

# PLEASE NOTE VENUE

## REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY AND HOUSING PORTFOLIO DECISION SCHEDULE



Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2006

at 10.00 am

in Training Room 4, Municipal Buildings

Church Square, Hartlepool

The Mayor Stuart Drummond responsible for Regeneration, Liveability and Housing will consider the following items.

1. **KEY DECISIONS**

- 1.1 Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update –  
*Head of Regeneration*

2. **OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION**

- 2.1 Minor Works Proposals, Neighbourhood Consultative Forums – *Acting Head of Neighbourhood Management*
- 2.2 Quality Coast Awards – *Head of Public Protection and Housing*

3. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Monitoring Report – *Director of Neighbourhood Services*
- 3.2 Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 – Quarter 2 Monitoring Report – *Director of Regeneration and Planning Services*
- 3.3 Petition against Closure of Footpaths, Fens Estate – *Head of Technical Services*

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

No items

## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder  
17 November 2006



**Report of:** The Head of Regeneration

**Subject:** DYKE HOUSE/STRANTON/GRANGE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP)  
UPDATE

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek endorsement of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update for the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

- 2.1 The report describes the background to Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) with a specific focus on the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange NAP. It outlines the comprehensive consultation process undertaken to develop the NAP from the initial community consultation event to the consultation process on the draft NAP. All of which have enabled the final version to be produced. The report also identifies the implementation procedure along with the financial implications of the NAP. Finally, the report highlights the contents of the NAP and describes the future residents summary pamphlet which is to be produced.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) fall within the remit of the Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder. The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange NAP will have an impact on service delivery and will potentially influence future funding opportunities in the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

- 4.1 Key decision, test ii applies.

## **5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

- 5.1 The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update has been endorsed by the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and the Hartlepool Partnership.

## **6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

- 6.1 Endorsement of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update for the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange NAP area.

**Report of:** The Head of Regeneration

**Subject** DYKE HOUSE/STRANTON/GRANGE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP)  
UPDATE

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## 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek endorsement of the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update for the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area. A copy of the plan is attached as **Appendix 1** along with a summary document as **Appendix 2**, highlighting the priority concerns of the local community, and the actions required to address these.

## 2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs) are important in encouraging local people and organisations to work together to narrow the gap between the most deprived wards and the rest of the country, and they should be influential in the future allocation of resources. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.
- 2.2 The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) (formally known as the Dyke House/Jackson NAP) was the first NAP to be successfully prepared for the town in 2002. This plan was used as a base by the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Forum to identify how the Residents Priorities Budget (allocated by the Hartlepool Partnership, under Neighbourhood Renewal Funding), would be spent.
- 2.3 The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) is the first NAP to be updated since the completion of the six NAPs across the town; Burbank, Rift House/Burn Valley, Owton, Rossmere and North Hartlepool. In addition to this, it should be noted that the New Deal for Communities (NDC) area is currently developing their NAP.
- 2.4 Hartlepool Partnership has agreed to allocate a further £110,400 for the Residents Priority Budget over the next two financial years (2006-08) plus £425,000 of Neighbourhood Element Funding over the next four years (2006-10) specifically for the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) area. Both pots of funding will be used to continue to address some of the residents' priorities.

- 2.5 The Neighbourhood Element Funding of the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) is awarded to the areas within the 3% most deprived wards nationally. One of the requirements of the Neighbourhood Element Funding is that it is focussed on one particular theme for which the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Forum chose the Community Safety theme.

### 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The updated Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) covers the Dyke House Ward plus a small area of the Stranton and Grange Wards. The NAP area is illustrated on a map within the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) (page 1).
- 3.2 The Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update has been developed through a range of consultation sessions with residents, children and young people, community / voluntary groups, Councillors and those who deliver services to the area (e.g. Cleveland Police, Hartlepool Borough Council Officers, Housing Hartlepool). An initial community consultation event was held in June 2006 which was crucial in identifying the community's priorities and the actions required to address the priority concerns. Household survey data (MORI 2004) and other baseline data and statistics have also provided an understanding of the conditions in the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area.
- 3.3 As described above, a wide range of consultation sessions were carried out to develop and inform the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update. To complement this, comprehensive consultation was also undertaken to ensure comments were received from key stakeholders and residents on the draft. This further consultation included:-
- Visiting Residents Groups; Brougham area: Cameron/Furness/Belk, Cobden Street, Clarence Estate, Hartwell, Oak and Pine area, Dyke House area Residents Associations, Middleton and Raby Road Action Group and the CAT Group (Communities Acting Together);
  - Visiting the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Forum;
  - Visiting Youth Groups operating throughout the area; COOL Project, Bamados Heartbeat, FAST Project, Dyke House Project;
  - Holding Drop-in sessions at various community buildings;
  - Delivering Newsletter to every household in the area;
  - Visiting and working with local schools;
  - Liaising with Hartlepool Community Network and Housing Hartlepool;

- Meetings with key service providers including; Hartlepool Borough Council Officers, Voluntary and Community Groups and Ward Councillors.
- 3.4 Both Hartlepool Community Network (HCN) and Housing Hartlepool have assisted in involving residents and community / voluntary groups in the consultation process.
  - 3.5 All comments received were very positive and constructive and have helped to formulate an accurate action plan for the area. Meetings with key service providers and Councillors have also enabled us to identify funding and resources for some of the actions required, encourage key service providers to confirm their commitment to the delivery of actions and to ensure both residents and service providers felt ownership of the plan.
  - 3.6 This 'finalised' Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update, which includes all of the amendments suggested by consultees, has been endorsed by both the North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum and the Hartlepool Partnership Board.
  - 3.7 The final version will be placed on Hartlepool Borough Council's website for future reference.

#### **4.0 IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 The Council's Neighbourhood Services Department has adopted a neighbourhood management role to assist in the implementation of all Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs). The original Dyke House/Stranton/Grange NAP (Dyke House/Jackson NAP) brought together service providers and residents through the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Forum. The updated NAP will continue to be overseen at a local level by this group, now managed by the North Neighbourhood Manager, along with being fundamental in considering allocations for NRF Residents Priority and Neighbourhood Element Funding. In addition, the Hartlepool Partnership's Theme Groups have an important role to play in monitoring plan progress on strategic issues across all of the seven themes, on an annual basis.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 In addition to the Neighbourhood Renewal Funding (Residents Priority Budget and Neighbourhood Element Funding), this Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) will also be influential in the future allocation of resources. The NAP provides a strategic analysis of the problems, gaps and priorities which could be tackled should any new funding streams emerge. Impact upon priorities is expected to be made by

using more efficiently and effectively existing mainstream resources on the more disadvantaged areas. This will coincide with a continuous improvement to services by all partners, which often only involves a series of small adjustments and a more efficient co-ordination of activity. The objective of the NAP is to integrate policies at the local level to improve the way that services are provided.

- 5.2 As previously outlined in paragraph 2.4, the Hartlepool Partnership agreed to allocate £110,400 for the Residents Priority Budget over the next two years (2006-08) and £425,000 Neighbourhood Element Funding over the next four years (2006-10) specifically for the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) area. The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will continue to discuss with the North Neighbourhood Manager, Hartlepool Community Network and other key service providers how this funding and any subsequent match funding should be used to address some of the community's priority concerns.

