

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

AGENDA



Monday 13 January, 2020

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 9 December 2019.
- 3.2 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 23 September 2019.

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

- 4.1 Council Plan 2020-23 – *Chief Executive*

5. KEY DECISIONS

None.



6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 6.1 Council Tax Base 2020/21 – *Director of Finance and Policy*
- 6.2 Child and Family Poverty Reserve Proposal – *Director of Children and Joint Commissioning Services*

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Hartlepool Power Stations Detailed Emergency Planning Zone Redetermination - Update - *Director for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*
- 7.2 Corporate Procurement Quarterly Report on Contracts – *Director of Finance and Policy*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

FOR INFORMATION

Future meeting dates –

Monday 10 February, 2020 at 10.00 am

Monday 16 March, 2020 at 10.00 am



FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

9 DECEMBER 2019

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

Present:

Councillor Shane Moore (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, James Brewer, Dave Hunter, Jim Lindridge, Sue Little, Ann Marshall, John Tennant, and Mike Young.

Also Present: Councillor Tom Cassidy as substitute for Councillor Leisa Smith in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.2.
Councillor A Richardson.

Officers: Gill Alexander, Chief Executive
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor
Chris Little, Director of Finance and Policy
John Morton, Assistant Director, Finance and Customer Services
Claire McLaren, Assistant Director, Corporate Services
Denise McGuckin, Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Sally Robinson, Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services
Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services
Steve Hilton, Communications and Marketing Team
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

69. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Paddy Brown and Leisa Smith.

70. Declarations of Interest

None.

71. Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2019

Received.

72. Minutes of the meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership held on 11 October 2019

Received.

73. Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2020/21 *(Director of Finance and Policy)*

Type of decision

Budget and Policy Framework.

Purpose of report

The purposes of the report were to:

- (i) Update Members on the results of the public consultation on options for the Council's 2020/21 Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) scheme;
- (ii) To enable Members to determine the 2020/21 LCTS scheme to be referred to Council.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Finance and Customer Services reported that the Committee at its meeting on 14th October 2019 received an update report on the operation of the LCTS scheme and the scheme's future financial risks. Financial modelling indicated that a 2020/21 LCTS scheme reduction should be able to be maintained at 12%, the same level as the previous six financial years (2014/15 to 2019/20).

Members determined that public consultation should be undertaken on the 2020/21 Local Council Tax Support Scheme on the options of retaining a 12% scheme, or introducing 14%, 16%, 18% or 20% schemes. The public also had through the consultation the ability to make comments or put forward alternative suggestions as required by case law.

The Consultation process commenced on 21st October 2019 and closed on 2nd December 2019. The Consultation was advertised via Press Release, Social Media and on the Council's website.

A copy of the Consultation was submitted as an appendix to the report and an analysis of the responses was set out in the report. An update was tabled at the meeting which showed a total of 343 responses to the consultation were received with 97% responding living in the borough. 67% of responders had never been in receipt of LCTS, with the remaining 33% being from people currently or previously in receipt of the benefit. Almost two thirds (64%) of respondents thought the Council should maintain the existing 12% scheme. If an alternative proposal was to be adopted, 49% of respondents indicated that it should only rise to 14%.

The report highlighted that collecting Council Tax from LCTS households was more difficult and resource intensive, as these households were less likely to pay by Direct Debit and make payments in different ways i.e. Attachment of Benefit Order and a greater proportion who pay by cash,

either at the Civic Centre or via the Post Office and the Paypoint network at local shops.

The Council monitored the levels of collection from LCTS households and while this was positive, there was a time lag in securing collection. This positive level of collection reflected the Council's decision to retain a 12% scheme, which had significantly reduced the financial burden on low income households.

In the Financial Considerations, the report highlighted the potential effects of the alternative levels of LCTS on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and also on individual working age claimants.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director and officers for the time and effort put into the consultation and also thanked those who had taken the time to respond to the consultation. The Chair considered that maintaining the current scheme of 12% would give the best balance between people making a contribution towards their Council Tax and the Council's ability to collect that Council Tax. Members supported the comments.

A Member considered that the proposals could have included the potential of reducing the scheme to 10% with the Local Welfare Support Scheme budget being removed to make up the shortfall in income against the current scheme. The Director of Finance and Policy indicated that a 10% scheme could be included in a consultation next year. Removal of the Local Welfare Support Scheme would require careful consideration as it provided support to a smaller group of residents on an emergency basis and would also require consultation.

The retention of the 12% LCTS scheme was moved with an additional recommendation that a 10% scheme be included as a potential option in consultation for the 2021/22 LCTS with a review of the use of the Local Welfare Support Scheme to support such a proposal.

Decision

1. The Committee noted:

- (i) the future financial and administrative risks associated with the Local Council Tax Support scheme;
- (ii) that higher Local Council Tax Support levels than 12% will provide additional income in 2020/21,
- (iii) the financial risk regarding the sustainability of higher Local Council Tax Support schemes beyond 2020/21 arising from increasing arrears;
- (iv) the financial impact of higher Local Council Tax Support schemes on low income working households and other Council budgets namely Local Welfare Support and Discretionary Housing Payments;

- (v) the outcome of the consultation on different levels of Local Council Tax Support cuts for 2020/21;
 - (vi) that pensioners would not be affected by any changes in the level of Local Council Tax Support as under national regulations they continue to receive 100% support on a means tested basis.
2. That Council be recommended to approve the continuation of the existing 12% Local Council Tax Support scheme (as operated for the last 6 years);
 3. That consultation on the Local Council Tax Support for 2021/22 include the potential option of a 10% scheme and the potential use of the Local Welfare Support budget to fund the additional 2%.

74. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2020/21 – 2023/24 *(Director of Finance and Policy)*

Type of decision

Budget and Policy Framework.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report was to enable Members to approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) proposals to be referred to Council.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Finance and Policy presented the detailed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to Members highlighting the following key areas and issues.

- The Government's one year Spending Review and the effects of nine years of austerity.
- The changes in recurring resources between 2013/14 and 2019/20.
- Comparative information, particularly against Windsor and Maidenhead Council, another small (though larger than Hartlepool) Unitary Authority where the government reduction in core grant funding per resident was only £91 compared with £284 in Hartlepool.
- The inclusion in the one year spending review of additional national funding for social care of £1bn with the continuation of the local Adult Social Care Precept at 2%, which the Government forecast will raise £500million nationally
- The 'core' Council Tax referendum limit at 2%.
- Changes to the New Homes Bonus and the allocations for 2020/21.
- The outcome of the budget consultation process with policy committees, Trade Unions and the Business sector. Consultation with policy committees had led to the withdrawal of the proposal to introduce a charge for garden waste and also the withdrawal of £291,000 of other

savings due to policy committees wishing to see full evaluations of the proposed savings.

