improvement areas such as King Oswy, Church Street and Seaton Carew. It is proposed that the £34,000 purchase cost is covered by NIP.
- 4.5 A further additional scheme is proposed at Spenser Grove. A small area of public open space has been disposed in this street and it is recommended that enhancement works are carried out in order to mitigate against the loss of space. The estimated cost of these works is £6,000.
- 4.6 In addition to the new schemes, a number of the existing projects have been revised or put on hold. An assessment was carried out on potential works to roundabouts in order to create gateway features when approaching and leaving the town. Having considered this further and compared the costings to other works within the Programme it is proposed that the works to the roundabouts are put on hold with the £200,000 reallocated to enhance three playgrounds. Work has started on this with proposals developed for Marine Crescent Play Area. Works in this play area were agreed by this Committee in March 2018 as part of a package of proposals for the Headland Area. It is suggested that an additional £80,000 is allocated to this site in order to provide additional play facilities and seating areas. It is anticipated that two other play areas will be selected based on the outcomes of the developing Play Strategy. Further to this it is also proposed that the statues in Church Square, Church Street and the sculpture on Marina Way roundabout will be cleaned using funding from this allocation, it is anticipated these works will cost £30,000.

- 4.7 The costs of the memorial wood at Summerhill, including a stone memorial and improved access areas have increased with the final cost estimated to be £13,000.
- 4.8 One of the first schemes to be completed was a barrier at the Tanfield Road entrance of Stranton Cemetery in order to restrict cars passing through. A second complementary scheme of enhanced access was proposed at the Brierton Lane entrance. After consultation with Members and residents this suggestion has been reconsidered and proposals are now being developed to provide a direct access to the car park from Brierton Lane, increase the parking capacity in this location and install controls on surrounding routes leading from this in order to reduce vehicle movements around the cemetery. This has resulted in a £24,000 reduction to the Stranton Cemetery budget and a new budget of £50,000 for the car park works.
- 4.9 There has been a net increase in the contribution from Thirteen Group of £35,000, which results from a £25,000 saving expected from the budget for off street parking at Balmoral Road and £60,000 budget for Belly Bins.
- 4.10 The enhancement of public realm at King Oswy shops is now complete with costs being £145,000 lower than anticipated. A table showing the proposed reallocation of budget underspends is shown in Section 6.

#### Highway Improvement Programme (HIP)

- 4.11 Thirteen Group have allocated £125,000 towards the HIP which will be spent on schemes of their choice within the Highway Improvement Programme. The schemes chosen are Annandale Crescent, West View Road (A1049) and West View Road slip road verge scheme. This has released funding from the original programme to increase the level of uncommitted funding as covered in Section 6.
- 4.12 Since the last committee a new Highway Improvement Programme scheme has been proposed to resurface a section of Chichester Close and additional surfacing in the Avenue Road surrounding areas. The estimated cost of these works is £48,000 which is reflected in the forecast variance.

## **5. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The risk associated with this programme relates to ongoing maintenance and future revenue liabilities, particularly in relation to play facilities and replacement equipment.
- 5.2 It is proposed that to mitigate the risk to the Council a sinking fund of £50,000 is created from the budget available in order to address this.

## 6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Neighbourhood Investment Programme

- 6.1 The proposed amendments to the scheme and associated costs are outlined in the table below.

	£000
<b>Unallocated Budget B/F</b>	<b>278</b>
<b>Reductions to Approved Budgets</b>	
Off Street Parking at Balmoral Road	(25)
Stranton Cemetery Barrier	(24)
King Oswy Shops	(145)
Barrier Works	(400)
Roundabout Works	(200)
	<b>(794)</b>
<b>Additions/Updates</b>	
Owton Manor Belly Bins	60
Memorial Wood	13
CCTV in Parks	400
Spenser Grove	6
Stranton Cemetery Car Park	50
Sinking Fund	50
Seaton Tennis Courts	175
Statue Cleaning and Playground Enhancements	200
Cleaning Equipment for Pavements	34
	<b>988</b>
<b>Additional Funding</b>	
Additional Funding from Thirteen	(35)
Sport England Grant & Seaton Community Trust	(175)
	<b>(210)</b>
Transfer to Unallocated	16
<b>Unallocated Budget C/F</b>	<b>294</b>

### Highway Improvement Programme

- 6.2 **Appendix 2** provides details of the latest estimate for each scheme and any variations. The overall forecast for schemes currently in the programme is a favourable variance of £289,000. In conjunction with the additional funding detailed in 4.11 this results in a total for uncommitted funding of £414,000. As the current phases of work progress assessments will be completed into further sections of highway to be improved or resurfaced. New schemes will be brought forward into the programme as capacity allows.

## **7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The programme of investment supports the priorities set out within the Council Plan and is supported by the general power of competence provided for in Section 1 to 8 of the Localism Act 2011.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 Consultation was carried out with Members in November 2016 in order to inform Councillors of the intention to develop this programme and to obtain initial views.
- 8.2 Further consultation has taken place in those areas where works are proposed prior to schemes being implemented. Where appropriate consultation has been carried out with Ward Members, residents and Parish Councils.

## **9. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 The capital investment programme will renew and improve the authority's assets and should therefore have a positive effect on maintenance budgets. Where new assets are introduced, for example an additional playspace, some ongoing safety inspection and maintenance requirements will be generated along with associated revenue costs.

## **10. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 Other considerations are outlined below.

Child/Family Poverty Considerations	No relevant issues
Equality and Diversity Considerations	No relevant issues
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998 Considerations	No relevant issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant issues

## **11. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 11.1 The Committee notes the current progress on implementing the Neighbourhood Investment Programme and Highway Investment Programme.
- 11.2 The Committee approves the extension of the CCTV works to include sites in Church Square, Church Street, Summerhill and the Water Front, which can be accommodated within the £400k originally earmarked for barrier works.

- 11.3 The Committee approves the budget allocation of £13,000 towards the implementation of an improvement scheme at the Memorial Wood in Summerhill.
- 11.4 The Committee approves the proposed allocation of £6,000 towards the implementation of an environmental scheme at Spenser Grove.
- 11.5 The Committee approves the proposal to put on hold the works to roundabouts and agrees to reallocating the £200,000 for enhancements to Marine Crescent play area along with two other play areas in line with the developing Play Strategy, and cleaning the two statues in Church Street and Church Square and the Sculpture on Marina Way.
- 11.6 The Committee approves the amendments to the scheme in Stranton Cemetery to increase the capacity to the car park and provide a direct access to the space from Brierton Lane, allocating £50,000.
- 11.7 The Committee approves the proposed allocation of £34,000 towards street cleaning equipment.
- 11.8 The Committee approves the proposed inclusion of a section of Chichester Close (£6k) and additional surfacing in the Avenue Road (£48k) area within the Highway Improvement Programme.
- 11.9 The Committee notes the uncommitted balance of funding totalling £414,000.

## **12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 The report and appendices provide an update on the current position of both investment programmes.
- 12.2 The report provides details of proposed new schemes to be included in the Neighbourhood Improvement Programme and Highways Improvement Programme.

## **13. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 Finance and Policy Committee Report, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018, Neighbourhood Investment Programme.
- 13.2 Finance and Policy Committee Report, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2018, Neighbourhood Investment Programme.
- 13.3 Finance and Policy Committee Report, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017, Neighbourhood Investment Programme.
- 13.4 Neighbourhood Services Committee Report, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Highway Improvement Programme.



- 13.5 Neighbourhood Services Committee Report, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Neighbourhood Investment Programme.