## **6.0 THE CONTENTS OF THE PLAN**

- 6.1 The Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) is attached, which includes a map of the area (page 1).
- 6.2 The document has been structured in a way that is intended to give a clear picture of the strong themes running through the Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) back to the sister documents of the Community Strategy and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.
- 6.3 The format of the document differs from that of the original NAP (Dyke House/Jackson).
- 6.4 The introductory section covers the background to Neighbourhood Action Plans (NAPs), a brief description of the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange neighbourhood, how the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange NAP Update has been developed, and a summary of the community's main concerns.
- 6.5 The following section then comprises the seven theme areas:- Jobs and Economy; Lifelong Learning and Skills; Health and Care; Community Safety; Environment and Housing; Culture and Leisure and Strengthening Communities. Each theme identifies key statistics, strengths and weaknesses, key resources and programmes delivered in the area / accessible to residents of the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area and the gaps in service delivery which need to be addressed.
- 6.6 Alongside this, is a table which identifies the community's priority concerns, the actions that are required to address the concerns, the organisations who need to be involved in delivering the actions,

possible funding and resources, how success will be measured and how the actions will contribute to addressing strategic targets (such as the Local Area Agreement Indicators). The last section of the plan is a Jargon Buster.

- 6.7 In future, a residents summary pamphlet will be produced to outline the key elements of the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) in response to the findings of the NAP Review recently undertaken.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 The Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder is asked to endorse the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange Neighbourhood Action Plan (NAP) Update.



**DYKE HOUSE / STRANTON / GRANGE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN (NAP)  
UPDATE.**

**SUMMARY DOCUMENT**

This document highlights the priority concerns and actions required, as identified in the final version for endorsement September 2006.

**Jobs and Economy**

**Address the issues around high unemployment and increasing resident's chances of entering / re-entering employment.**

- Improve the employability of local people, by improving and tailoring the provision of training, advice, support and guidance.
- Target people who experience difficulty in accessing employment, including the long-term sick and provide support to enable them to enter / re-enter employment.
- Improve the basic and key skills of local people via various means.
- Increase the lifelong educational and training opportunities for local people.
- Improve the relationships between residents and adult education centres to help aid lifelong learning.
- Foster closer links with local employers in the area.

**Encourage business start-ups and self-employment to increase the range of employment opportunities to local residents.**

- Increase the range of employment opportunities in the area through new business start-ups and in supporting self-employment.
- Raise awareness of the business support, advice and guidance available in and surrounding the local area.

**To stimulate the local economy, foster closer links with local indigenous businesses and encourage investment in local shopping parades/commercial areas.**

- Improve the appearance of untidy, vacant/underused commercial properties within the area including Raby Road, Chatham Gardens and Mulgrave Road e.g. painting shop window sills and shutters.
- To improve the sustainability of locally based indigenous businesses, with an emphasis on those based in local shopping parades/commercial areas.
- To foster closer links with local indigenous businesses and encourage them to employ people from the area.

**To raise awareness amongst residents of the services related to employment, self-employment and training available to them in the area.**

- A multi agency directory of services for the NAP area to be produced.

- Promote services relating to employment, self-employment and training opportunities that are available in the area to residents, including services that improve people's chances of gaining suitable employment.
- Service providers to sign post residents to the most appropriate service, depending upon the person's circumstances.

**Encourage local residents to consider working out-of-town, particularly in surrounding towns.**

- Improve access to nearby towns such as Stockton-on-Tees by, for example, subsidising transport and seeking to improve transport services.

**Lifelong Learning and Skills**

**Increase awareness with regards to the educational and training opportunities available within and outside the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area and seek to improve local provision where possible.**

- Advertise existing facilities and provision throughout the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area, including the City Learning Centre (CLC) and look to improve how service providers market their provision.
- Look at the possibility of creating a recruitment road show that goes into local schools, community groups, residents associations etc. giving details about the facilities and courses available at the CLC.
- Promote opportunities available at all local colleges e.g. HCFE and Hartlepool VI Form College.
- Explore the feasibility of establishing an advisory service that will enable potential learners to access if they are unsure of what support they require.
- A multi agency directory of services for the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area to be produced.
- Service providers and organisations to signpost residents to suitable provision / opportunities.
- Establish what the education and training facilities are already operating in the area as well as the gaps in provision.
- Ensure that educational and training facilities that are not presently available to the public are considered to see if they can be provided in the future to enhance the employability of local people.

**Address access issues preventing individuals from taking up educational / training opportunities.**

- Seek to secure funding into higher education as the majority of funding is aimed towards KS2 and KS4.
- Provide courses that include childcare facilities to encourage participation.
- Make courses available at different times of the day so that people have the choice of when to attend courses.
- Explore the possibility of service providers and organisations running satellite courses at existing facilities within the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area.

- Provide better transport access to further education provision.

### **Ensure equal opportunities in learning and training.**

- Look at the learning and training facilities available in the area for all age groups and ensure that they are not exclusive.
- Ensure that facilities are available across the area and not restricted to certain parts of the community.
- Ensure that people have the same opportunities regardless of financial resources.

### **Increase provision and performance in further education / training particularly for young people.**

- Continue to encourage young people while they are still at school to consider further education / training. This could be achieved through visiting local schools and working with pupils informing them about opportunities in further education / training.
- Assess the amount of support that is available to those failing at school or college.
- Raise the awareness and importance of qualifications by promoting the benefits of education and training to young people.

### **Raise the aspirations of adults who wish to improve their numeracy and literacy skills.**

- Provide facilities in the local area and at convenient times for adults to improve their literacy and numeracy skills.

### **Promote family learning opportunities within the area.**

- Provide family learning classes across the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area.
- Continue to encourage parents and carers to get involved with early years learning and Key Stage 1 and 2 literacy and numeracy.
- Promote family learning facilities that are available within the Dyke House/Stranton/Grange area e.g. through a leaflet drop and poster campaign.

## **Health and Care**

### **Unhealthy lifestyles, including high levels of smoking, underage drinking, poor diet and lack of exercise.**

- Health promotion needed throughout the area (also including issues such as parenting skills and responsibilities) and increased use of the health bus (subject to funding as the health bus does not operate in the area at present).
- Tackle the illegal sale of alcohol and cigarettes to young people who are underage particularly from shops in the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area.
- Seek to extend health and fitness services through the provision of affordable facilities for all ages (especially at Mill House Leisure Centre for those who work part time or who are on a low income and who are not eligible for the Active Card).

- Improve the promotion of concessionary rate schemes that are available in the area (for example, Active Card, concessionary rates for children swimming in the summer holidays etc.).

#### **Improve access to health services in the area and to the town centre.**

- Investigate the possibility of providing more health services such as doctors surgeries, community nurses, community based holistic drop in sessions, and/or nurse led prescribers within the local area to increase local provision.
- Improve signposting services.
- Reduce waiting times for doctors and dentists appointments.
- Seek to address local transport issues to town centre services, especially for people with mobility issues.