- Utilisation of the approved Budget Support Fund and a detailed summary of the initial and revised proposals to balance the 2020/21 budget.
- An identification of the main issues known now that will impact upon the 2021/22 to 2023/24 budgets. This included the result of the forthcoming election, Brexit, national pay awards, Looked after Children costs, inflation and the National Living Wage.
- Details of the current capital programme were also reported together with amendments to the programme relating to additional costs for Stranton Chapel and the BIS project.
- An outline of potential funding for future capital schemes through the proposed Capital Investment Programme and use of funds secured from the Tees Valley Combined Authority
- The Housing Revenue Account capital programme.
- The Neighbourhood Investment Fund.
- A proposed loan to High Tunstall College of Science to assist in the financing of community sports facilities which will bring in additional grants monies including £500,000 Football Foundation grant.
- The position of the Councils reserves and in particular the reduction in the reserves over the past 3 years from £43.620m at 31 March 2017 to a forecast £18.858m at 31 March 2020.

The Director concluded his presentation of the report by drawing Members attention to the 'Robustness Advice' a statutory requirement on an Authority's Section 151 Chief Finance Officer introduced in the Local Government Act 2003 to advise Members on the robustness of the budget forecasts and the adequacy of the proposed level of reserves. If Members ignore this advice, the Act requires the Authority to record this position.

In providing the appropriate robustness advice to this Committee and full Council the Director stated that he would be able to sign off the budget as robust if both the proposed savings and proposed Council Tax increase were approved. If either of these components is not approved he would not be able to sign off the budget as robust until such time as alternative recurring savings have been identified.

In the event that it is suggested that the proposed Council Tax increase is not implemented and the recurring income reduction is replaced by using reserves this cannot be signed off as robust. This proposal would significantly weaken the Council's ongoing financial position and the cumulative impact would be a reduction in resources of approximately £5m, consisting of:

- A permanent reduction in recurring Council Tax income of £1.630m, which cannot be replaced in future years;
- A permanent reduction of reserves of £1.630m i.e. the amount which would need to be used in 2020/21;

- A permanent reduction in services of £1.630m which is the amount that would need to be saved in 2021/22 to replace the use of reserves in 2020/21.

The Director stated that the recommendations in the report were predicated on the new Government confirming the 2020/21 grant funding and Council Tax referendum limits announced over recent months. This position would not be confirmed until after the General Election. In the event that the new Government makes any changes which impact on the recommendations in the report a further report would be submitted to enable Members to determine whether any changes are required by Council.

The Chair thanked the Director and his team for the detailed budget now submitted to Members. The Chair commented that in the past, it was easy to criticise the budget proposals put forward at Council but when in political control of the process it became clear that the level of detail involved in the decision making to reach this point was huge. The Chair thanked the business representatives for their support for the proposals and also referred to a letter received from the Joint Trades Union Committee indicating its support for the budget now proposed. The investment package outlined in the report would help Hartlepool move forward and would assist in generating more income. The Chair indicated his support for the detailed recommendations and hoped Members could also support the proposals.

In discussion issues were raised around the proposed capital investment at Stranton Chapel when Members had indicated a preference for a new build proposal. The Director Regeneration and Neighbourhoods stated that there was presently no land allocated for a new build proposal to replace Stranton Chapel and a site would need to be identified first before any proposals could be consulted upon. The process of identifying a suitable site had commenced, in line with some very old legislation, but this would take time and the investment at Stranton Chapel was needed now and could not wait.

There was concern expressed at proposing a rise in Council Tax three days before the general election but the Chief Executive assured Members appropriate advice had been sought and all the north east local authorities were continuing their budget timetables set before the election was called. There were statutory deadlines that had to be met, including the approval of the Local Council Tax Support scheme by the end of the calendar year.

A Member also indicated that a review of fees and charges should have looked at the potential of a much higher rise rather than the 2% inflation increased proposed as a 7% rise across all charges could potentially have brought in sufficient income to offset some, if not all of the Council Tax rise proposed. The Director of Finance and Policy stated that a simple across the board rise in charges could not be implemented as many charges were statutory and outside the Council's control. Also the largest part of the Council's fees and charges income came from social care charges. The Director stated that he could not recommend increasing fees and charges

as a robust alternative to increasing Council Tax. Work on reviewing fees and charges was to be undertaken but this was an incredibly complex area and would take time. CMT had agreed that a full review of all fees and charges would be undertaken as part of the budget proposals for 2021/22.

The discussion also referred to the period when the Council had implemented a freeze on Council Tax when the government had paid council's a 1% grant for doing so. In response to questions, the Director of Finance and Policy stated that had council tax not been frozen in those years and the maximum rise applied, the Council would be in a different situation with higher council tax income but this would also have led to Members making different budget decisions over the intervening years. The Director estimated that the Council Tax for a Band D property would be in the region of £200 higher than now.

Some Members expressed their great concerns at having to make such decisions that would affect families across the town, particularly those only just 'getting by'. Members discussed the issue of the loan to High Tunstall College of Science and were reassured by the Director of Finance that the proposal was robust and affordable for the school. The issue of the future of the Wingfield Castle was also highlighted. The Chair assured Members that he also wished to see a scheme to restore the Wingfield Castle and that a lot of work had gone on behind the scenes to make the scheme happen. This included approving the proposed Capital Investment Pot which would enable a detailed scheme to be brought forward.

Following detailed discussion, the Chair moved the recommendations as set out in the report and also an additional recommendation that a review of fees and charges be completed during 2020/21 to enable Members to consider potential options for increasing income for the 2021/22 budget.

The proposal was seconded and a recorded vote was requested and agreed.

On the additional recommendation proposed in relation to 'a review of fees and charges be completed during 2020/21 to enable Members to consider potential options for increasing income for the 2021/22 budget' the vote was as follows: -

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

There were no votes against and no abstentions.

This additional recommendation will be referred to Council on 19 December 2019.

On the substantive recommendations set out in the report with the inclusion of the additional recommendation set out above, the votes recorded were as follows: -

For – Councillors Moore, Young, Little, Cassidy, Marshall, Brewer and Tennant.

Against – Councillor C Akers-Belcher.

Abstain – Councillors Lindridge and Hunter.

The following recommendations were, therefore, agreed and would be forwarded to Council on 19 December as the recommendations of the Finance and Policy Committee.

Decision

The Committee noted the following:

- (i) That the Government is providing an additional £1 billion of national funding for children and Adult Social Care pressures;
- (ii) The Government have proposed a 4% Council Tax referendum limit. This includes a 2% Adult Social Care precept which will generate £500 million to partly match the £1 billion referred to in recommendation (i). Continuation of the Adult Social Care precept for a fifth year continues to shift part of the funding of these services onto Council Tax.