#### 14. CONTACT OFFICERS

Denise McGuckin  
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods  
Civic Centre  
Victoria Road  
Hartlepool  
TS24 8AY  
Email [denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:denise.mcguckin@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
Tel: 01429 523301

Tony Hanson  
Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services)  
Level 3  
Civic Centre  
Hartlepool  
TS4 8AY

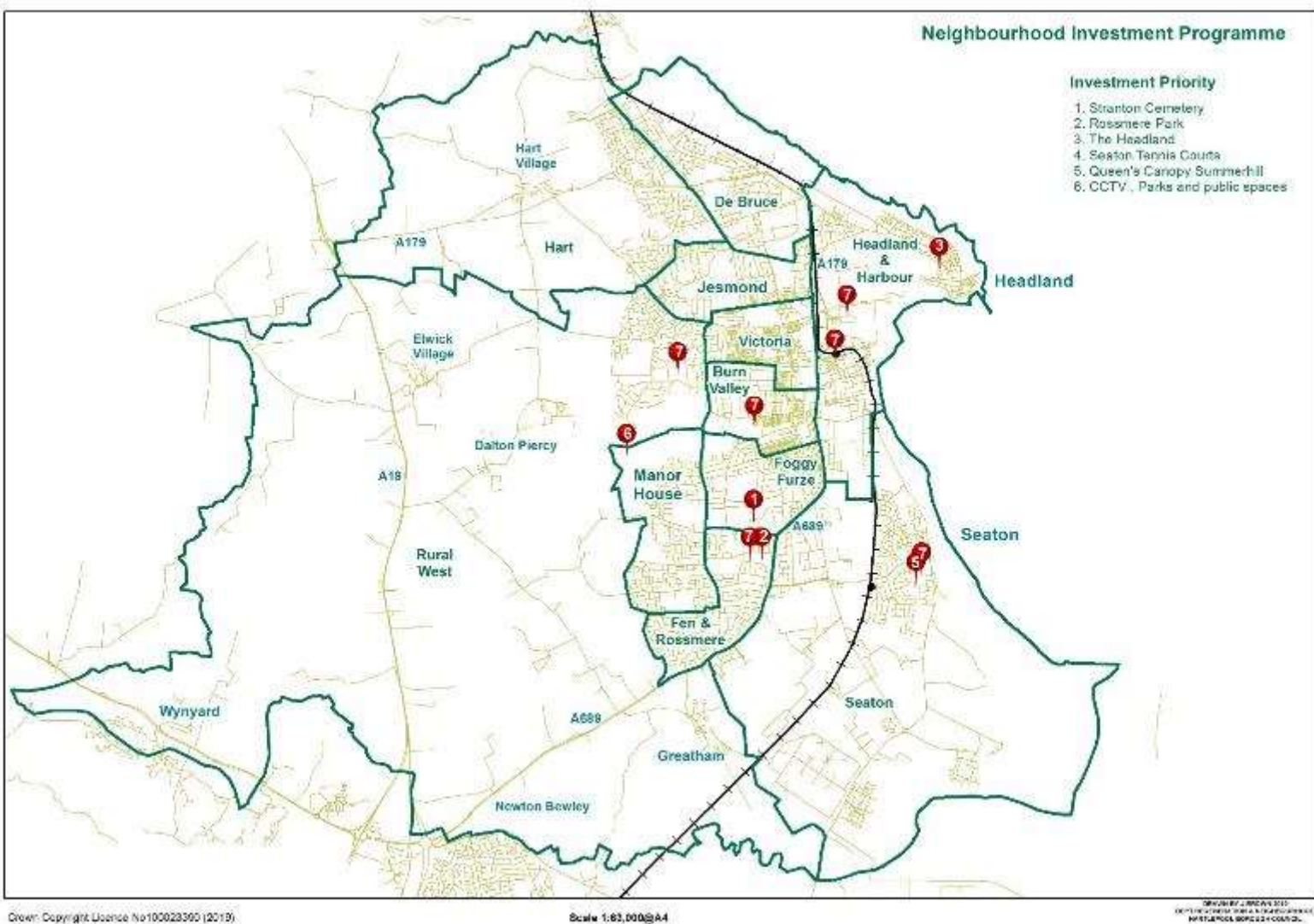
Tel: (01429) 523400  
E-mail [tony.hanson@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:tony.hanson@hartlepool.gov.uk)

Sign Off:-

- Director of Finance and Policy ☐
- Chief Solicitor/Monitoring Officer ☐
- Chief Executive - Finance & Policy Committee only ☐

# Neighbourhood Investment Programme June 2019





# Contents

Introduction	3
Stranton Cemetery	5 - 6
Rossmere Park	7 - 8
The Headland	9 - 10
Seaton Tennis Courts	11 - 12
Queen's Canopy Summerhill	13 - 14
CCTV Parks and Public Spaces	15
Budgets	17



## Introduction

On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 the Finance and Policy Committee considered a programme of capital investment to deliver improvements to neighbourhoods across Hartlepool, known as the Neighbourhood Investment Programme.

Schemes were submitted by Ward Members for consideration and assessed on the following criteria,

- A scheme falls within an area in need of physical and social regeneration.
- The scheme contributes towards community wellbeing.
- The scheme has a positive impact on community safety.

Since the development of the programme Thirteen Group offered £250,000 to support the proposed schemes. In addition a successful application was made to Mondegreen EB Ltd who have provided grant funding to deliver the project in Rossmere Park.

A number of schemes have now been completed, the first of which was the play area in Seaton Carew in December 2018 where £70,000 was invested to provide a new play space, complementing the existing play areas on Coronation Drive.



With the support of Thirteen Group works were carried out to enhance the space around King Oswy Drive Shops including laying new paving, fitting low level planters with shrubs and improving the seating.



Thirteen Group provided further funds to purchase Belly Bins which were installed around the shops and in the Owton Manor area in order to support more efficient litter collection in these locations. In addition they also funded the repair and painting of railings on Union Street in the Headland.



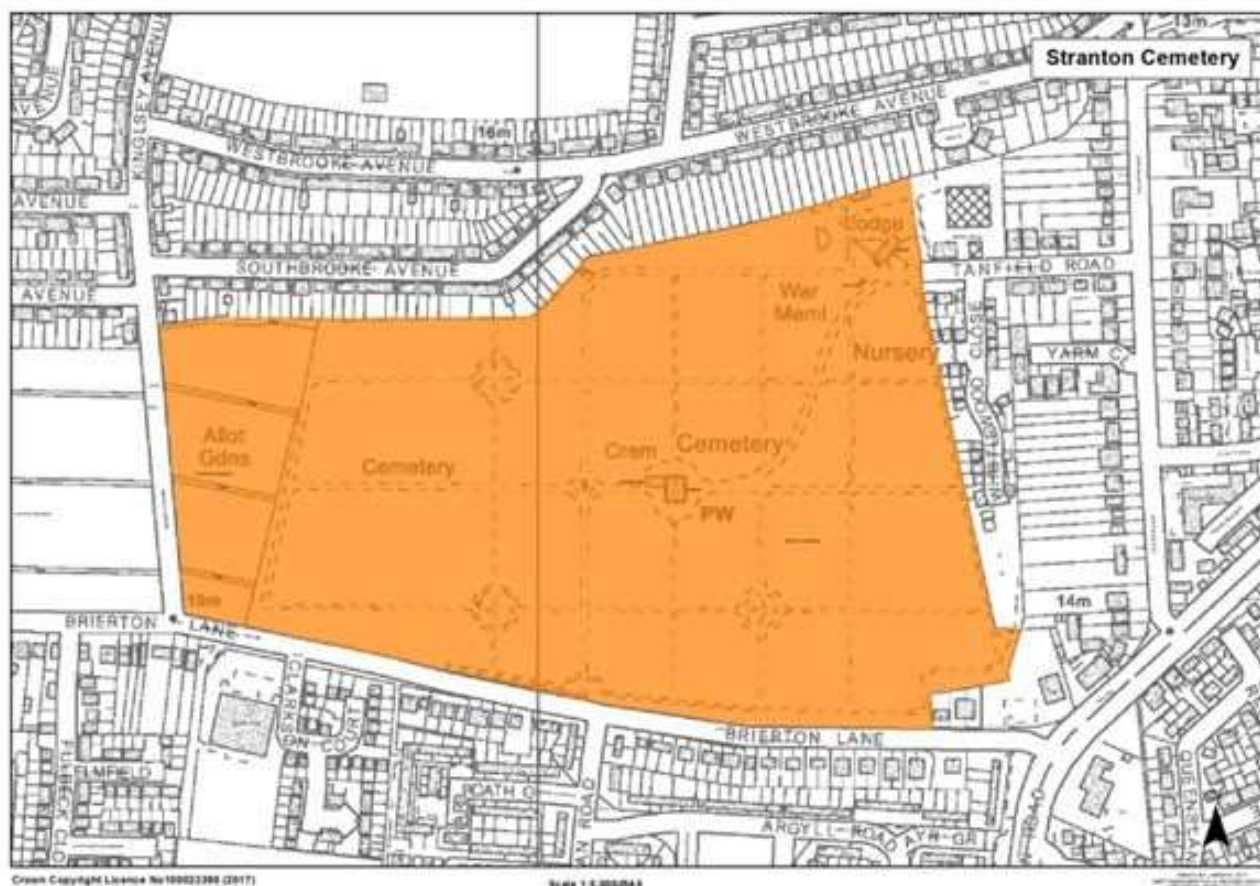
Other projects have been completed using budget from this Scheme including,

- resurfacing the Headland Paddling Pool,
- installation of a slide in the Headland Play Area,
- the laying of a footpath to improve access to the War Memorial in Redheugh Gardens,
- fitting a barrier at the entrance of Stranton Cemetery to control access, and
- new paving on Whitby Street.