#### **Tackle issue of teenage pregnancy.**

- Preventative action to be continual to educate both girls and boys.
- Continue to support Secondary schools to deliver the APAUSE sex and relationship programme.
- Continue to support primary schools in the area to deliver the Lucinda and Godfrey sex and relationship resource for primary schools.
- Development of a specialised contraception and sexual health service for young people, 'Wise Up Clinic' in the area.
- Raise awareness of the Teenage Pregnancy Service, which supports pregnant teenagers and young parents.
- Increase the number of condom distribution outlets in the area.
- Establish needs of young parents and try and support them in addressing these needs.
- Provide support to young parents for example childcare provision, so they can focus on education again.
- Wrap around care is new, therefore there is a need to publicise wrap around care so that people know what is available.

#### **Concerns regarding dog fouling, especially at Grayfields and Lynfield School.**

- Enforcement action naming and shaming offenders.
- Educate community on the health implications of dog fouling.

### **Community Safety**

**Anti-social behaviour and associated behaviour such as vandalism, litter, graffiti, car crime, illegal fires, underage drinking, the congregation of youths and young adults playing football in inappropriate areas.**

Areas include alleyways and back streets in Middleton Road Estate, Weldeck Road / Stephen Street, Jesmond Gardens, Tweed Walk, Pine Grove, and Brafferton Street along to Wilson Street (NB. Wilson Street is currently outside the NAP area). Mill House Skate Park and Courts plus Grayfields due to the lack of security (outside the

NAP area), Brougham Annexe, North Cemetery, St Oswalds Church and around all shopping precincts in the area (particularly Raby Road and Chatham Road at lunchtimes and on an evening). Grainger Street (particularly behind the Quoits Club), Gray, Moore, Turnbull and Pelham Street, Chatham Road area, Breward Walk, Allerton Close, Pine Grove (particularly paved area adjacent to Pine Grove) and Lime Crescent (garages need gating off).

(NB. Pelham and Moore Street and parts of Chatham Road are included in the redevelopment proposals).

- Residents to report incidents of anti-social behaviour to the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASB Unit) Tel. 01429 296588.  
Residents to provide specific information regarding persons committing illegal activity to the Neighbourhood Policing Team Tel. 01429 235811, Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Tel. 01429 296588 or Cleveland Police Tel. 01642 326326 (Police Headquarters).
- Increase presence (high visibility patrols) of Police / Police Community Safety Officers (PCSO's) and, ensure Officers establish good relationships with the local community particularly young people.
- Investigate into the possibility of blocking off ways / alleyways / cut throughs or look towards installing additional street lighting columns in these areas.
- Further investigate the problems associated with those playing football until late into the evening within residential areas, and seek to identify potential solutions.
- Increase / make available affordable diversionary activities (on evenings and weekends), in consultation with children and young people. These activities need to be open to a range of age groups. This should occur along with the promotion / advertisement of existing facilities and activities which children and young people can access. All activities / facilities should be supervised to ensure appropriate use. Utilisation of open space could include Grayfields (NB. outside the NAP area) and North Cemetery.
- Work with Dyke House Comprehensive School regarding the congregation of pupils around local shopping precincts on lunchtimes.
- Tackle issues of noise, and anti social and uncooperative behaviour between residents, especially at times when issues are raised. (For issues relating to the private rented sector, see Environment and Housing).
- Change residents perception of young people as it is a minority that are causing a disturbance.
- Improved lighting and fencing to the front of properties.

### **Illegal use of motorbikes, motorised scooters and quad bikes (particularly in Pine Grove).**

(NB. For information relating to traffic and road safety problems and concerns with transport issues, see Environment and Housing).

- Townwide illegal off-road motorbike Steering Group to investigate and report on how to tackle and reduce the problem long-term (increasing enforcement and awareness).

- Residents to report incidents involving motorbikes, motorised scooters and quad bikes being driven illegally to Cleveland Police Tel. 01642 326326 (Police Headquarters) and Cleveland Police to feedback 'good news' stories to the local community.
- Local schools to raise awareness regarding the legalities and dangers of using motorbikes illegally.
- Enforcement Action e.g. Cleveland Police to increase targeted operations using the Off Road Motorbike Unit.
- Increase publicity on what is illegal.
- Educate parents and young people from Primary School age upwards on the seriousness of the crime.

### **Drug use and drug related litter especially in and around North Cemetery and Grayfields (NB. outside of the NAP area).**

- Increase Police drug enforcement activities and crime prevention work. Increased Police drug enforcement is needed however, it must be noted that it is a long process as sound evidence from a variety of sources has to be gathered, before magistrates are prepared to grant search warrants.
- Feedback to residents on drug enforcement activities e.g. Cleveland Police to inform neighbours so they know when raids are planned and give feedback on outcomes.
- Liaise with service providers to look at opportunities to increase drug clean up operations and advertise the existing drug clean up services more widely.
- Initiatives to raise awareness / educate the local community particularly young people on the dangers surrounding the use of drugs and their effects as well as drug related litter.
- Better communication and advertisement of opportunities for drug education.
- Residents to provide specific information regarding persons committing illegal activity to the Neighbourhood Policing Team Tel. 01429 235811, Cleveland Police Tel. 01642 326326 (Police Headquarters).
- Target specific locations identified by local people as areas of concern and, Cleveland Police make residents aware of results achieved due to information submitted by residents.
- Increase opportunities to help drug users to overcome addiction through the work of the Community Drug Centre and outreach work in the community.

### **Sale of alcohol / cigarettes to minors as well as adults purchasing on behalf of minors.**

- Work with local shops to encourage employees to request ID on the purchase of alcohol / cigarettes.
- Tackle the illegal sale of alcohol and cigarettes to young people who are underage particularly from shops in the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area.

### **Lack of CCTV and street lighting provision.**

- Look at CCTV provision throughout the area and increase where necessary (look to consider Grainger Street and Middleton Road Estate, Grayfields (NB. outside the

NAP area), Dyke House Comprehensive School and North Cemetery to help deter anti-social behaviour, underage drinkers as well as drug users).

- Evaluate the effectiveness of existing columns and, provide regular reports on the operating efficiency of the existing columns to the local community.
- Street lighting improvements needed Raby Road, Lime Crescent (and footpaths leading off), Jesmond Road, Ivy Grove, Hawthorn Walk, Cedar Walk, Birch Walk, Cameron Road, Addison Road / Greenwood Road, Lansbury / Milner Grove, Willow Walk, Lime Grove and rear of Brafferton Street (along to Wilson Street which is currently outside the NAP area), Cundall Road, Byron Street, Cobden Street and Bright Street (which is currently outside the NAP area).

HBC Street Lighting Manager has already confirmed that Moore Street, Gray Street, Marston Gardens, Chatham Road, Raby Gardens, Chester Road and Oak Grove are already up to a modern standard, although residents perceived these areas to be poor through the NAP consultation exercises. Dyke House / Stranton / Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Group to determine whether they still want to consider these areas as priorities for funding.

### **Support and extend existing Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.**

- Look at the possibility of organising a local campaign to raise interest and publicity and to identify local volunteers for Neighbourhood Watch, subject to resources and organisations coming forward.