The Committee approved the following proposals for referral to full Council on 19th December 2019:

Revenue Budget

1. Note that the Council's allocation of the £1 billion social care funding (net of £52,000 reduction in Revenue Support Grant) is £2.291m, compared to the September 2019 forecast of £1.840m, an increase of £0.451m;
2. Approve that £1.053m of the social care grant funding (£0.602m forecast in September and £0.451m increase detailed in recommendation (1)) is allocated to partly address the recurring increase in the Looked after Children costs – forecast 2020/21 of £1.403m based on current costs;
3. Approve the detailed strategy for allocating one off resources detailed in Appendix A (to the report) to address increased Looked after Children costs already incurred in 2019/20 and forecast in 2020/21. This strategy will provide sufficient funding to meet existing costs continuing to 2022/23, which provides a longer lead time to reduce demand, or for the Government to recognise this national pressure and provide additional funding;
4. Approve the recurring and one off issues detailed in Appendix B (to the report);

5. Approve the revised proposal for addressing the net 2020/21 budget deficit as detailed in paragraph 3.23 (of the report), which includes:
 - A 2% Adult Social Care precept;
 - A 1.9% core Council Tax increase;
 - Work stream savings of £2.089m as detailed in Appendix E
 - Use of reserves of £0.547m to remove the proposed Garden Waste charges and requirement to identify further budget saving of £0.291m
6. Note that a 2% Adult Social Care precept and core Council Tax increase of 1.9% for 2020/21 provides recurring income of £1.630m, which protects services;
7. To note that adopting recommendation (5) defers a deficit of £0.547m, to 2021/22 which increases the deficit for that year from £0.844m to £1.301m.

Recommendation Referred from Finance and Policy Committee 14th October 2019:

Finance and Policy Committee considered a detailed report “Tees Valley Future Waste Strategy” on the adoption of the Outline Business Case for the treatment of municipal residual waste on behalf of the five Tees Valley councils from April 2025. The report outlined the detailed work which needs to be completed in relation to this issue and the costs of procurement, obtaining planning permission, project management and external specialist advice in the areas of legal, financial and technical during procurement. These costs will be shared by the five Tees Valley councils and would normally have to be funded up front. The Combined Authority have agreed to provide a loan for these costs, with repayment not commencing until 2025/26 when the new facility becomes operational. Finance and Policy Committee approved the following recommendation for inclusion in the MTFS proposals to be referred to Council.

8. Approve that the Council enter into a loan agreement with the Combined Authority to agree to repay the £1m associated with the procurement over a 25 year period commencing 2025/26 and delegate authority to the finalise the agreement to the Director of Finance and Policy in consultation with the Chief Executive, Chief Solicitor and Chair of Finance and Policy Committee.

Capital Issues

9. Approve the proposed funding arrangements for the increased capital costs detailed in paragraph 5.4 (of the report) and inclusion in the current capital programme;

10. Note the indicative specific capital grant allocations detailed in Appendix F (to the report) and in line with the policy adopted in previous years delegate authority to the relevant Policy Committee to determine, in compliance with the relevant grant conditions, the allocation of the actual capital grant allocation once these are known;
11. Approve that a one off accrual saving from 2018/19 of £150,000 is used to reinstate the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to £289,000 and to note detailed proposal for using this amount will be reported to a future Finance and Policy Committee, in accordance with the previous Council delegation.
12. Approve the proposal to use the recurring revenue saving of £0.586m summarised in paragraph 5.9 to establish a Capital Investment Programme fund of £13.395m to be funded from Prudential borrowing which will be repaid from the recurring saving. To note if Members do not wish to approve this proposal the available Capital Investment Programme fund of £13.395m will not be available;
13. To note on the basis of approving recommendation (12) the Capital Investment Programme Fund will match fund TVCA funding to provide total capital investment of £40.895m;
14. On the basis of Member approving recommendation (12) to seek approval from Council to delegate authority to Finance and Policy Committee, in consultation with the relevant Policy Committee Chair(s), to approve the detailed business cases for the schemes detailed in paragraph 5.15 (of the report) to be delivered from the Capital Investment Programme Fund. To note that a further report will be submitted to Finance and Policy Committee in January/February 2020;
15. On the basis of Members approving recommendation (12) to allocate of £0.5m of the available capital funding to enable work to progress on the development of detailed business and to delegate authority for the use of these resources to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee and Director of Finance and Policy;
16. To approve the use of Prudential borrowing to fund the loan request of £0.7m from High Tunstall College of Science towards the total scheme costs of £1.826m. To note the annual repayment cost of 15 years will be £53,000, which is 0.8% of the schools 2019/20 budget and to note the school will seek to repay the loan over 10 years. To note that Neighbourhoods Services Committee will need to approve the allocation of £0.326m of Local Transport Plan funding towards this scheme;
17. On the basis of Members approving recommendation (16) to note the Chief Solicitor, in consultation with the Director of Finance and Policy,

will complete the appropriate legal agreement with the school to protect the Council's financial position;

Reserves

18. To seek Council approval to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee and Director of Finance and Policy, to use up to £0.5m of the uncommitted Budget Support Fund to fund invest to save initiatives, subject to these proposals achieving a pay-back period of 3 years or less. This proposal will enable further savings to be achieved from initiatives such as property rationalisation. To note the uncommitted balance on the Budget Support Fund will be part of the review detailed in recommendation (19);
19. Note that a further review of reserves will be completed as part of the 2021/22 budget process and this will include an updated assessment of risk in relation to national issues and proposed changes to the local government funding system, which will increase risk if proposals to increase Business Rates retention from 50% to 75% are implemented.

Robustness Advice

20. Note the robustness advice of the Director of Finance and Policy detailed in section 8 (to the report).
21. A review of fees and charges be completed during 2020/21 to enable Members to consider potential options for increasing income for the 2021/22 budget.

Councillors Moore and Akers-Belcher left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Young in the Chair.

75. HR Policy Review – Restructure and Redundancy Policy *(Assistant Director, Corporate Services)*

Type of decision

Non Key Decision.

Purpose of report

The report sought Finance and Policy Committee approval for a revised Restructure and Redundancy Policy.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Corporate Services reported that the current Reorganisation, Redundancy and Redeployment Policy had been in place

since 2010. It was now proposed to have two separate policies, one for reorganisation and redundancy and one for redeployment, which would be reported to a future Finance and Policy Committee.

The proposed Restructure and Redundancy Policy, appended to the report, had been agreed with and was supported by the Hartlepool Joint Trade Union Committee.

Decision

That the proposed Restructure and Redundancy Policy, as submitted, be approved.

76. Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20 6 Months Progress Update (*Chief Executive*)

Type of decision

For information only.

Purpose of report

The report updated Members on the progress made on the Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20 between April 2019 and the end of September 2019 and informed Members of a number of changes / updates to the Plan. The report also included a review of the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Chief Executive reported on the progress made on the approved Council Plan and highlighted the progress made on the performance measures set out in the appendix to the report. The report included a number of changes to, and updates on, some of the key deliverables.

The Chief Executive indicated that the Strategic Risk Register had also been reviewed at the end of September with no changes to risk ratings identified. A new strategic risk was being developed with regards to Brexit and its implications. This risk would be monitored alongside the other 30 Strategic Risks on the register.

Decision

The Committee noted:

- (i) the key achievements made in the delivery of the Council Plan between April 2019 and the end of September 2019 as reported;
- (ii) the changes to the key deliverables in the Council Plan as set out in section 4.4 of the report;
- (iii) the position in relation to the Council Plan Performance Indicators as set out in appendix 1 to the report; and
- (iv) the six month review of the Strategic Risk Register.

77. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday 13 January 2020 at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

Councillor Young left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Moore in the Chair.

78. Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs referred to below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

Minute 79 – Warm Homes Fund Tees Valley Consortium Bid – 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).

79. Warm Homes Fund Tees Valley Consortium Bid

(Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods) 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).

Type of decision

Key decision, tests (i) and (ii) apply. General Exception Notice applies.

Purpose of report

To seek approval to participate in a Tees Valley partnership to deliver Warm Homes Funding with the other four Local Authority partners.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods reported on the potential involvement of Hartlepool in a Tees Valley partnership to deliver Warm Homes Funding.

Decision

The decision of the Committee is set out in the exempt section of the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 11.45 am.

H MARTIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 17 DECEMBER 2019

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

23 September 2019

The meeting commenced at 10 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor Moore, Leader of Council (In the Chair)

Prescribed Members:

Elected Members, Hartlepool Borough Council – Councillors Buchan, Thomas and Councillor Cartwright (as substitute for Councillor Ward)

Representatives of Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group – Michael Houghton (as substitute for 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

Representatives of Healthwatch - Margaret Wrenn and 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 – T/ACC Lisa Orchard

Representative of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust –Deepak Dwarakanath

Representative of Hartlepool Voluntary and Community Sector – Karen Gibson (as substitute for Tracy Woodall)

Representative of Headteachers – Julie Thomas

Statutory Scrutiny Representative, Hartlepool Borough Council - Councillor Hall

Also in attendance:-

Jo Heaney, Head of Commissioning and Strategy, Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group

Caroline Robinson, Joseph Rowntree Trust

Christine Fewster and Paula Fewster, Hartlepool Carers.

Hartlepool Borough Council Officers:

Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager

Amanda Whitaker, Democratic Services Team

12. Apologies for Absence

Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council – Councillor Ward
Representatives of Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group – Dr Nick Timlin and Nicola Bailey
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, Hartlepool Borough Council - Denise McGuckin
Representative of Hartlepool Voluntary and Community Sector – Tracy Woodall
Representative of Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust – Dominic Gardner

13. Declarations of interest by Members

The following declarations were made at the meeting:-

Councillor Cartwright – as an employee of Home Group
Councillor Thomas – as an employee of Healthwatch.

14. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 1 July were confirmed.

15. All Age Carers Strategy *(Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services and Director of Adults and Community Based Services)*

A report had been presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on 4th March 2019 setting out the development of a Carers Strategy. The priorities had been developed through consultation with young carers and carers. Board Members were advised that further consultation had taken place with the Council's Children's Services Committee and the Adults and Community Based Services Committee. Feedback from both Committees was summarised in the report and all feedback from the Committees had been incorporated into the final strategy appended to the report.

Board Members welcomed the Strategy as the basis for an excellent way forward in developing support for carers and paid tribute to the service provided by Hartlepool Carers. The Chief Executive Officer, Hartlepool Carers, was in attendance at the meeting and advised Board Members of a bid which the organisation had submitted recently to develop the carer respite service, in recognition of the importance of the service which had been highlighted in the meeting by Board Members. In concluding the debate, the Chair expressed appreciation of all those who had been involved in the Strategy and reiterated the commitment required of all Board Members.

Decision

- (i) The Board approved the All Age Carers Strategy.
- (ii) Board Members committed to supporting the development of an action plan in order to implement the strategy.

16. Clinical Commissioning Group Annual Report 2018/19

(Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery (Locality Commissioning Director, Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group and Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group)

The Annual Report, which had been appended to the report to the Board, provided an overview of the CCG's purpose and main activities during 2018/19. It set out the challenges experienced during the year along with the organisation's achievements and the financial position within the organisation.

The salient issues included in the report were highlighted at the meeting by the Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery. The Board noted the collaborative working approach implemented during 2018/19 with the appointment of a single Accountable Officer and examples of collaborative projects to improve the commissioning and provision of services.

The Board was advised that the CCG's financial position had been maintained during the year reflecting the strong financial management within the organisation. The report highlighted, however, the challenging NHS financial climate and that CCGs are facing significant financial pressures. With regards to performance against national targets, the CCG generally performed well. Areas for improvement were identified and the CCG continued to work with its providers to understand the challenges faced and identify ways to improve compliance against these important targets to benefit local people.

The Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery responded to clarification sought from Board Members arising from the report. The Director acknowledged issues which had been raised with Healthwatch regarding lack of progress in screening adults with learning difficulties and assured the Board that the CCG was working with providers to identify improvements to services. The Director agreed to a request for a report to be submitted to a future meeting of the Board in relation to progress on that particular issue.

The Director undertook also to review the recruitment process in relation to employment of community health ambassadors, to clarify the meaning of the acronym 'WGA' and to circulate the action plan to address issues relating to ambulance response times. Following concerns regarding engagement with Hartlepool based organisations, the Director undertook to consider the issues highlighted following the meeting.

Decision

The Board noted the content of the Annual Report.

17. **SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Improvement Plan Progress** *(Director of Children's and Joint)*

The Board was advised of progress on the local areas SEND Improvement Plan. Hartlepool had been inspected in October 2016 and had been found to have four areas of weaknesses. Subsequently the area had been revisited in January 2019 to review progress in each of the areas of weakness. Inspectors had felt that the area had not made sufficient progress in two of the areas as outlined in the report.

The improvement plan had been submitted to the Department for Education and was appended to the report. The plan has been updated up to reflect the position at the end of August 2019 and would be updated following the next SEND operational group against the end of September milestones. This would be reported to the SEND governance group meeting on 8th October and then to the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Board was assured that actions within the plan had been reviewed and the report detailed where milestones had not been met together with details of remedial actions which were being undertaken.

In response to frustrations highlighted at the meeting in relation to effective communication between Partners, the Head of Commissioning and Strategy (HAST CCG) advised that a designated clinical officer was in post to act as a conduit and encouraged Board Members to advise her, outside of the meeting, of any specific examples of concern.

Decision

- (i) The Board noted the progress of the SEND Improvement Plan and the remedial actions being taken where milestones had not been met/changed.
- (ii) Members of the Board reflected on their duties for children under the Children and Families Act 2014 to ensure that children with SEND are supported as appropriate.

18. Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People (Integrated Working) *(Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group)*

It was reported that in January 2019 an event had been hosted by the CCG, and facilitated by the Advisory Board to explore both the potential and appetite for working systematically across the children and young people's agenda. The areas that had been identified for initial further exploration were emotional health and wellbeing and SEND. A steering group that was representative of all partners working within the children and young people's system was established following this event in order to take the work forward.

The Board was advised that a Compact Agreement, which was appended to the report, had been jointly developed which outlined the strategic goals, principles, behaviors, commitments, risks and sustainability which the group would work to when working as an integrated system. The Compact had been reviewed by each organisation separately and supported as a way of working for the children and young peoples' agenda. The series of workshops had concluded with outputs being presented to the integrated group for review and agreement around actions to be taken forward. These recommendations were presented to the Board as a separate agenda item. The Board was requested to act in a governance capacity as all partners were represented and it provided an obvious place for escalation and resolution if required.