Work continues to deliver the programme; where schemes are on site or yet to start this document provides a timetable for the schemes and costs, if available, alongside location plans and photographs of the sites which are geographically spread across the town as shown on page 1.

## Stranton Cemetery



A scheme was developed to identify an appropriate funeral vehicle route through the cemetery and to designate other routes as 'pedestrian only'. A barrier, operated on a fob system was installed at the Tanfield Road entrance of the cemetery in order to restrict cars passing through. This has now been in operation for a number of months and is working successfully.

After consultation with Members and residents improvements to the road leading to the car parking area on the Brierton Lane entrance were reconsidered. Proposals are now being developed in order to provide a direct access to the car park from Brierton Lane and install controls on surrounding routes leading from this in order to reduce vehicle movements around the cemetery.

### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Prepare designs for revised access proposals	June - July 2019	Transport and Infrastructure Service
Tender etc.	August - September 2019	
Works Start on Site	October 2019	
Works Completed	December 2019	

**Estimated Cost**  
£50,000





Car Park at Stranton Cemetery



## Rossmere Park



A master plan was produced for Rossmere Park in 2015 and based on this a grant application was successfully submitted to Mondegreen EB Ltd, to provide grant funding to support the implementation of this project. The first phase of works were completed in March with a new car park, an events area covered by a canopy, and the refurbishment of existing toddler and junior play areas. In the junior play area a SUTU Wall was installed which offers the opportunity to play interactive ball games; information from the manufacturer has shown since installation it has had the highest levels of use in the country.

Tenders for the second phase of works have now been received which includes enhancements to the lake. Officers will work with the contractor to implement these enhancements over the coming months.

### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Tender	May 2019	Steven Wilkie
Phase II Works Start on Site	September 2019	Steven Wilkie
Works Completed	December 2019	

### Estimated Cost

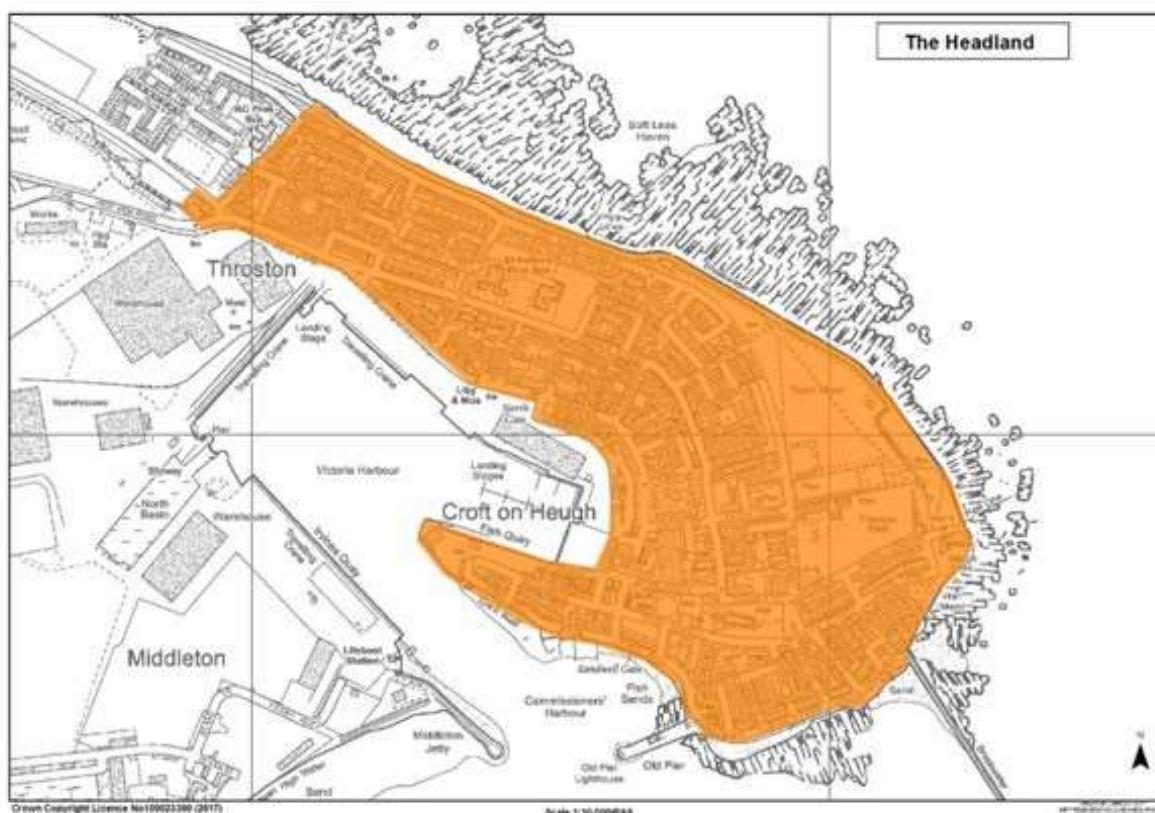
£550,000



Area of Rossmere Park which is the focus of the second phase of works.



## The Headland



A number of schemes on the Headland have already been completed and these are outlined in the introduction of this document.

Work on the Town Square is currently on site with contractors enhancing and tidying up the existing scheme including removing dead trees, relaying paving and improving drainage on the site.

Proposals to improve the the Junior Play Area to repair and paint equipment, improve the surfacing and install a new boundary fence and currently being assessed with investigation work being carried out to consider the scope to extend these works further.

### Timescale

Project	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Town Square	Works on site and anticipated to be completed by August 2019	Guy Rawlinson
Headland Junior Play Area	Works are underway to consider a revised scheme for this site.	Guy Rawlinson

## Estimated Cost

Repairs to Town Square - £102,000

Junior Play Area - £100,000



Headland Town Square



Junior Play Area

## Seaton Tennis Courts



This project is jointly funded by Seaton Development Trust and Sport England who have offered £70,000 towards the cost of refurbishing the tennis courts in Seaton Park.

The surface of the courts will be renewed and new fencing installed around the site.

### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Compile detailed designs for the works	January - March 2019	Guy Rawlinson, Landscape Architect
Tender the work	April - May 2019	
Works begin on site	July 2019	