### **People feeling unsafe when walking around the area after dark (particularly in Milbank Road and North Cemetery) and addressing the fear of crime.**

Also identified in the 'fear of crime' survey in the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area which involved interviews on why people fear crime (NB. findings will influence associated funding).

- Produce Community Safety booklets for the local community.
- Lower the boundary wall of the North Cemetery and include railings to improve the safety of individuals accessing / using the North Cemetery.
- Provide Community Safety informative event(s) for the local community.
- Encourage residents to be confident at reporting incidents that cause alarm, distress or a nuisance.
- Improve residents' confidence when walking throughout the area.
- Address issues with anti-social behaviour (refer to Priority Concern relating to anti-social behaviour).
- Continue to provide target hardening schemes such as providing security devices (through Residents Associations) including security lighting for the elderly not just those who live in bungalows, secure the rear of properties (particularly at Furness Street) and provide window restrictors. Improve existing alleygates (e.g. provide cactus spikes) at Grainger, Perth, Gray, Parton, Hurworth, Belk, Cameron and Furness, Suggit and Harcourt Street, Oak Grove, St Oswald's Church, Mapleton Road, and Brougham Terrace. Also look at the possibility of implementing / replacing alleygates and / or improving fencing. (Lime Crescent (garages adjacent to substation on Challoner Road), May, Stephen and Turnbull Street (old water works wall), Welldeck Road, and Middleton Road Estate (metal fencing to

pensioners bungalows and to wall at end of alleyways) and fencing works required to the front of Clarence Road).

### **Lowest take up of home fire safety checks in Cleveland.**

- Further publicise the free smoke alarms and home fire safety checks available through Cleveland Fire Brigade.

## **Environment and Housing**

### **Improvements needed to existing housing stock (which remains after demolition).**

- Explore the possibility of providing security lighting for all elderly residents (not just those in bungalows).
- Explore the possibility of providing funds to preserve some private terraced housing with grants to undertake improvements.
- Continue a programme of improvements in the social housing sector.
- Improve security to the rear of properties in Furness Street.

### **Limit short and long term negative impacts of demolition in the private terraced sector.**

- Promote community cohesion and provide opportunities for those people whose property is being demolished to stay in the area.
- Minimise the period between vacant possession and demolition.
- Look at ways to support the elderly / poor / other vulnerable groups who may have difficulty in securing mortgages for new private sector homes or pay rent in the social or private sectors (e.g. equity share opportunities).
- When properties become vacant either seek to make them look lived in or use attractive grilles / boardings (e.g. could have scenes painted on them).
- Seek to provide new, alternative, affordable social housing for sale, rent and shared ownership.

### **Regulating the private rented sector, as there is an increasing number of anti social tenants and families throughout the area who are in premises owned by private landlords.**

- Promote and encourage take up of the landlord registration scheme and take appropriate action against member landlords who do not comply with the scheme.
- Investigate complaints from tenants having problems with the condition of their rented accommodation, and take appropriate action against their landlords.
- Provide in-tenancy support for vulnerable groups such as ex-offenders.
- Explore the feasibility of providing and promoting landlord and tenant handbooks on good practice.
- Explore the possibility of a consultation exercise with a view to introducing a compulsory landlord licensing scheme.



## Poor environmental quality.

- Address dog fouling issues e.g. back of Belk Street, Weldeck Road, Stephen Street, Milbank Road, Brougham Terrace, Grayfields, North Cemetery, Lynfield School Field (NB. outside the NAP area), Lime and Ivy Grove, Willow Walk, Lancaster Road and Tweed Walk and St Oswald's Church grounds, through enforcement, publicising fines, providing more dog fouling bins and signs and educating the community.
- Tackle fly tipping issues e.g. Grainger Street, Allerton Close, Tweed Walk, Ivy Grove, wasteland near Hartlepool United ground (N.B. outside NAP area) and back streets, through more enforcement, publicising fines and more frequent street cleansing.
- Clean up graffiti e.g. Allerton Close cut through, Ivy Grove and Tankerville Street (N.B. In the NDC area).
- Improve street cleansing (including litter removal and chewing gum on pavements) especially in public areas, such as shopping parades, through enforcement, publicising fines, more litter bins (e.g. Clarence area), more regular cleansing and emptying of dog litter bins and encourage local people and businesses to contribute (e.g. different packaging for takeaways, helping with clean ups and removing litter from garden areas).
- Address vandalism issues e.g. Grayfields (glass), Pelham Street, Moore Street, Gray Street, Chatham Road, Turnbull Street, St Oswald's Church and bus stop / timetables (N.B. Pelham Street, Moore Street and part of Chatham Road are included in the redevelopment proposals).
- Control bonfires on areas of open space e.g. Willow Walk.
- Make shopping parades more attractive e.g. Raby Road, Chatham Road, through works such as shop front improvements, hanging baskets, and litter removal etc, and improve empty commercial properties through painting window sills etc.
- Improve local recycling facilities for drop offs such as bottle banks.
- Curtilage / boundary / landscaping improvements e.g. Milbank Road, Clarence Road, Easington Road, Raby Road, Hart Lane traffic lights and continuation of works at Tweed Walk to improve the street scene.

**Street lighting improvements needed Raby Road, Lime Crescent (and footpaths leading off), Jesmond Road, Ivy Grove, Hawthorn Walk, Cedar Walk, Birch Walk, Cameron Road, Addison / Greenwood Road, Lansbury / Milner Grove, Willow Walk, Lime Grove and rear of Brafferton Street (along to Wilson Street which is currently outside the NAP area), Cundall Road, Byron Street, Cobden Street and Bright Street (which is currently outside the NAP area).**

- Improve lighting – residents to identify with HBC Neighbourhood Manager areas of priority.  
HBC Street Lighting Manager has already confirmed that Moore Street, Gray Street, Marston Gardens, Chatham Road, Raby Gardens, Chester Road and Oak Grove are already up to a modern standard, although residents perceived these areas to be poor through the NAP consultation exercises. Dyke House / Stranton / Grange Neighbourhood Consultative Group to determine whether they still want to consider these areas as priorities for funding.

**Traffic and road safety problems and concerns with transport issues.**  
**(NB for information relating to the illegal use of motorbikes, motorised scooters and quad bikes, see Community Safety).**

- Improve road safety at Challoner Road (U – turn), Helmsley Street (U – turn), Chatham Road (U – turn), Ivy Grove Stephenson Street, Raby Road, Dyke House School, Jesmond Gardens (crossing needed to Grayfields), Belk Street (consider upgrading zebra crossing) Middleton Road (especially on football match days and pedestrian access to the University Hospital of Hartlepool (NB. not in NAP area) through traffic calming and/or the introduction of pedestrian crossings.
- Reduce speeding traffic in accident hotspot areas e.g. Chatham Road and Weldeck Road through traffic calming measures.
- Prevent cars from using Ashley Gardens / Oakely Gardens / Helmsley Street etc. as a rat run to avoid traffic lights.
- Improve road surfacing of local roads e.g. Stephen Street, Cameron and Addison Road, Brougham Annexe and Pine and Ivy Grove (garage sites).
- Explore the need for a school crossing patrol at Grainger Street / Raby Road.
- Address concerns about parking near local schools e.g. Sacred Heart and around Middleton Road on football match days and at Raby Road.
- Improve on-street parking facilities for local residents e.g. remove flower beds and relocate bollards in St Oswalds Street / Wharton Terrace and remove flowerbeds in Parton St / Avondale Gardens.
- Assess problems associated with heavy goods vehicles especially on Middleton Road where the weight limit is regularly broken, and the signage could be improved and better located.
- Investigate how to improve local public transport services including better access to some parts of the neighbourhood, having more bus stops and limiting bus stop and timetable vandalism.