A Board Member reiterated concerns expressed earlier in the meeting regarding engagement with Hartlepool based organisations with particular reference to the potential Stockton focus of Catalyst. Concerns were expressed also by another Board Member regarding funding which had been allocated to the Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency (HVDA) and whether that funding had come back to Hartlepool when the HVDA had closed. The Head of Commissioning and Strategy undertook to clarify the situation with regard to the funding following the meeting.

Decision

- (i) The Board endorsed the agreement set out within the compact and supported the principles as the way of working for all children and young people's development/commissioning when there is more than one strategic partner involved.
- (ii) The Board agreed to provide oversight/governance to the priority group and act as a point of escalation/resolution where required.

19. Children and Young People's Mental Health – Local Transformation Plan *(Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Clinical Commissioning Group and Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services)*

In February 2019, the Board had been provided with an updated Future in Mind Local Transformation Plan for Children's & Young People's Mental Health provision. A series of three workshops had been held during June and July 2019 with a group of staff from across a number of agencies in Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees. The report provided the Board with an update on the outcome of the workshops. The Board was advised that outputs from the workshops had identified 5 main areas of work which needed further defining and exploration through task & finish groups. It was proposed that Task & Finish groups are established within each identified area and plans further developed.

Board Members were advised that although high level priorities had been set as part of the Local Transformation plan which the Board had previously agreed, the Board was requested to agree that the available funding of £329,000 available for the financial year 19/20 be utilised as proposed in the report.

It was noted that in order to support the Children & Young People's mental health agenda, there had been a number of developments which would support and work alongside the proposals outlined in the report. Those developments, since the last report to the Board in February 2019, were outlined in the report.

One of the developments highlighted in the report was the purchase of an online digital platform, Kooth. Whilst the digital platform was welcomed by the Council's Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, the Director highlighted the need for the platform to be rolled out to schools and young people in a consistent and safe manner. An assurance was provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group's Head of Commissioning and Strategy.

A member of the public in attendance at the meeting addressed the Board and informed Board Members of a number of issues and concerns. The Chair highlighted that the issues raised did not relate to the agenda item and advised that he would meet after the meeting to discuss the concerns raised.

Decision

- (i) Board Members noted the progress of the children and young people's mental health local transformation plan.
- (iii) The Board approved the overarching proposals for the available funding and agreed the associated work to be taken forward.

Prior to concluding the meeting, the Chair reminded Board Members of a Workshop organised for 8th November 2019.

Meeting concluded at 11.20 a.m.

CHAIR

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13th January 2020



Report of: Chief Executive

Subject: COUNCIL PLAN 2020-23

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 Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 as a draft for consultation.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The current Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20 is coming to an end this year. It was developed following the extensive Your Say, Our Future consultation with residents, staff and partners which took place in the summer of 2016 and identified a series of key priorities for Hartlepool.
- 3.2 Finance and Policy Committee agreed at their meeting on 22nd July 2019 to begin preparing a new Council Plan to cover the period 2020/21 – 2022/23 with the aim of having it agreed before the end of the current municipal year.
- 3.3 Consultation on the Council Plan priorities for 2020/21 – 2022/23 launched on 13th September 2019 and ran for 4 weeks. There were 4 key questions that were asked throughout the consultation:
- What do you think is going well in Hartlepool?
 - What do you love about Hartlepool?
 - What do you think needs to improve in Hartlepool?
 - How do you think that the Council, our residents and our partners can work together to make a difference?

In addition residents were asked whether the priorities identified in the 2016 consultation were still important.

- 3.4 In order to raise public awareness of the consultation a wraparound was published in the Hartlepool Life and the Hartlepool Mail highlighting the achievements from the current Council Plan and promoting the ways in which people could get involved in shaping the new Council Plan. The opportunities that were made available for people to get involved included:

- Survey – online and paper copies made available in Community Hubs and other Council venues (251 responses);
- 3 public drop in events held at the Community Hubs;
- A roundtable discussion with partners (12 partner organisations took part);
- Roundtable discussions with our employees at the Autumn Corporate Management Team (CMT) Roadshows (191 employees took part);
- A roundtable discussion with the Youth Council;
- A roundtable discussion with the Senior Leadership Team;
- A Members Seminar (5 Members took part).

4. DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2020/21 – 2022/23

- 4.1 The Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 has been developed to build on what has already been achieved over the last 3 years and to respond to what residents, employees and partners told us through the recent consultation exercise.

- 4.2 The draft Council Plan is included as Appendix 1 (to follow) and this includes:

- An summary of the progress made through the last Council Plan, an outline of the current position in Hartlepool in relation to some of our key indicators and the key themes that emerged from the recent consultation exercise;
- The strategic priorities that it is proposed the Council focus on over the next 3 years. For each strategic priority details are provided about what success will look like and the action that is proposed to be taken to deliver it.

- 4.3 The Committee is requested to agree this as a draft for consultation.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Consultation on the draft Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 will be open for 5 weeks and will include:

- A short online survey with written comments/responses also accepted;
- A Members Seminar – 29th January 2020;
- Reports to Policy Committees – Children’s Services (28th January 2020), Adult and Community Based Services (30th January 2020), Regeneration Services (19th February 2020) and Neighbourhood Services (21st February 2020).
- Sharing the draft with the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Hartlepool Partnership and the Economic Regeneration and Tourism Forum for their comments;
- A partners roundtable discussion.

6. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 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.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 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.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 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.

9. CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The planned consultation arrangements are set out in section 5.1 of the report and this will include consultation with Elected Members through a second Members Seminar on 29th January 2020 and through reports to individual Policy Committees in January and February 2020.

10. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 10.1 The new Council Plan will continue to work to reduce child and family poverty within Hartlepool and a Child and Family Poverty Impact Assessment has been developed for the draft Plan and is included as Appendix 2. This will be reviewed and updated as necessary in the preparation of the final Council Plan.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 The new Council Plan will aim to have a positive impact on the whole population of Hartlepool and will include the Council's Equality Objectives as required through the Public Sector Equality Duty. An Equality Impact Assessment has been developed for the draft Plan and is included as Appendix 3. This will be reviewed and updated as necessary in the preparation of the final Council Plan.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 No implications.

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 13.1 No implications.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 Finance and Policy Committee is recommended to:
- Agree the draft Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 included as Appendix 1 for consultation;
 - Note the consultation timetable.

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Developing a new Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 report to Finance and Policy Committee 22nd July 2019.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

17.1 Gill Alexander
Chief Executive
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Sign Off:-

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

Consultation Draft

Council Plan

2020/21 – 2022/23



SHAPING OUR FUTURE
THE NEXT THREE YEARS



Shaping our Council Plan

In 2016 we held a town-wide conversation called “Your Say, Our Future” and what we were told then informed our Council Plan 2017/18 – 2019/20. Three years on we have reflected on what we have achieved and asked our residents, employees and partners to help shape our Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23.

In autumn 2019 our residents, employees and partners told us what they thought was going well in Hartlepool and what they loved about the town. They also identified what they felt needed to improve and how the Council, our residents and partners could work together to make a difference.

We have also reviewed a range of key statistics for the town to understand where Hartlepool is in relation to the national and regional picture and this has helped us to identify our strategic needs.