### Estimated Cost

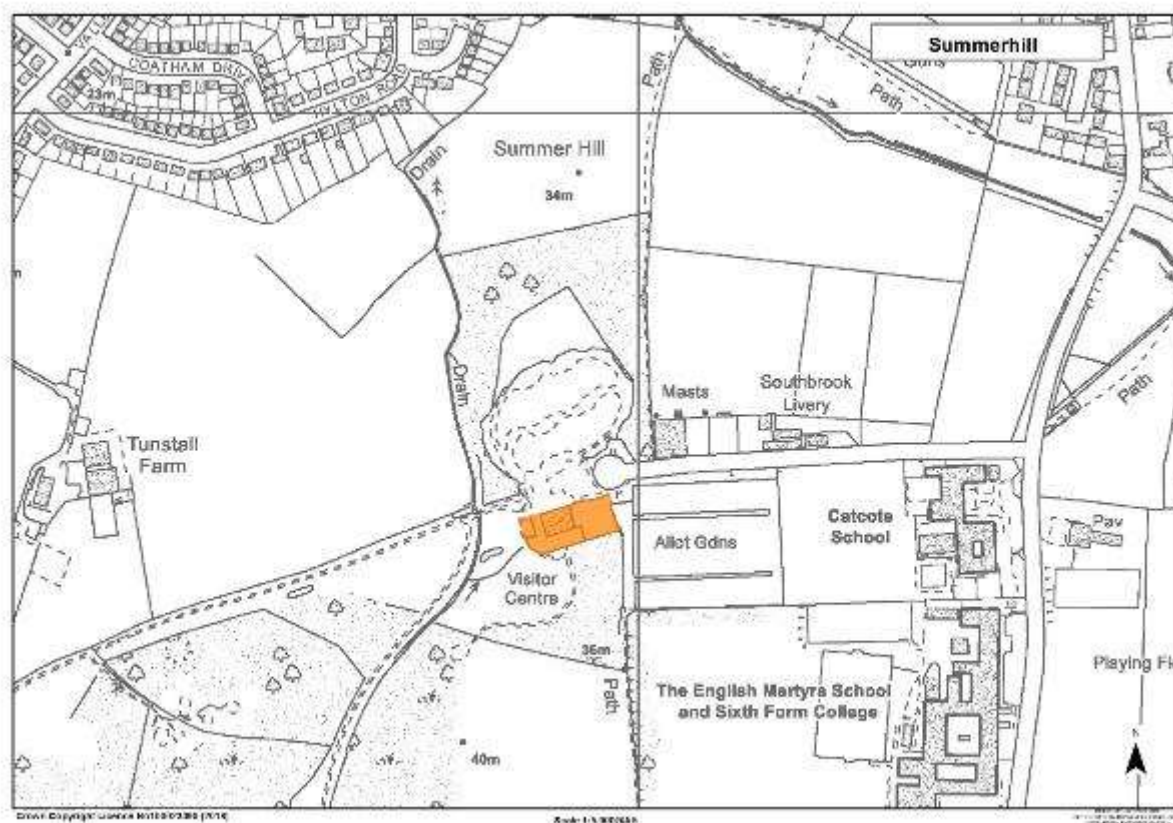
£175,200





Tennis courts, Seaton Park

## Queen's Canopy, Summerhill



In November last year a small memorial wood was launched at Summerhill to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War and provide space for five trees presented to the Borough's Member of Parliament by the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy, an initiative introduced to create a network of forests across the Commonwealth.

A number of works remain outstanding on this project and require completion including works to the path and installing a plaque which will provide further information about the space.

### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Install plaque and complete footpath works	June – July 2019	Steve Wilkie, Landscape Architect
Complete works	August 2019	

### Estimated Cost

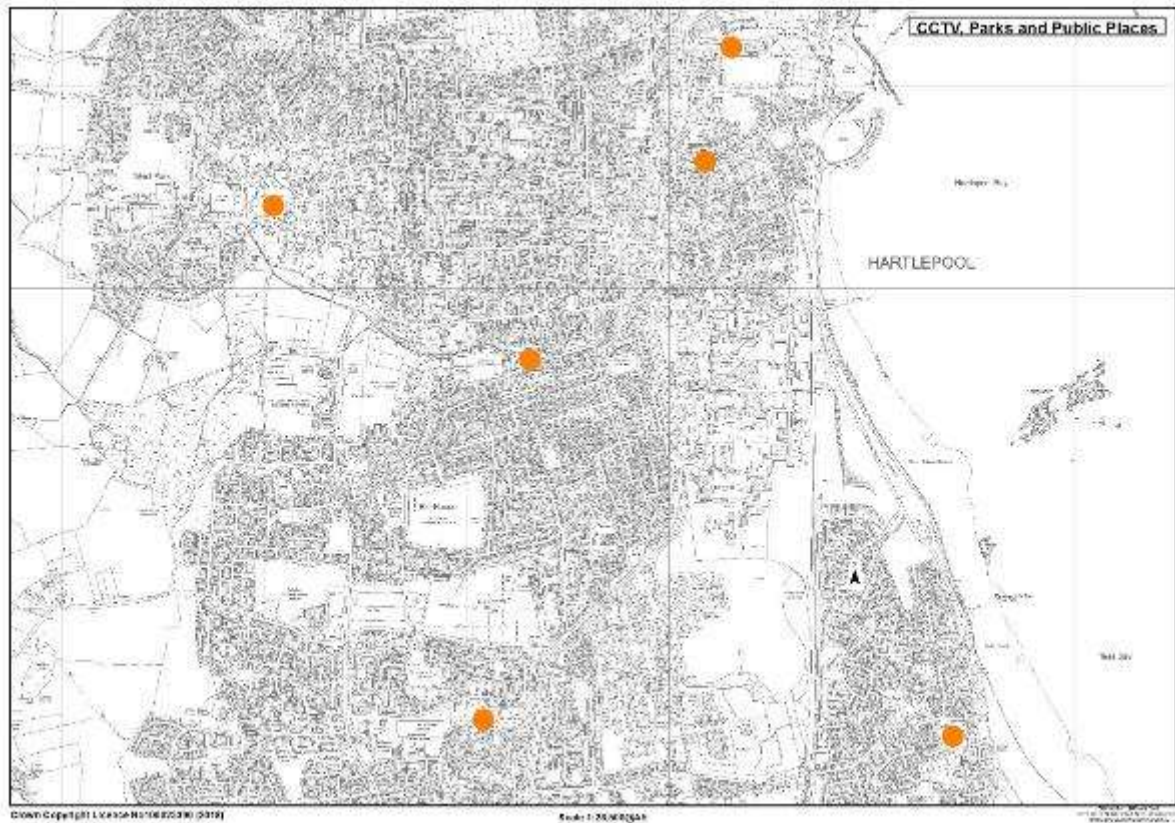
£13,000



Initial works to the Queen's Canopy Memorial Garden at Summerhill



## CCTV in Parks and Public Spaces



It was agreed at the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee in December 2018 that funds earmarked towards the Barrier Scheme would be reallocated to CCTV in the four parks across the town. This project has now developed to include further sites, on

- Church Street,
- Church Square
- Summerhill, and
- the Waterfront.

Assessments are currently being carried out in order to finalize the cost of works however it is anticipated that they will be with the £400,000 allocated budget.

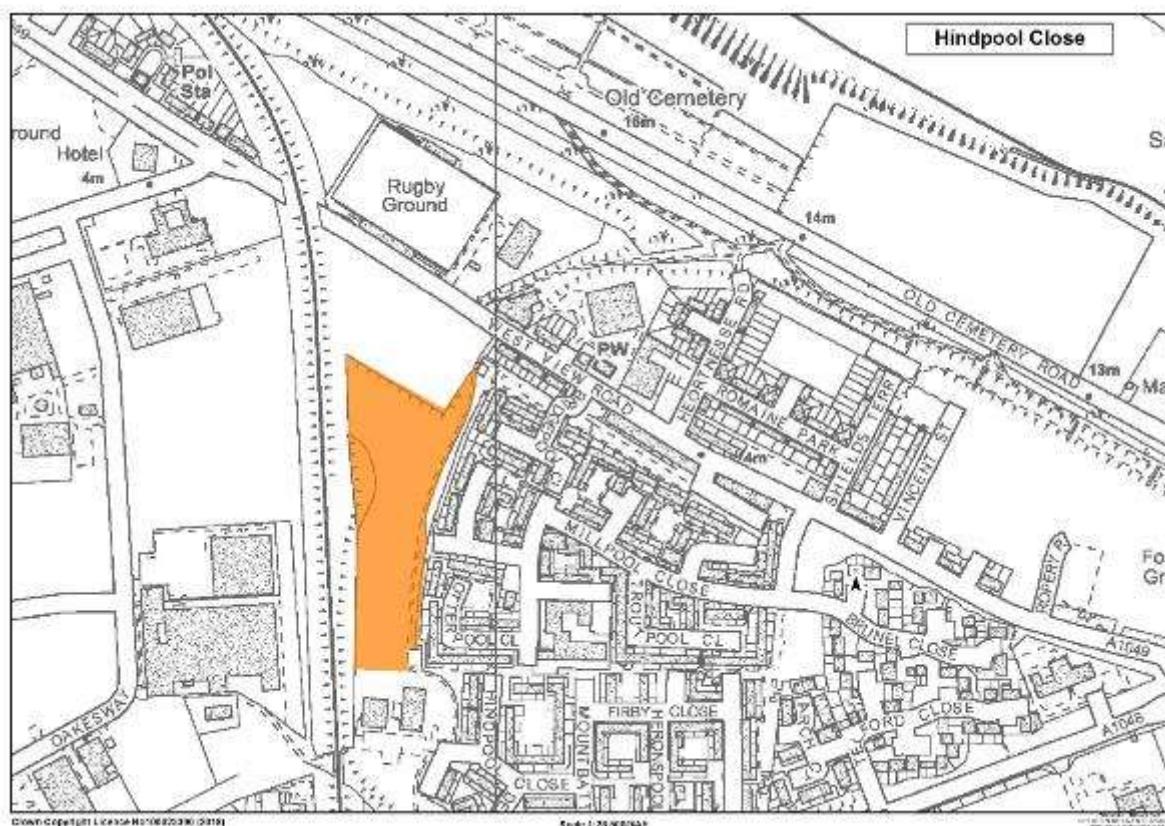
### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Submit planning applications for the sites	June – August 2019	Nick Stone, Neighbourhood Safety Team Leader
Tender the work	August 2019	
Works begin on site	September 2019	