**Seek to create more attractive open spaces.**

- Maximise the potential of the North Cemetery by improving boundary fencing, tidying up the Chester Road entrance, maintaining grassed areas around the gravestones, repairing the gravestones and laying them flat where possible, providing lighting on the main paths, providing dog and litter bins etc.
- Seek to create more open areas (e.g. through Housing Renewal) and maximise the impact of existing open areas with attractive planting, the introduction of more greenery and benches.
- Explore the feasibility of removing grass cuttings as they cause hazards when wet.
- Seek to beautify existing streets, especially those on main routes e.g. hanging baskets on Roseberry Road.

## **Culture and Leisure**

### **Lack of activities for the young (to act as a diversionary activity), elderly and vulnerable.**

- Provide a more diverse range of activities for young people especially computer and skateboarding clubs.
- Expand the service and the activities provided by the Detached Youth Workers in the area.
- Identify the activities that particularly females and the elderly would like to take part in and look at suitable venues within the area to hold such events.
- Provide day trips and residential through community groups or youth organisations in the area.
- Create a Young Persons Forum for the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area to ensure the participation of young people of all ages, at all stages of development.
- Explore scope for Brougham Annexe Library within Borough Library to work in partnership and share resources and initiatives for children, young people, the elderly and vulnerable.

### **Maximise the use of existing community facilities in the area and improve communication and information about activities and opportunities available locally.**

- Use existing facilities/services to their full potential for activities (particularly football and tennis) throughout the week, weekend and school holidays.
- Open up schools culture and leisure facilities for wider public use.
- Community Representatives need to be kept better informed.
- Develop Brougham Annexe and HBC Library Service partnership working where this will benefit services to the community.
- Ensure residents are aware of what is available at The Avondale Centre / Dyke House Learning Centre (CLC).
- Improve the condition of the Skate Park and Mill House Leisure Centre (N.B in the NDC area).

### **Provide reduced rates for residents wanting to access culture / leisure / health facilities in the area.**

- Identify activities in the area that could possibly be subject to reduced rates (especially at Mill House Leisure Centre for those who work part time or who are on a low income and who are exempt from Active Card).
- Improve the promotion of concessionary rate schemes that are available in the area (for example, Active Card, concessionary rates for children swimming in the summer holidays etc.).

### **Safe open spaces and play areas for activities / safe places to play.**

- Increase the level of maintenance to open spaces and play areas in order for people to utilise them safely (dog litter, litter, drug litter).

- Refurbish and use recreational areas near Mill House, and the land between Football Club and Greenwood Road.
- Increase supervision at Grayfields by installing CCTV or increasing Warden patrol.
- Develop the North Cemetery.

**Promote existing activities that are available for residents within the area.**

- Develop a Community Index of Activities.
- Better publicity from Service Providers and attending Residents Associations and Community Groups to spread the word.
- Raise awareness of opening times / facilities of Mill House Leisure Centre.

**Develop a centre / building dedicated for young people.**

- Identify a vacant property or develop a building primarily as a meeting place for young people but also as a centre in which activities can be held for the whole community.
- Provide a regular drop-in session for young people so they can discuss issues they would like to be addressed.
- Create a Young Persons Forum for the Dyke House / Stranton / Grange area to ensure the participation of young people of all ages, at all stages of development.
- Provide a café at FAST Project.

**Strengthening Communities**

**Continue to support and promote existing Residents Associations in the area.**

- Provide support and encouragement for Residents Associations.
- Provide training for residents to improve skills and capacity building.
- Raise awareness as to what support is available locally.

**Maintain the community development and capacity building within the area.**

- Seek opportunities for new funding and resources for capacity building activities.

**Increase the involvement of the Nasir Mosque within the community.**

- Promote services within the community e.g. through another community open day.

**Increased support for residents in the demolition areas.**

- Promote support services available at the North Central Hartlepool Regeneration Office for those people whose property is being demolished, in order to help keep them in the area.

## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder  
17 November 2006



**Report of:** Acting Head of Neighbourhood Management

**Subject:** MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS, NEIGHBOURHOOD  
CONSULTATIVE FORUMS

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To consider recommendations of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum in respect of minor grant works.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

List of minor works proposals.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

Recommendations of spend on Minor Works projects to be confirmed by the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Liveability.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key decision.

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Recommendations of Neighbourhood Consultative Forum to Regeneration and Liveability.

#### **6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

To agree the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forum in respect of Minor Works proposals.

**Report of:** Acting Head of Neighbourhood Management

**Subject** MINOR WORKS PROPOSALS, NEIGHBOURHOOD  
CONSULTATIVE FORUMS

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider recommendations of Neighbourhood Consultative Forums in respect of minor grant works.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The last cycle of consultative forums recommended the following for approval:

**2.2 North Neighbourhood Consultative Forum**

Sandbanks Drive Verge Works – Hart Ward

Removal of grass verge, infill with tarmac to provide an area where vehicles can pull on to and allow unimpeded vehicle access. Cost of the scheme £4,296.

Winterbottom Avenue Verge Works – Brus Ward

Removal of grass verge, infill with tarmac to provide an area where vehicles can pull on to and allow unimpeded vehicle access.  
Cost of the scheme £27,520.

Parking Areas - Throston Grange Estate

Thirty-two parking areas were identified as being in a poor state of repair. A scheme has been developed to overlay these areas with tarmac, thus improving safety and also enhance the overall appearance of the area.  
Cost of the scheme £4,500.

Parking Areas - Pine/Ivy Grove

Sixteen parking areas were identified as being in a poor state of repair. A scheme has been developed to overlay these areas with tarmac, thus improving safety and also enhance the overall appearance of the area.  
Cost of the scheme £3,000

St Hild's Echo Group

The group promote sustainability issues to other students and take part in environmental projects which benefit the school and wider community. The group are planning a 'bulb planting' project within the local area.

Cost of the scheme £200

St Hilda's Church – St Hilda Ward

North Hartlepool Partnership are to erect a stone Celtic cross at the frontage of the church. To compliment this work it is suggested that the existing landscape be replaced with a simple design to remove the unsightly stones and shrubs and replace with grass and bulbs.

Cost of scheme £1,500

2.3 Central Neighbourhood Consultative ForumStephen Street - Alleygate Boards

Installation of alleygate notice boards, so that residents can use the notice boards to raise awareness of the services available and to promote community involvement.

Cost of the scheme £400

Landsdowne Road – Street Lighting

A survey has been undertaken and it was found that the spacing between columns was causing lighting problems within the street. It is proposed to replace columns and for the Forum to make a contribution.