Building on what we have already achieved, what the statistics are telling us and by listening to what our residents, employees and partners have told us we have developed our strategic priorities for the next three years.

We recognise that it is important that we are clear about what we intend to do and by when and that is the purpose of this Council Plan. The following pages set out the clear plans and commitments we have made under each strategic priority.

Our Vision

The Council vision launched in 2016 set us on a journey to make Hartlepool a vibrant, welcoming and inspiring place to live, visit, work, invest and grow up in.

Since embarking on this journey we have achieved well against the significant ambitions we set for ourselves. However, there is still much more to do and taking account of where we are, we have refreshed our approach and propose eight strategic priorities for the next three years.

Our Strategic Priorities

- 1 Growing a diverse economy by supporting businesses, increasing jobs, attracting inward investment and improving skills and aspirations.
- 2 Creating a clean, green, and safe Hartlepool by protecting our environment and improving our neighbourhoods.
- 3 Create an attractive and connected Hartlepool by attracting investment to improve key buildings, derelict land and our transport network.
- 4 Developing a healthy Hartlepool by working with our communities to improve the health and wellbeing of our people.
- 5 Building better beginnings and better futures for our children and young people.
- 6 Improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers.
- 7 Building and improving homes that people want to live in.
- 8 Shaping a well-led, safe, high performing and efficient council that is fit for the 21st Century.

| | |
|----------|--|
| 1 | Growing a diverse economy by supporting businesses, increasing jobs, attracting inward investment and improving skills and aspirations. |
|----------|--|

Growing our economy remains a priority for the town and as a Council we have a key role to play in supporting this to happen. Over the last three years we have worked hard to provide the space and opportunity for businesses to flourish in the town through our development of the Innovation and Skills Quarter (ISQ) in and around Church Street, encouragement of new business start-ups and building on the success of the Queens Meadow Enterprise Zone. We secured £3m of external funding to transform the former General Post Office building in Whitby Street into the Bis a new centre for business start-ups in the creative industry sector.

Our new business registration rate, which followed the national trend by reducing in 2018/19, is in line with our near neighbours but remains well below the national average at 43 per 10,000 population aged 16 and over. Supporting new businesses in the town to develop and grow will be key priority for the Council. A key priority in the previous Council Plan was to increase business and jobs and encourage our young people to come back when they've been away to university and following our recent consultation we understand that this remains important to the people of the town.

Creating high value jobs remains a strategic priority for Hartlepool. Our overall employment rate is well below the national average at 64.1% compared to 75.6% nationally (Quarter 2, 2019/20) and our youth unemployment rate is 11.2% (Quarter 1, 2019/20). We will continue to support our residents and young people to ensure that they have the skills and qualifications that they need to move into sustained employment.

We have focussed on improving the town's offer as a tourism destination through our partnership with the National Museum of the Royal Navy, the development of an annual events programme including the Waterfront Festival and developing facilities in Seaton Carew including the splash pad and crazy golf. The total number of visitors to the town increased by 6.4% to 3.66 million in 2017/18 and visitor numbers at the National Museum of the Royal Navy alone were up almost 40% in August 2019 compared to the same time the previous year. Holding events and promoting Hartlepool as a place to come and visit remains important to people in the town and many identified that the increasing range of activities, events and things to do were things that were going well and that they loved about Hartlepool.

We recognise that the nature of people's shopping habits are changing and that as a result we need to look at how we can secure the future of our town centre. We also

understand that people are concerned about empty shops and a poor retail offer in the town centre. We will work with local businesses and residents to develop a town centre investment plan and will take action to rejuvenate it funded in part from central government.

What success will look like:

- Increased jobs and growth in the local economy.
- Increased number of inward investment projects.
- Business growth.
- Strengthened reputation of Hartlepool as a place to invest particularly in the energy, advanced manufacturing and creative and cultural sectors.
- A skilled workforce.
- Reduction in the jobless figures.
- Increased visitor numbers in our tourist industry.
- Increased public sector expenditure in the local economy.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Promote Hartlepool as an excellent location for inward investment particularly in the energy, advanced manufacturing and creative and cultural sectors.
- Deliver a strategy for reshaping and developing our town centre as a safe and exciting place to shop, live, visit and work.
- Provide secure, effective support and investment to enable new and emerging businesses to be sustained and to thrive.
- Establish a fast track system for planning consents and other regulatory permissions.
- Increase the number of businesses who can benefit from high quality business and incubator space.
- Increase the availability of intermediate and higher level skills pathways in key sectors in partnership with local further and higher education providers.
- Deliver a partnership approach to increasing employment and skill development programmes which provide pathways for adults into employment.
- Market the culture and tourism offer within the town regionally and nationally which highlights our unique maritime history and assets.
- Deliver a first class events and festivals programme that attracts visitors from across the region and country.
- Deliver improvements to key cultural venues in the town including the Borough Hall, Town Hall Theatre, Headland Bandstand and Christchurch Art Gallery.
- Work with our partners to increase the level of public sector expenditure in the local economy.

2

Creating a clean, green, and safe Hartlepool by protecting our environment and improving our neighbourhoods.

Our residents have told us that they want Hartlepool to be a place that is clean, green and where they feel safe. Over 95% told us that having a clean and attractive environment remains a priority. Living by the sea and being surrounded by green open spaces are things that people love about Hartlepool and our communities recognise the need to protect our environment for future generations. Over the last three years we have focused on improving our parks and open spaces and supporting residents to reduce litter across the town. Our wildflower schemes are highly regarded and we have expanded this into new areas. We have invested £4m in neighbourhood and highway improvements. Schemes we have delivered include King Owsy shopping parade, improvements to local and strategic cycleways, improved play facilities provided at the Town Moor, Burn Valley Gardens and Ward Jackson Park and a new play facility at Coronation Drive.

The overall crime rate has increased in recent years to 131.7 per 1,000 population in 2018/19, which remains well above the national average and we understand why crime and anti-social behaviour remain concerns for people in the town. Through the last Council Plan we launched a new integrated Hartlepool Community Safety Team bringing together our community safety staff with those from the Police and Fire Brigade to coordinate efforts to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. This new Team has held a series of days of action across the town in response to information received from residents and businesses. These have resulted in the closure of properties used for drug dealing and the seizure of drugs and cash. Several hundred victims of crime and anti-social behaviour have also been supported by the Victim Care and Advice Services Officer in the Team. We understand that more needs to be done and we are committed to reviewing our approach and working in partnership with other agencies and our residents to ensure that our communities feel protected and safe.

We know that our residents continue to identify litter as a problem in the town. Through the Council Plan consultation exercise residents told us that we need to take more enforcement action and improve our recycling education and offer. However, people also told us that the sense of community and people pulling together to make the town better was something that was going well in Hartlepool and examples included beach cleans and the Big Town Tidy Up.

What success will look like:

- People have access to quality public space, green space and playspaces.
- Strong neighbourhood retail offer.

- Reduction in littering, fly tipping and dog fouling.
- Communities are protected and feel safe.
- Reduced landfill and increased levels of recycling.
- Reduced carbon footprint.