### Estimated Cost

£400,000

## Hindpool Close Play Area



It is proposed that the existing play area is enhanced with investigation currently underway as to how this is done and the scope for installing new equipment on the site. These works will be funded by Thirteen Group.

### Timescale

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer/Service
Design work to investigate options for the site	June – July 2019	Guy Rawlinson, Landscape Architect
Tender work	September - October 2019	
Carry out works on site	November – December 2019	

### Estimated Cost

£40,000



Play area at Hindpool Close



## Budget

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Latest Approved Budget  £000</b>	<b>Proposed Amendments  £000</b>	<b>Revised Budget  £000</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Coronation Drive Play Area	70	0	70
Rossmere Park	550	0	550
Off Street Parking at Balmoral Road	50	(25)	25
Owton Manor Belly Bins	0	60	60
Memorial Wood	0	13	13
Hindpool Close Play Area	40	0	40
CCTV in Parks	0	400	400
Stranton Cemetery Barrier	45	(24)	21
The Headland	162	0	162
King Oswy Shops	345	(145)	200
The BIS Paving	105	0	105
Roundabouts at Key Gateways	210	(200)	10
Improvements to Play Areas and Statues/Sculptures		200	200
Barrier Works; Tesco Roundabout to Middleton Rd	400	(400)	0
Unallocated	278	16	294
Spenser Grove		6	6
Stranton Cemetery Car Park		50	50
Sinking Fund		50	50
Seaton Tennis Courts		175	175
Cleaning equipment for pavements		34	34
<b>Total Expenditure Budget</b>	<b>2,255</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>2,465</b>
<b>Funding</b>			
Prudential Borrowing	(1,500)		(1,500)
Contributions from Thirteen Group	(205)	(35)	(240)
Landfill Tax Credit Grant (Mondegreen)	(550)		(550)
Sport England Grant & Seaton Community Trust		(175)	(175)
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>(2,255)</b>	<b>(210)</b>	<b>(2,465)</b>



**For further information about The Neighbourhood Investment Programme please contact:**

**Sarah Scarr**  
**Heritage and Countryside Manager**

Telephone **(01429) 523275**

Email **[sarah.scarr@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.scarr@hartlepool.gov.uk)**

Post **Hartlepool Borough Council,  
Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY**



# Highway Improvement Funding Programme June 2019





# Contents

Introduction	3
Schemes by Ward map	4
Resurfacing Schemes	5-7
Footpath Schemes	8
Verge Schemes	9
Full Scheme List	10-13
Further Information	14

# Introduction

At the Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018 the proposal referred from Finance & Policy Committee to invest up to £2.5m in highways works was approved. The project is known as the 'Highway Improvement Funding Programme' and the total estimated cost of the Programme is £2,485,019.

Thirteen Group have contributed £125,000 to three schemes within the programme. They are Annandale Crescent, A1049 West View Road and West View Road service road verge scheme. This additional Programme complements the existing Programme approved at Committee in March 2018, which is nearing completion and comprises works totaling £1,185,000.

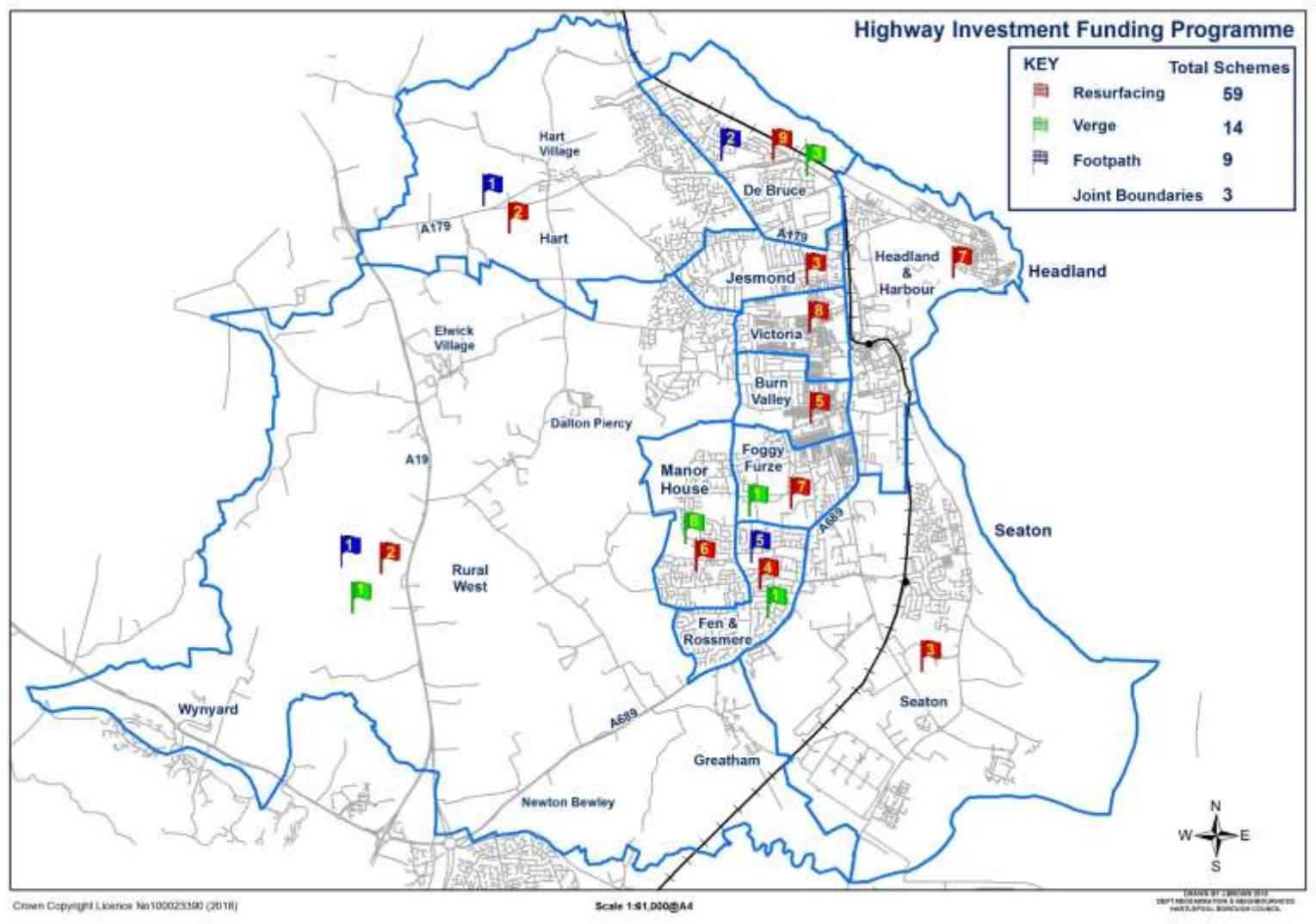
The decision to implement the Programme was due to the fact that the recent bad winter has taken its toll on the highway network, along with years of government funding cuts to highway maintenance budget allocations. To go some way to addressing this, and to also make improvements in residential neighbourhoods, the Council have put forward a range of schemes to focus on some of the worst areas across the borough. Schemes have been highlighted from the Council's annual asset surveys, highway inspections, and complaints received from members of the public and Ward Members.