Contribution £6,000

Waverley Terrace – Allotments

Residents have requested remaining allotment plots be demolished and grassed over as an open space. It is proposed the Forum contribute towards works, which would include removing fence and trees on the recreation side, removal of buildings, loose materials and overgrown greenery to enable the site to be cultivated.

Contribution £5000

Morton Street – Shrub Bed

Residents have requested that the circular shrub bed be blocked paved with a tree planted in the middle, protected by a metal cage (cage has already been obtained).

Cost of scheme £950

Brenda Road – Roundabout

Requests have been made for the improvement of the aesthetics of the above roundabout. It is proposed to supply and plant crocus bulbs around the perimeter in the grass verge area.

Cost of scheme £2,410

Hart Lane/Dunston Road - Bulb Planting

The Forum is asked to approve the planting of crocus bulbs on the corner on the bankside, opposite Aldi Store.

Cost of scheme £540

2.4 **South Neighbourhood Consultative Forum**Queen Street – Bulb Planting – Seaton Ward

Removal of existing shrub beds and preparing the ground for grass seeding along with 4500 crocus bulbs to be planted.

Cost of scheme £626

Hill View – Street Lighting – Greatham Ward

To erect 6 street light columns that will significantly improve the current lighting levels and reduces the fear of potential crime.

Cost of scheme £5,000

Gillpark Grove – Street Lighting – Seaton Ward

To erect 6 street light columns that will significantly improve the current lighting levels and reduces the fear of potential crime.

Cost of scheme £5,000

Wynyard Road – Grass Verge – Owton Ward

It is proposed to remove the grass verge between 159 & 173 Wynyard Road and replace with tarmac to alleviate congestion in the area, outside Owton Manor Primary School, and to allow for more free flowing traffic along Wynyard Road.

Cost of scheme £5,125

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 All of the above works can be carried out using existing Minor Works budgets.

**4. RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Consultative Forums be approved.



## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder  
17 November 2006



**Report of:** Head of Public Protection & Housing

**Subject** QUALITY COAST AWARDS

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Portfolio Holder of the introduction of a new national scheme 'The Quality Coast Awards' which will replace the Seaside Awards in 2007.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report sets out details of the new 'Quality Coast Awards', which will replace the Seaside Awards in 2007. As the bathing water quality at Seaton Carew has met the current European Blue Flag Award standards, it is suggested that the Council applies for the Blue Flag Award for 2007 and reviews the position and impact of this new scheme at the end of next years bathing season.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

Portfolio Holder is responsible for Tourism and Environmental Initiatives.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key.

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Portfolio only.

**6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

To confirm that an application be made for the European 'Blue Flag' award for Seaton Carew beach for 2007.

**Report of:** Head of Public Protection & Housing

**Subject:** QUALITY COAST AWARDS

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Portfolio Holder of the introduction of a new national beach quality scheme 'The Quality Coast Awards' to replace the Seaside Awards.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The beach at Seaton Carew has successfully gained the national Seaside Award for the past two years (following the reintroduction of the lifeguard service). The Seaside Awards were a national award scheme for beaches, which aimed to give recognition to those beaches which met strict criteria on amenities, safety, cleanliness, and which met UK 'Mandatory' bathing water quality standards.
- 2.2 The Blue Flag Award is an additional European award scheme for beaches based on very similar criteria but with a requirement for the beach to meet higher European 'Guideline' standards for bathing water quality.
- 2.3 Water quality at Seaton beach has consistently met the UK mandatory standards for several years and indeed the majority of the bathing water season actually meets the higher European 'Guideline' standards.
- 2.4 Both the Seaside Awards and Blue Flag Awards are administered in the UK by the Environmental organisation 'Encams' (formerly Tidy Britain Group).

**3 QUALITY COAST AWARDS**

- 3.1 Encams has developed a new beach award scheme 'The Quality Coast Awards' which will replace the Seaside Awards in 2007.
- 3.2 The new awards will have several award categories in order to reflect that beaches can be valued and appreciated for reasons other than just bathing.
- 3.3 The new awards for beaches will be under the following categories:

**‘Away from it all’** - Wildlife, unspoilt, historical features, all year round award.

**‘Bucket and spade’** - Equivalent to old seaside award, mandatory UK bathing water quality, clean beach good amenities. Awarded during the bathing water season only (May – September).

**‘Fun in the sea’** - Water sports, bathing etc., bathing water has to be of the higher European ‘Guideline’ standard. Awarded during the bathing water season only (May – September).

**‘Relaxed recreation’** - High Quality pubs, good beach walks, all year round award.

- 3.4 There is no limit to the amount and type of different awards that each authority can apply for.
- 3.5 There is a commitment of three years to the Quality Coast Awards, during which time the applicant must show continual improvement to facilities etc., based on an action plan developed by Encams.
- 3.6 The annual European Blue Flag Awards will continue to run in addition to the new scheme, to acknowledge the best bathing water beaches. Authorities may apply for these separately or in addition to the new awards.

#### 4. CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES

- 4.1 Seaton Carew beach successfully maintained the higher European ‘Guideline’ standards for the 2006 bathing water season which means that it is eligible to apply for the Blue Flag Awards for 2007.
- 4.2 The various categories of the new award scheme means that a decision has to be made on what new areas of coastline we propose to put forward for awards. For example, it may be decided that the areas such as Seaton Common and Hart Warren may be eligible for the ‘Away from it all’ award.
- 4.2 There has been significant delay in the launch of the new Quality Awards by Encams (launch delayed to September 2006 and submissions must be made by November 2006) and insufficient time has been given for full consideration to be given to which awards should be looked at for the Hartlepool coastline.
- 4.3 The European ‘Blue Flag’ awards have been in place for a long time and are now well established ‘quality marks’ of beaches in terms of public perception. The new Encams ‘Quality Coast Awards’ have not yet been launched to the public and therefore their recognition and the public perception of importance cannot yet be ascertained.

The matter has been considered by the Foreshore Co-ordination Group and it is suggested that as the water quality at Seaton Carew has met the Blue Flag Award standard, which is a nationally recognised and well publicised scheme, an application is made for the 2007 bathing water season.

At the end of the 2007 bathing season, the matter can be reviewed to determine whether to apply for the new Encams 'Quality Coast Awards' by which time the scheme will be established more fully and a better assessment can be made as to its relevance and advantages.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The application costs for the new 'Quality Coast Awards' will cost £350 per award.
- 5.2 The application cost for the 'Blue Flag Award' is £300.

## **6. RECOMMENDATION**

- 6.1 That an application is made for the European 'Blue Flag' award for the 2007 bathing water season.

## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING PORTFOLIO**

Report to Portfolio Holder

17 November 2006



**Report of:** Director of Neighbourhood Services

**Subject:** NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – 2ND  
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 in the first two quarters of the year.

#### **2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The progress against the actions contained in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 and the first two quarters outturns of key performance indicators.

#### **3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The Portfolio Member has responsibility for regeneration, liveability and housing issues.

#### **4. TYPE OF DECISION**

Non-key.

#### **5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Portfolio Holder meeting 17 November 2006.

#### **6. DECISION REQUIRED**

Achievement on actions and indicators be noted.