What will we do to make this happen:

- Strengthen our approach to enforcement action on litter, dog fouling and illegal car parking.
- Deliver a play sites investment programme.
- Invest in our neighbourhoods and strengthen the local retail offer.
- Deliver a joined up and targeted response to tackling anti-social behaviour and improving community safety.
- Take action to reduce the Council's carbon footprint and mitigate the impact of climate change locally.

3

Create an attractive and connected Hartlepool by attracting investment to improve key buildings, derelict land and our transport network.

In order to make Hartlepool an attractive place for new businesses to invest, for people to want to come and live here and to support the development of our town as a tourist destination we need to invest in the infrastructure of our town. We have worked hard to deliver regeneration schemes across the town and brought £10.5m of external funding into the town that would have gone elsewhere. The improvements at Seaton Carew and Church Street and our partnership work with the Northern School of Art were all given through recent consultation as examples of what was going well in Hartlepool. We have also secured £42m of external funding that will be delivered over the next 5 years on priorities identified within this Council Plan.

We know that people love the history and heritage of Hartlepool and the facilities that we have to bring people into the town including the National Museum of the Royal Navy and Christchurch Art Gallery. We will develop the key sites around these facilities to ensure that Hartlepool develops its reputation as a tourism destination.

We appreciate that people are concerned about the impact empty buildings have on their local neighbourhoods and we are committed to reducing the number of derelict buildings across the town and make the best use of all of the land we have available, particularly those sites that have been left abandoned for many years.

We understand that we need to improve our transport network to provide better strategic links for businesses and developers and to ensure that our residents are better connected to jobs and local services.

What success will look like:

- Reduction in derelict buildings and land.
- Improved connectivity across the town.
- Residents better connected to jobs, local services and neighbourhoods.
- Better strategic links for businesses and developers.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Develop the Waterfront and National Museum and Royal Navy site as a visitor attraction of national significance.
- Complete the renovation of Church Street and Church Square including improvements to shop fronts, Shades and the Christchurch Art Gallery.
- Deliver a new TV and film production studio in partnership with the Northern School of Art.

- Invest in our transport and the local road network including the Elwick bypass.
- Renovate Stranton Chapel and deliver improvements to Stranton Cemetery.
- Take effective enforcement action in relation to derelict buildings and land.
- Work with the Combined Authority to improve public sector transport and footpaths and cycleways.

4

Developing a healthy Hartlepool by working with our communities to improve the health and wellbeing of our people.

Improving the health and wellbeing of residents in the town is a key priority for the Council, our partners and indeed residents themselves. In our recent consultation people identified the need to improve the overall health of the population through preventative work and that they were concerned about drug issues across the town.

Over the next three years we will focus on reducing levels of smoking, halting the year on year increase in obesity, reducing the levels of substance misuse, reducing frailty and reducing violence and the impact that this has on our community. National statistics show that 18.6% of people in Hartlepool currently smoke, more than 4% above the national average. We also know that over 10% in Reception year in Hartlepool were recorded as obese in 2018/19 which is just above the national average. However the level of children recorded as obese in Year 6 increased to 26.86% which is significantly higher than the national average and the highest in the North East. Both of these have implications for the future health and wellbeing of our residents.

Through the last Council Plan we launched three Community Hubs which brought together a range of services for local people under one roof. People have told us that Community Hubs are one of the things that they feel are going well in Hartlepool. Over the next three years Community Hubs will have a key role to play in providing people with access to advice about health improvement so that they are able to make better, more informed choices that will help them to live longer, healthier lives.

Our sports and leisure facilities are another way in which we can support people to live healthier lives. We understand that developing recreational and leisure activities and facilities remains a priority for people. However, we recognise that some of our facilities are in need of updating and are committed through this plan to develop 21st century sport and leisure facilities that meet the needs of local people.

What success will look like:

- 21st century sport and leisure facilities that meet the needs of local people.
- People of Hartlepool are enabled to make better choices that promote their physical and mental health.
- Reduced levels of smoking, particularly in pregnancy.
- The level of increase in obesity will be arrested.
- Reduction in levels of substance misuse and drug and alcohol related hospital admissions and deaths.
- Reduced levels of violence including Domestic Violence.

- Reduced frailty in the population.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Build modern 21st century sport and leisure facilities.
- Increase the Community Hub offer to ensure that people can access information, advice and support and be signposted to services that benefit their wellbeing.
- Deliver programmes that support people with long term conditions including Cardio Vascular disease, cancer, muscular skeletal conditions, neurophysiological conditions and diabetes to improve their wellbeing and be more physically active.
- Provide a new clinically integrated drugs and alcohol service with a greater emphasis on prevention and developing strong links with primary and secondary care.
- Deliver a multi-agency programme of targeted initiatives to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in our most deprived neighbourhoods and wards with highest levels of need.
- Deliver a multiagency approach to obesity across Hartlepool linking council, health and third sector partners.
- Develop a standardised approach to provide stop smoking services using a community based approach with partners across Hartlepool.
- Work with General Practice to increase the uptake of screening and health checks to reduce late presentation.
- Implement a public health approach to reducing violent crime.

5

Building better beginnings and better futures for our children and young people.

As a Council we remain committed to ensuring that our children and young people have the best start in life. We understand that the people of the town feel that our education provision is one of the things that is going well in Hartlepool and also that access to the best education and learning opportunities remains a priority for them. Most of our schools are rated as good or outstanding by Ofsted and our primary schools achieved excellent KS2 results which were above the national average. We recognise that there is work to be done to improve outcomes for our children at secondary school and beyond to Higher Education and advanced apprenticeship pathways and this will be a key focus for the next three years.

Over the last few years we have faced increasing demands for services from families that are struggling to provide their children with a healthy and safe childhood. The number of children that are looked after by the Council has increased significantly and this is due, in part, to issues of domestic violence and substance misuse within families. Since 2009 the rate of looked after children in Hartlepool has increased by 103% compared to a national average increase of just 20% and we have the 4th highest increase in the North East. Child and family poverty in Hartlepool is high with 34.1% of children living in poverty in 2017/18 and we have also seen the impact of being an early adopter area for Universal Credit on families in the town. We are proud that our children's services have been consistently good and that we have been rated outstanding by Ofsted for our work with children in care and care leavers. We were also named the Local Government Chronicle's Children's Services of the Year in 2019. However, we will work to build resilience and support in families and communities for our vulnerable children and to develop the understanding of all frontline professionals so that they can provide the best response to those who have suffered Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE).

The emotional and mental health and wellbeing of Hartlepool children is also a key priority for the town. We will build upon what we have initiated in the last three years and look to work more closely with partners to take this important area of work forward.

What success will look like:

- Fewer children will experience harm through abuse, neglect and adverse childhood experiences.
- All children benefit from good development and learning in their critical first three years.
- Children's attainment at key stages 1 – 5 is at or above national average.