The Neighbourhood Services Committee agreed the funding of the schemes at a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018 and the schemes are expected to be delivered by March 2020.

This document outlines the details of the three types of improvement scheme – carriageway resurfacing, footpaths and verge schemes. It also provides detail on the status and progress of the Programme.



# Schemes by Ward



# Carriageway Resurfacing

This element of the Programme involves the resurfacing of 56 carriageways within the Borough. Forty four (78%) of the schemes have been completed so far. The completed schemes are:-

<b>Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes Completed as of W/E 26-05-2019</b>	
<b>ROAD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b><u>CARRIAGEWAY SCHEMES</u></b>	
OBAN AVENUE	Full
BARTON AVENUE	Full
VENTNOR AVENUE	Full
NORTHGATE	Various Areas
MARINE DRIVE	Full
MOOR TERRACE	Full
BAPTIST STREET	Full
KING OSWY DRIVE	D' Island
SPALDING ROAD	Sections
CARRICK STREET	Full
HALDANE GROVE	Full
WYNYARD MEWS	West Side
GRANGE ROAD	Wooler Rd to The Oval
WELLS AVENUE	Full
WINDERMERE ROAD	Brenda Rd to Haswell Ave
LISTER STREET	York Rd to Waldon St
GULLIVER ROAD	Sections
CAENARVON GROVE	Full
ANNANDALE CRESCENT	Full
BRUNTOFT AVENUE	Sections
WILLIAM STREET	Full
TUNSTALL GROVE	Full
THE CRESCENT	Full
WARREN ROAD	Sections
THROSTON GRANGE LANE	Section near bend
WHITBY STREET NORTH	Full
DORSET STREET	Full
WEST VIEW ROAD SERVICE ROAD	South side, Brus to Davison Dve
THE GROVE	Full
LINDEN GROVE	Full
NORTH GARE ACCESS RD	Sections
DUNCAN ROAD	Full

Carriageway resurfacing schemes are planned during May/June 2019 and then eight schemes are to be completed in July/August 2019 leaving only Catcote Road to complete in mid 2020 following works to English Martyrs School.

The remaining schemes carriageway resurfacing schemes are:-

<b>Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes to be completed in May/June 2019</b>	
<b>ROAD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b><u>CARRIAGEWAY SCHEMES</u></b>	
CLEVELAND ROAD	Mountbatten Close to Arch Court
GLENEAGLES ROAD	Full
CASTLE HOWARD CLOSE	Full
BRIERTON LANE	West of Catcote Road
DALTON STREET	Full
RABY ROAD	Grainger St to Chester Rd
STOCKTON ROAD	Burn Valley R'dabout to Vicarage Gdns
AVENUE ROAD	Raby Rd to Middleton Grange Lane
WINTERBOTTOM AVE	Sections
HART LANE/ DUNSTON RD R'DABOUT	Full
TEES ROAD	Near Sports Domes
STAINCLIFFE ROAD	Full
BALMORAL ROAD	Full

<b>Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes to be completed in July/August 2019</b>	
<b>ROAD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b><u>CARRIAGEWAY SCHEMES</u></b>	
MOWBRAY ROAD	Sections
WEST VIEW ROAD (A1049)	Railway Bridge to Brus R'dabout
JESMOND GARDENS	Sections
WELLDECK ROAD	Full
STOCKTON RD - ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL	Westbrooke Ave to Stratford Rd
KINGSLEY AVENUE	Oxford Rd to 6th Form
CHATHAM GARDENS	Full
CATCOTE ROAD **** Expected mid 2020	Elwick Rd to Browning Ave
BUTTS LANE, HART	Sections

- Note: - A number of schemes have been extended/reduced following further carriageway assessment prior to resurfacing works.

**Northgate prior to and after resurfacing**



**Barton Avenue prior to and after resurfacing**



**Dorset Street prior to and after resurfacing**



## Footpath Schemes

This element of the Programme involves the resurfacing of eight footpaths and the creation of another within the Borough.

Design work on the first batch of twelve schemes was completed in October 2018 and resurfacing work took place mid-November till early December 2018. The second batch of Cairn Road, Comrie Road and Torquay Avenue are underway and are expected to be complete in June 2019.

The footpath resurfacing schemes completed so far are:-

Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes complete as of W/C 26-05-2019	
<b><u>FOOTPATH SCHEMES</u></b>	
<b>SPEEDING DRIVE</b>	Sections
<b>BRAEMAR ROAD</b>	Section
<b>BENMORE ROAD</b>	Sections

The remaining footpath resurfacing schemes will be completed between May/September 2019.

Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes to be completed in May/Sept 2019	
<b><u>FOOTPATH SCHEMES</u></b>	
<b>HART VILLAGE ROAD</b>	Section
<b>HART LANE</b>	Section
<b>COMRIE ROAD</b>	Sections
<b>CAIRN ROAD</b>	Sections
<b>TORQUAY AVENUE</b>	Sections
<b>FULTHORPE AVENUE</b>	Section



## Verge Schemes

This element of the Programme involves the creation of parking areas on twelve verge areas around the Borough and two existing hardened verges will be resurfaced.

The works have been carried out by the Council's in-house Highway Services Team.

The verge schemes which have been completed are:-

Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes complete as of W/E 26-05-2019	
<b><u>VERGE SCHEMES</u></b>	
<b>CHAUCER AVENUE</b>	Opposite playground
<b>MUNRO GROVE</b>	Odds side (Full tarmac verge)
<b>MACAULAY ROAD</b>	Opposite Scott Grove
<b>MARLOWE ROAD</b>	1st section from Catcote Rd (Existing tarmac verge)
<b>OWTON MANOR LANE</b>	No's 140-142
<b>SANDBANKS DRIVE</b>	2 schemes
<b>TARNSTON ROAD</b>	North of Hayston Rd
<b>MAXWELL ROAD</b>	No's 57-67
<b>IVANHOE CRESCENT</b>	Opposite 10-16

The verge schemes below will be completed by the Council's in-house Highway Services Team by September 2019.

Highway Improvement Programme - Schemes to be completed by September 2019	
<b><u>VERGE SCHEMES</u></b>	
<b>KILMARNOCK ROAD</b>	No's 20-36, and near Wynyard Rd junction
<b>ISLAY GROVE</b>	No's 1-3
<b>FULTHORPE AVENUE</b>	No's 15-23
<b>WEST VIEW RD SLIP ROAD</b>	North side, Bruntoft to King Oswy Drive
<b>TRURO DRIVE</b>	Central Section

### Munro Grove



Existing damaged surfacing shown above.



Resurfacing work is complete.

### Marlowe Road



Existing damaged surfacing shown above.



Resurfacing work is complete.

## Summary of Schemes

Scheme status	Scheme Location	Latest Approved Budget	Actual	Expenditure Remaining	Total Expenditure	Variance	Notes
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Completed	<b>Resurfacing</b> Northgate	119,007	58,055		58,055	(60,952)	Full extent of works were not required due to areas already being picked up on Annual Tender.
Completed	Marine Drive	73,030	42,539		42,539	(30,491)	Full extent of works were not required due to areas already being picked up on Annual Tender.
Completed	Moor Terrace	13,367	21,691		21,691	8,324	Additional kerbing works required prior to resurfacing.
Completed	Baptiste	17,771	10,398		10,398	(7,373)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Spalding Road	13,703	13,164		13,164	(539)	
Completed	Oban Avenue	13,041	8,267		8,267	(4,774)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Barton Avenue	28,038	16,238		16,238	(11,800)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Carrick Street	19,562	13,482		13,482	(6,080)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Wynyard Mews	30,975	12,218		12,218	(18,757)	Only one half of Wynyard Mews was done as per brief.
Completed	Haldane Grove	14,669	8,772		8,772	(5,896)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Ventnor Avenue	28,088	29,796		29,796	1,709	
Completed	Northgate Access Road	21,000	22,014		22,014	1,014	
Completed	King Oswry Drive	40,698	33,591		33,591	(7,107)	
Completed	Lister Street	60,323	14,043		14,043	(46,279)	Estimate was for the whole of Lister Street, HIP brief was to resurface smaller section between York Road & Waldon Street.
Completed	Grange Road	27,064	26,388		26,388	(676)	
Completed	Windemere Road	14,837	10,315		10,315	(4,521)	
Completed	Dorset Street	15,288	10,649		10,649	(4,639)	