**Report of:** Director of Neighbourhood Services

**Subject:** NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – 2ND  
QUARTER MONITORING REPORT

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## **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the key actions identified in the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 and the progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 30 September 2006.

## **BACKGROUND**

2. The Regeneration, Liveability and Housing Portfolio Holder agreed the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan in July 2006.
3. The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Liveability and Housing has responsibility for part of the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan.
4. The Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 sets out the key tasks and issues along with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department in the coming year.
5. The Council recently introduced an electronic performance management database for collecting and analysing performance. In 2006/07 the database will collect performance information detailed in the Corporate Plan, the five Departmental Plans and the Services Plans of the Neighbourhood Services Department.
6. Each section within the department produces a Service Plan, detailing the key tasks and issues facing them in the coming year. Each plan contains an actions, detailing how each individual section contributes to the key tasks and priorities contained within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental plan and ultimately those of the Corporate plan.

## **SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE**

7. This section looks in detail at how the Neighbourhood Services Department have performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included in the Neighbourhood Services

Departmental Plan 2006/07 and which the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Liveability and Housing has responsibility for.

8. On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are asked, via the Performance Management database, to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the performance plans and, where appropriate, every performance indicator.
9. Officers are asked to provide a short commentary explaining progress made to date, and asked to traffic light each action based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the plans. The traffic light system has been slightly adjusted in 2006/07, following a review of the system used previously. The traffic light system is now : -

Red
Amber
Green

- Action/PI not expected to meet target

- Action/PI expected to be meet target

- Action/PI target achieved

10. Within the Neighbourhood Services Departmental Plan there are a total of 95 actions and 117 Performance Indicators identified. The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Liveability and Housing has responsibility for 36 of these actions and 83 of these performance indicators. Table 1, below, summarises the progress made, to the 30 September 2006, towards achieving these actions and performance indicators.

Table1 – Neighbourhood Services progress summary

	Departmental Plan		Regeneration, Liveability & Housing Portfolio	
	Actions	PIs	Actions	PIs
Green	25	22	11	10
Amber	61	63	21	53
Red	5	3	-	2
Annual	4	29	4	10
Total	95	117	36	83

11. Eleven of the actions for which the Portfolio Holders has responsibility have already been completed, and a further 21 are on target to be completed by the target date. Four of the actions are reported Annual and therefore no updates are available at present.
12. It can also be seen that 53 of the Performance Indicators have been highlighted as being expected to hit the target with 10 indicators currently being highlighted as having achieved the target. A further 10 indicators



are only collected on an annual basis and therefore no updates are available for those at present. The remaining two performance indicators are being reported as not expecting to achieve target, details of which can be found in table 2 below.

Table 2: Performance Indicators not completed on target/not on target

Ref	Action	Target	Milestone	Comment Q2
LAA 28.1	Number of houses cleared in HMR intervention area	200	0	Compulsory Purchase Order is still not yet resolved and there are some delays by the developer. It continues to be unlikely that demolition will commence before April 07.
LAA 28.2	Number of new homes constructed in HMR intervention area.	50	0	Compulsory Purchase order process not yet completed, demolitions not started and some delays by developer mean this target will not be met.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that achievement of key actions and second quarter outturns of performance indicators are noted.

## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING PORTFOLIO**

Report To Portfolio Holder  
17 November 2006



**Report of:** The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

**Subject:** REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – QUARTER 2  
MONITORING REPORT

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### **SUMMARY**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To inform Portfolio Holder of the progress made against Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2006/07 in the second quarter of the year.

#### **2.0 SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

The report shows details of progress against actions contained in the Departmental Plan and the half year outturn position of key performance indicators. Several key departmental achievements by the end of the second quarter of the year are also highlighted.

#### **3.0 RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

The Portfolio Holder has responsibility for performance management issues in relation to the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan.

#### **4.0 TYPE OF DECISION**

Non key.

**5.0 DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Portfolio Holder only.

**6.0 DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

That the achievement of key actions and second quarter outturn of performance information is noted.

**Report of:** The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services

**Subject:** REGENERATION AND PLANNING SERVICES  
DEPARTMENTAL PLAN 2006/07 – QUARTER 2  
MONITORING REPORT

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the key actions identified in the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2006/07 and the progress of key performance indicators for the period up to 30 September 2006.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Liveability and Housing has responsibility for the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan which was agreed in April 2006.
- 2.2 The Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2006/07 sets out the key tasks and issues along with an Action Plan to show what is to be achieved by the department during the year.
- 2.3 Each section within the department also produces a service plan, setting out the key tasks and issues facing them in the year. Each plan contains actions detailing how each individual section contributes to the key tasks and priorities contained within the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan and ultimately those of the Corporate Plan.

## **3. SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE**

- 3.1 This section looks in detail at how Regeneration and Planning Services has performed in relation to the key actions and performance indicators that were included within the Departmental Plan for 2006/07.
- 3.2 On a quarterly basis officers from across the department are asked, via the Performance Management database, to provide an update on progress against every action contained in the performance plan and where appropriate, every performance indicator.

- 3.3 Officers are asked to provide a short commentary explaining progress made to date and asked to 'traffic light' each section based on whether or not the action will be, or has been, completed by the target date set out in the plans. The traffic light system is:-

<b>RED</b>	Action / PI not expected to meet target
<b>AMBER</b>	Action / PI expected to meet target
<b>GREEN</b>	Action / PI target achieved

- 3.4 Within the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan, there are currently a total of 141 actions and 101 performance indicators identified. Indicators in relation to the Local Area Agreement have been assigned since the last report. Table 1 below summarises the progress made at 30 September 2006 towards achieving these actions and performance indicators:-

**Table 1 – Regeneration and Planning progress summary**

	<b>Departmental Plan</b>	
	<b>Actions</b>	<b>PIs</b>
<b>Green</b>	15 (10.6%)	2 (2.0%)
<b>Amber</b>	98 (69.5%)	52 (51.5%)
<b>Red</b>	23 (16.3%)	7 (6.9%)
<b>Annual</b>	5 (3.6%)	40 (39.6%)
<b>Total</b>	141	101

- 3.5 A total of 15 actions have been completed and a further 98 are on target for completion by the milestone date. However 23 of the actions have been described as not being on target. It should be noted that the vast majority of the projects that are not on target have suffered only slight delay beyond the original stated milestone date and will be completed as expected within 2006/07. Most directly result from the complexity of the work being undertaken, the requirement to fully involve key partners and stakeholders, delays related to external factors or the difficulty in forecasting accurate milestone dates a number of months in advance.
- 3.6 It is currently anticipated that three 'red rated' projects containing six separate actions will not be achieved during 2006/07 as planned. Further details are set out in Table 2 below:-

**Table 2 – Actions not completed on target/not on target**

Ref	Action	Milestone	Comment
RD038	Prepare evidence base for new LDF – complete PPG17 audit	Dec 06	Specific Consultants were needed and appointed but their workload dictates a later than anticipated start date and a new completion date of June 2007. A managed delay was appropriate to achieve the consistency and quality of work required.
RD015	Development of the Heugh Gun Battery Visitor Facilities	Mar 07	Currently awaiting confirmation of Heritage Lottery Funding approval. A delay in HLF considering the bid has meant completion date has now slipped to October 2007. This is beyond the department's control.
RD02 RD03 RD04 RD05	Help to facilitate and support Hartlepool College of Further Education (HCFE) bringing forward development proposals	Oct 06	Reported to Portfolio Holder in Q1. Regular liaison and discussions continues with HCFE who have now radically altered the scale and nature of the development proposed. They are currently fundamentally reviewing development concept and options at request of the Learning and Skills Council, the major prospective funder, and in consultation with potential partner education providers, with a view to a substantially expanded project. This will significantly delay the achievement of the target milestone.