Scheme status	Scheme Location	Latest Approved Budget	Actual	Expenditure Remaining	Total Expenditure	Variance	Notes
Completed	The Grove	37,496	17,346		17,346	(20,149)	Following officer assessment the scheme was downsized due to large areas not requiring resurfacing.
Completed	Tunstall grove	15,649	10,984		10,984	(4,666)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	The Crescent	15,981	12,309		12,309	(3,672)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Duncan road	32,708	13,563		13,563	(19,145)	A large section of Duncan Road had been surfaced previously and did not require any treatment.
Completed	Gulliver road	24,512	21,534		21,534	(2,978)	
Completed	Wells Avenue	25,430	19,301		19,301	(6,129)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Warren Road	32,807	23,300		23,300	(9,507)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Throston Grange Lane	17,152	20,511		20,511	3,359	Following officer assessment the scheme was upsized due to additional areas requiring resurfacing.
Completed	Linden Grove	29,138	44,021		44,021	14,883	Estimate did not include reinstatement of speed cushions and high quantity of regulating material required
Completed	Whitby Street North	23,447	37,589		37,589	14,143	Following officer assessment the scheme was upsized due to additional areas requiring resurfacing and high quantities of regulating materials were required.
Completed	Bruntoft Avenue	48,090	31,699		31,699	(16,391)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	West View Road Service Road	15,278	30,437		30,437	15,159	Large quantities of regulating material required. Also entrance widening and tree maintenance works carried out by Internal teams (Thirteen funded)
Completed	Caenarvon Grove	26,901	15,051		15,051	(11,850)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	William Street	14,674	11,480		11,480	(3,194)	
Completed	Staincliffe Road	18,086	10,009		10,009	(8,077)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	castle Howard Close	17,283	12,160		12,160	(5,123)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.

Scheme status	Scheme Location	Latest Approved Budget	Actual	Expenditure Remaining	Total Expenditure	Variance	Notes
Completed	Stockton Road	26,717	18,107		18,107	(8,610)	Full extent of works were not required due to areas already being picked up on Annual Tender.
Completed	Winterbottom Road	36,288	15,524		15,524	(20,764)	Full extent of works were not required due to areas already being picked up on Annual Tender.
Completed	Hart Lane/Dunston Road Roundabout	27,563	30,188		30,188	2,626	Following officer assessment the scheme was upsized due to additional areas requiring resurfacing.
Completed	Marlowe Road	23,993	39,859		39,859	15,866	Following officer assessment the scheme was upsized due to additional areas requiring resurfacing and also depths of reconstruction upped in areas.
Completed	Tees Road	19,488	53,123		53,123	33,635	Following officer assessment the scheme was upsized due to additional areas requiring resurfacing and also depths of reconstruction upped in areas.
Ongoing	Chichester Close	0		6,000	6,000	6,000	Additional funding to be met from underspends
Completed	Brierton Lane	71,400	55,108		55,108	(16,292)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Gleneagles Road	33,907	11,925		11,925	(21,981)	Estimates contained contingencies for regulating materials and other unforeseens.
Completed	Balmoral Road	50,537	66,288		66,288	15,752	Treatment to 5m interval joints required treatment plus large quantities of regulating material required. Speed cushion works also required.
Completed	Mowbray Road	112,350		112,350	112,350	0	
	Cleveland-Mountbatton	99,446	58,554		58,554	(40,892)	
	Kingsley Avenue	54,842		54,842	54,842	0	
	Dalton Street	26,408		26,408	26,408	0	
	Stockton Road-St Aidan's school	54,842		54,842	54,842	0	
	Catcote Road	154,101		154,101	154,101	0	
	Jesmond Gardens	33,600		33,600	33,600	0	
	Raby Road	22,407		22,407	22,407	0	
	Elwick Road	19,740		19,740	19,740	0	
	Avenue Road and Surrounding Areas	24,407		71,962	71,962	47,555	Propose budget increase
	Loyalty Road	49,938		49,938	49,938	0	
	Welldeck Road	18,317		18,317	18,317	0	

Scheme status	Scheme Location	Latest Approved Budget	Actual	Expenditure Remaining	Total Expenditure	Variance	Notes
Completed	Chatham Gardens	23,153		23,153	23,153	0	
	Butts Lane,Hart	15,225		15,225	15,225	0	
	Annandale Crescent	83,953	31,778		31,778	(52,175)	Funded by Thirteen
	West View Road(A1049 Railway Bridge to Brus Roundabout)	174,626		174,626	174,626	0	Part funded by Thirteen
	<b>Total Resurfacing</b>	<b>2,202,331</b>	<b>1,063,370</b>	<b>837,509</b>	<b>1,900,878</b>	<b>(301,453)</b>	
Ongoing	<b>Footpath Schemes</b>						
	Hart Village Road	7,770	2,054	5,716	7,770	0	One element of the works was carried out by internal highway works team, other works to go ahead through surfacing contractor.
Ongoing	Hart Lane	6,825	609	6,216	6,825	0	Main works not commenced. Edge trimming and weed killing has been billed.
Ongoing	Comrie Road	21,525	1,624	21,901	23,525	2,000	Main works underway. Preparation works by internal teams have been billed.
Ongoing	Carirn Road	5,250	1,210	9,748	10,958	5,708	Main works underway. Preparation works by internal teams have been billed.
Ongoing	Torquay Avenue	15,750	1,130	23,844	24,974	9,224	Main underway. Preparation works by internal teams have been billed.
Completed	Braemar Road	3,675	7,182		7,182	3,507	Additional works required
Completed	Benmore Road	22,575	16,064		16,064	(6,511)	
Completed	Speeding Drive	14,700	13,827		13,827	(873)	
Ongoing	Fulthorpe Avenue	17,588	474	17,114	17,588	0	Main works not commenced.
	<b>Total Footpath schemes</b>	<b>115,658</b>	<b>44,174</b>	<b>84,538</b>	<b>128,712</b>	<b>13,054</b>	
	<b>Verge Schemes</b>						
Completed	Marlowe Road	5,775	5,974		5,974	199	

Scheme status	Scheme Location	Latest Approved Budget	Actual	Expenditure Remaining	Total Expenditure	Variance	Notes
Completed	Munro Grove	7,665	3,697		3,697	(3,968)	Additional works to crosspaths required. Also vehicle crossings were installed and money was brought back into account for this.
Completed	Chaucer Avenue		30,419		30,419	6,458	
		23,961					
Completed	Maxwell road 57-67 20-36 near Wynyard Road	21,756	21,194		21,194	(562)	Only 1 part of the 2 part scheme is complete, this area was small and low in value. Larger area to be completed at later date.
	Kilmarnock Road	35,091	1,500	33,591	35,091	0	
Completed	Owton Manor Lane 140-142	4,725	4,500		4,500	(225)	Fully funded by ~Thirteen
	Islay Grove	11,760		11,760	11,760	0	
	Fulthorpe Avenue 15-23	8,400		8,400	8,400	0	
	West View Road Slip Road	20,433		20,433	20,433	0	
Completed	Sandbanks Drive	6,300	4,760		4,760	(1,540)	
Completed	Tarnston Road	3,360	2,522		2,522	(838)	
	Ivanhoe Crescent opposite 10-16	7,203		7,203	7,203	0	
	Truro Drive	7,980		7,980	7,980	0	
Completed	Macaulay Road Opposite Scott Grove	2,625	2,765		2,765	140	
	<b>Total Verge Schemes</b>	<b>167,034</b>	<b>77,329</b>	<b>89,367</b>	<b>166,696</b>	<b>(338)</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,485,022</b>	<b>1,184,873</b>	<b>1,011,414</b>	<b>2,196,286</b>	<b>(288,736)</b>	



**For further information about The Highway Improvement Funding Programme please contact:**

**Steven Abbey  
Project Manager**

Telephone **(01429) 401990**

Email **[steven.abbey@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:steven.abbey@hartlepool.gov.uk)**

Post **Hartlepool Borough Council,  
Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool, TS24 8AY**



# FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

22 JULY 2019



**Report of:** Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services

**Subject:** USE OF CHILD POVERTY RESERVE – PROPOSED EXTENSION OF COMMISSIONING OF SAFE FAMILIES PROVISION

---

## 1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non key

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Finance and Policy Committee with information relating the interventions and support for vulnerable families in Hartlepool provided by the Safe Families Project.

2.2 To seek funding from the Child and Family Poverty Reserve to extend the commissioning of the Safe Families Project for a further 12 months.

## 3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Safe Families is a charity that works with children's services to link families in need with a network of local volunteers who can offer them support. Safe Families has operated across the north east and beyond since 2013 and has been working with Hartlepool's Children's Services since September 2018 when a pilot project commenced to trial the impact of the Safe Families offer on demand in children's services a service level agreement was in place to provide support to 24 families during the trial 12-month period and this comes to an end in September 2019.

3.2 In Hartlepool, Safe Families has provided a volunteer delivered model matching struggling families with volunteers in their area who can provide tailored help and 'wraparound' care. The aims of the service are to:

- Build increased resilience in families, enabling them to better meet their own needs with less reliance on statutory services.
- Empower parents and children enhancing their ability to develop well and achieve success now and in the future.
- Prevent escalation of need with a view to reducing the numbers of those requiring statutory intervention.

3.3 Safe Families provides flexible and appropriate family support during times of crisis which aims to strengthen families. Family Friend Volunteers or mentors work alongside families, parents and children, providing emotional and practical support to help affect positive change and address the issues associated with parental isolation, mental health issues or parenting capacity. Support may include:

- Practical work with parents on home conditions;
- Providing daytime respite for parents;
- Short hosting stays for children;
- Mentoring parents and improving parenting capacity through modelling, parent support and advice;
- Providing emotional support and befriending to increase self-esteem, self-confidence, self-efficacy;
- Providing practical child-focused activities, ensuring appropriate boundaries/strategies and providing access to community resources through positive, stimulating activities; and
- Reducing isolation and increasing integration into local communities, building resilience and networks by encouraging and accompanying families to facilitate their engagement with community resources; toddler groups, children's centres etc.

3.5 The project in Hartlepool has been running since September 2018; like many new initiatives this had a slow start however Safe Families are now working with 17 families and have recruited 49 volunteers. These families are receiving a range of support and interventions as outlined above including one case where hosting arrangements were put in place which prevented a family reaching crisis point and breaking down; the family is now in a much better place and no longer needs the support of the service.

3.6 Safe Families has an Outcomes Framework which measures and records progress against the following 6 outcomes:

- **Social Networks and Support:** Are there people around that parents and their children need and want. How integrated they are in the local community; the ability to access facilities and places that are important to them;
- **Well-being/Happiness/Emotional Health:** How the families feel. Their emotional resilience and coping strategies;
- **Parental Confidence and Self-esteem:** How parents feel about themselves; confidence to parent, access new places, make new friends and facilitate child-oriented activities;

- **Home Environment and Meeting Physical Needs:** Providing a safe, comfortable and appropriate environment for the family that supports and aids positive child development.
- **Family Relationships:** Parent – child emotional engagement/attachment, the ability to offer appropriate attention and encouragement in order to meet their child's emotional needs.
- **Positive Parenting:** Having the right practical tools, strategies and knowledge that support positive parenting practices.

#### 4. PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES in 2019/20

4.1 The project was funded in year one from non-recurrent funding which is no longer available. Once momentum was built in delivering the project, there is growing evidence that the project is being very successful in engaging families that have historically not engaged with local authority support services and beginning to make positive impact. Funding the project for a further year would provide the opportunity to embed the service further, reach more families, recruit more volunteers and start to impact upon a reduction in demand that prevents families requiring statutory services. The changes that have been made to the local authority's early help teams has meant there is less capacity to support families with lower level needs, Safe Families is working across early help and statutory social care supporting such families and there is evidence in a small number of cases that the work of Safe Families has prevented the need for children to be placed in foster or residential care.

4.2 Should funding be agreed for 2019/20, Safe Families will continue to develop their service offer and support and training for upskilling volunteers. During the next 12 months the service will be focusing on the following areas:

- **Building a therapeutic approach** – ensuring volunteers are aware of the impact of ACES and how to support families through trauma informed practice.
- **Opportunities to provide mother and baby placements** – Safe Families have already provided a number of host arrangements for mothers and their babies which have proved successful in keeping them together and providing a nurturing environment in the first few weeks or months of baby's life to enable mum to develop her parenting skills within a safe environment.
- **Broadening the age range to work with teenagers** – ensuring this is within the context of family. Safe Families will be working with volunteers who feel this is an area they would like to work in to ensure they have the skills and confidence to manage the differing demands of this cohort.
- **Developing a model for supporting care leavers** – building a supportive community around them. Being clear from the outset that this is likely to be a long-term commitment – once initial support is completed we would ask volunteers to be a trusted person for care leavers remembering birthdays, Christmas and providing ad-hoc contact at the determination of the care leaver.



- **Looking at how we can support foster care recruitment** – providing an opportunity to ‘try before you buy’! Promoting opportunities for foster care at our open evenings and training events. Helping to improve the hit rate for in-house foster care recruitment and explore the possibility of Safe Families training becoming ‘step 1’ of the process, offering time and cost savings.
- 4.2 Safe families will support families in Hartlepool across the full range of needs from those identified by 0 to 19 service through universal provision, those families receiving targeted support through the Local authority early help services and those receiving statutory services. Fundamentally the project aims to prevent reliance on statutory service and help parents to care and provide for the children safely and appropriately. They assist families who do need statutory service to improve their situation by building community networks and resilience so that they do not remain reliant upon statutory service in the longer term.
- 4.2 The proposal is to extend the Safe Families project for a further 12 months at a cost of £30,000. It is requested that the funding is taken from the Child and Family Poverty Reserve as the work being undertaken by Safe Families supports a number of families in Hartlepool and is tackling the issues caused by poverty and deprivation. From 2020/21 indications are that through the National Spending Review, new funding, previously distributed under the Troubled Families agenda, may become available and this could be used to continue the contract if the Council considers that the contract is having a positive impact on demand and represents value for money.

## 5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There is a risk if this service does not continue that the families already in service would be negatively impacted upon however officers will work to ensure that alternative support is provided to mitigate this.
- 5.2 A significant priority for children’s service is to promote and support community resilience and capacity to reduce the demand upon overstretched and limited statutory services, this is a key element of this strategy and if the service were to discontinue, this could lead to further demand for statutory services.

## 6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal considerations.

## 7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The value of the contract for one year is £30,000. Funding available within the Child and Family Poverty reserve is set out in the Table overleaf.

**Child & Family Poverty Reserve**

	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Opening Balance 1/04/19 (including receipt from sale of King John's Tavern)</b>	<b>210.0</b>
<b>2019/20</b>	
F&P 9/07/18 - Holiday Gap Easter 19	(10.0)
F&P 9/07/18 - Holiday Gap Summer 19	(25.0)
F&P 21/03/19 - 5-19 Contract Apr - Sept 19	(50.0)
F&P 22/11/17 - MTFS Report External Audit Fees	15.5
<b>Current Uncommitted Balance</b>	<b>140.5</b>
<b><i>Proposal - Safe Families Project (Sept 19 - Aug 20)</i></b>	<b><i>(30.0)</i></b>
<b><i>Balance Remaining if above proposal approved</i></b>	<b><i>110.5</i></b>

**8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY**

- 8.1 The project is aimed at supporting and equipping families and communities to support each other to tackle the impact of and avoid families from falling into poverty.

**9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 9.1 Safe Families support the most disadvantaged families.

**10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS**

- 10.1 There are no staff considerations.

**11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 11.1 There are no asset management considerations.

**12. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 12.1 That Members approve funding of £30,000 to maintain Safe Families Project for 2019/20.

**13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 13.1 It is imperative that we support the most disadvantage families in Hartlepool and reduce the demand upon statutory services and harness and support community resilience.

## 14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 None

## 15. CONTACT OFFICERS

Jane Young  
Assistant Director, Children and Families  
[Jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk)  
01429 523957

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Policy and Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Solicitor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>