- 3.7 It can also be seen from Table 1 that seven Performance Indicators have been highlighted as not expected to meet the set target. These are detailed in Table 3 below.

**Table 3 – Performance Indicators not completed on target/not on target**

Ref	Action	Target	Outturn	Comment
PED PI1	Percentage of Building Control applications determined within 8 weeks	100%	75%	Serious recruitment difficulties in this area and the resulting inability to recruit to the long term vacant post within the small BC team have had a major effect on performance. This is expected to be resolved in the near future and lead to a return to 100% performance in the latter months of 2006/07.

Ref	Action	Target	Outturn	Comment
LAA H13	Number of new homes constructed in HMR intervention area	50	n/a	Reported to Portfolio Holder in Q1. Delays associated with the statutory CPO processes post-inquiry mean that this target will not be achieved in 2006/07.
BV204	Percentage of Planning Appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning application	33%	75%	Based on only 12 appeals Member concern that some Inspector decisions are ignoring the new Local Plan and officers have been instructed to write to the MP expressing those concerns.
LAA CS17	Deliberate fires (Hartlepool)	853	546	This includes both deliberate property fires and deliberate fires to materials of limited/no value (e.g. piles of rubbish/bonfires). Deliberate property fires are reducing, but the "rubbish" fires have increased significantly. A plan has been developed by Council, Fire Brigade and others to reduce these incidents.
LAA CS21	Personal, social and community disorder reported to Police (Hartlepool)	9716	5435	The definition of incidents which are reported to the Police as "anti-social behaviour" changed on 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2006 and neighbourhood policing has been introduced. There is no direct comparison between the target and those numbers recorded, however in the absence of any other comparison method, data based on the new definition will be used for 2006/07 and new targets set for 2007/08.
LAA CS22	Personal, social and community disorder reported to Police (NRS)	6723	1797 (Q1)	
LPI RP3	The number of sites developed or improved	7	3	Reasonable progress on key sites is taking place but anticipate being slightly off target due to planning issues relating to some sites.

3.8 Portfolio Holder's attention is drawn to some of the key achievements of the department in the first part of the year as follows:-

- The Hartlepool Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) became only the second in country and first in the North East to achieve an "all green" status on 6 newly introduced and very challenging national key performance indicators. The service has been commended by Government Office for the North East for sustaining a consistent high performance since the introduction of the "Tough Choices" programme in April 2006.

- The final Investment Prospectus document was completed in Quarter 2 and has been distributed internally and to key funding agencies. Distribution to developers and other potential investors now an ongoing process.
- The Best Value Review of Strengthening Communities completed and approved by Cabinet on 25 September 2006.
- Youth Offending Service continues its high performance – at level 4 (out of 5) in first quarter. Second quarter result from Youth Justice Board not available until end of November.
- Following a Public Inquiry in June, the Planning Inspector recommended approval of the housing CPOs for the Mildred Street and Mayfair Street (both NDC) areas without modification. This was confirmed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in August. It is currently anticipated that Yuill Homes will now begin construction work on site early in 2007, representing a major step forward in the Housing Market Renewal Programme.
- The first draft of the revised Community Strategy, *Hartlepool's Ambition* has been prepared. Consultation on the strategy runs for 9 weeks and closes on 17 November.
- Recognition of Hartlepool Quays in several major strategic documents has been achieved. As well as recognition in RSS and RES, it has now been fully reflected in the 'Tees Valley City Region Development Programme' and its sister document 'An Investment Plan for the Tees Valley City Region.'
- Safer Hartlepool Partnership has been praised by Government Office North East for its "excellent progress" at the end of quarter 2. Comments included, *"At the end of September, the partnership sits at 1.8% (126 BCS Comparator crimes) below the milestone deemed 'green' and ultimately one of the Community Safety Partnerships to pose least risk to achieving the regional PSA1 target,"* and *"significant decreases have been seen [in crime] consistently for the past three months which shows that effective measures are being established and implemented."*

#### 4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 That the achievement of key actions and second quarter outturn of performance information is noted.



## **REGENERATION, LIVEABILITY & HOUSING**

Report to Portfolio Holder

17 November 2006



**Report of:** Head of Technical Services

**Subject:** PETITION AGAINST CLOSURE OF FOOTPATHS, FENS ESTATE

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### SUMMARY

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise on the receipt of a 1000-name petition against the closure of footpaths and a back street on the Fens Estate.

**2. SUMMARY OF CONTENTS**

Details of the petition and a brief history of the closures objected to.

**3. RELEVANCE TO PORTFOLIO MEMBER**

3 Reported at request of the Portfolio Holder.

**4. TYPE OF DECISION**

4 Non Key.

**5. DECISION MAKING ROUTE**

Regeneration, Liveability & Housing Portfolio Holder, 17 November 2006.

**6. DECISION(S) REQUIRED**

That the receipt of the petition is acknowledged.

**Report of:** Head of Technical Services

**Subject:** PETITION AGAINST CLOSURE OF FOOTPATHS, FENS ESTATE

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise on the receipt of a 1000-name petition against the closure of footpaths and a back street on the Fens Estate.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio Holder has previously agreed to the principle of applying to a Magistrates Court for the stopping-up of two footpath links on the Fens Estate, namely at Brandon Close and Aldeburgh Close, subject to the availability of funding.
- 2.2 A consultation exercise has also been carried out with residents of Upton Walk as to their desire for the gating of the highway to the rear of their properties due to anti-social behaviour activities. The consultees were the 12 residents of Mowbray Road and Upton Walk whose properties back onto the road in question and resulted in a 9 for and 2 against vote by those who replied. This has not yet been reported to Culture, Leisure and Transportation Portfolio Holder.
- 2.3 A petition has been received, (copy to be made available at the meeting), signed by 1000 residents of the Fens Estate, objecting to all three of the above proposed closures.

**3. CONSIDERATION OF ISSUES**

- 3.1 The two footpath closures that have been approved in principle would have to be submitted to a Magistrates Court as residents directly affected by them do not want gates to be erected, rather the paths stopped-up and the land taken into adjoining properties. Any member of the public can object to the court if the advertising stage is reached and also make representation to the Magistrates personally. If this stage is reached this petition will be submitted as evidence on behalf of the objectors.
- 3.2 The situation at Upton Walk is different in that the residents would prefer a gate to be erected, as the road gives access to private garages. This application will be subject to the new Thoroughfare Policy requirements before consideration can be given to the erection of a gate.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 No funding has yet been identified for any of the above proposals

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 That the Portfolio Holder acknowledges receipt of the petition against the closure of the footpaths at Brandon Close, Aldeburgh Close and the back street at Upton Walk.