- More Hartlepool young people are entering Higher Education and advanced apprenticeship pathways.
- Children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and their families have their needs met in a timely way that improves outcomes.
- All schools and education providers are judged good or outstanding.
- Barriers to learning are removed for the most vulnerable children and young people.
- Children and young people have good mental and emotional health and wellbeing.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Establish a Community Support Team to develop a new model of practice aimed at reducing the need for children to become looked after.
- Provide early support to families and communities to build resilience to support vulnerable children at an early stage.
- Provide workforce development to all front line professionals so that they have a good understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and can respond appropriately.
- Implement a Borough wide approach to improving early language skills in the first 1001 days.
- Establish an Education Improvement Board to encourage schools to collaborate and improve education outcomes for children and young people in primary, secondary and tertiary education.
- Deliver initiatives in partnership with schools to ensure 14 and 19 year olds achieve the best education outcomes possible and can progress to higher skills pathways and Higher Education.
- Provide effective challenge and support to schools to ensure they achieve good inspection outcomes.
- Develop and deliver a new model to support school transitions to improve pupil readiness for learning.
- Deliver an improvement plan for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and their families to ensure they have their needs met in a timely way that improves outcomes.
- Improve education provision for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs.
- Work with partners to develop and implement a strategy and whole system approach to improving the emotional and mental health and well being of Hartlepool children.
- Improve the alternative education and cultural offer at CECA and remove barriers that prevent schools from accessing this resource.

- Work with health visitors and school nurses to support children identified as obese or overweight and to promote breast feeding.
- Deliver 'Fill the Holiday Gap' schemes to promote health eating and cooking skills.

6**Improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers.**

Improving health and social care services in the town have been a key focus for the Council in the last 3 years. Working with partners we have developed an award-winning Integrated Hospital Discharge Team which has focussed on ensuring people experience a safe and timely discharge following a hospital stay. The work of this Team has reduced delayed transfers of care from an average of 452 days per month in 2016/17 to 114 days per months over the first 4 months of 2019/20. We have also worked with local care home providers to encourage the development of new care facilities and to improve availability of places which has brought about a 23.5% reduction in the number of older people in care home placements outside of the town since 2016. The quality of the provision in Hartlepool has also improved and the number of adult social care providers rated as good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) reached 87.9% at the end of 2018/19 from just 56.3% at the end of 2016/17.

Over 97% of people in the recent Council Plan consultation identified that having excellent local health and care services and support remains an important priority for them. We recognise that whilst services have improved we have a growing elderly population and that there are concerns from our residents about the health offer in Hartlepool particularly in relation to hospital and mental health services.

What success will look like:

- People are involved in their local community rather than being socially isolated.
- Adults with care needs are supported to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible.
- Services are accessible and responsive, and people only have to tell their story once.
- The role and contribution of carers is recognised and valued.
- Services that are commissioned to support adults with care needs are rated good or better by the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

What we will do to make this happen:

- Provide advice, guidance and support to people to link them into their communities and reduce social isolation.
- Strengthen support for carers and ensure a range of options are available to help them continue in their caring role, including information, advice and peer support.

- Work with strategic partners, carers and people who receive care and support to reduce the stigma associated with the term 'mental health' and increase understanding of what is good mental health.
- Support adult care providers to continually improve which ensures that vulnerable adults are getting the best possible care.
- Develop services at the Centre for Independent Living (CIL) to incorporate a Community Hub offer, as well as supporting adults with disabilities to live more independent lives.
- Deliver integrated services with health partners that reduce preventable admissions to hospital and care homes and support people to return home and regain independence following a hospital stay.

| | |
|----------|--|
| 7 | Building and improving homes that people want to live in. |
|----------|--|

In 2016 people told us that housing was a key priority for the future of our town. They identified the need to build starter homes and affordable homes. They felt that we needed to work to improve and promote the range of housing to attract people to live here and that we also needed to reduce the number of empty homes. We have worked to deliver on this priority and Hartlepool has had the fastest housing growth in the Tees Valley over the period 2014/15 to 2019/20, up 11.46% compared to an average of 9.62%. This growth is providing additional recurring Council Tax income of £4.24m in 2019/20. We now have 293 Council houses available for social rent and we have delivered new social housing units including over 90 empty homes brought back into use.

We have worked in partnership with Thirteen Group to deliver new social housing in the Raby Estate and with Placefirst to deliver the Carr and Hopps Street regeneration scheme, “The Green”, which won three awards at the Sunday Times British Home Awards for Development of the Year (under £10m), Development Transformation of the Year and the Judges’ Award for Excellence.

Improving housing provision particularly focusing on private landlords, homelessness support and more social / affordable housing were identified as areas that needed to improve in recent consultation. We also recognise that increasing the number of Council houses and the development of student accommodation in the town centre are important priorities for the future.

What success will look like:

- More high value homes to support economic growth.
- More Council houses.
- More purpose built homes for vulnerable adults.
- Better accommodation to meet the needs of the growing student population in the town.
- More affordable homes.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Working with private sector housebuilders and registered providers to grow the housing stock in Hartlepool.
- Work in partnership with private sector housebuilders and registered providers to increase the number of affordable homes.
- Increase the number of Council houses in Hartlepool by designing, building and acquiring our own houses.

- Adopt a multi-agency approach in the Oxford Road area to tackle issues of crime, anti-social behaviour, street cleansing, building maintenance and vacant properties.
- Take effective action to tackle poor housing standards and anti-social behaviour in private sector housing.

8

Shaping a well-led, safe, high performing and efficient council that is fit for the 21st Century.

In order to deliver on our ambitious plans for Hartlepool we need to be a well-led, safe, high performing and efficient council that is fit for the 21st Century. The funding that we receive from Central Government has reduced year on year since 2010/11 and the burden of paying for local services is being pushed to Council Tax raised locally. In 2019/20 we received approximately £20m less from Central Government than in 2013/14, a reduction of about 45%. We have managed this reduction by making efficiencies whilst trying to limit the impact on our frontline services. Services have been redesigned and we have worked in partnership with other council's and partners from the public and voluntary and community sectors to make our activities more efficient. Over the last 3 years we have focussed on developing online access to our services, a priority from the 2016 Your Say, Our Future consultation. This has made many of our services accessible at times more convenient for our residents.

We recognise that there is more that we can do to protect our services from future reductions. Through this Council Plan we will review our estate and look to reduce the number of Council offices we have across the town and also to ensure that those that we keep allow access to services in an integrated and accessible way whilst being more energy efficient. Being more energy efficient will also lead to a reduction in the Council's carbon footprint.

We will look to increase the Council's traded services and increase our income streams. We have delivered award winning schemes for other councils as well as within Hartlepool and we will build upon that success.

Our employees across the Council play a vital role in ensuring that services are delivered. It is the hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of our employees that has enabled us to continue to deliver excellent services during a period of austerity and uncertainty. Demand for our services is increasing at the same time as our budget is reducing and our employees face challenges every day to make this work so that our residents receive the support that they need. We will work over the next 3 years to ensure that our employees have the skills, resilience and motivation to achieve high standards of public service in a safe working environment.

Through recent consultation people told us that the #LoveHartlepool campaign was something that they felt was going well but that we needed to celebrate what we do more. We recognise that there is still work to be done to promote the positive things that are happening in Hartlepool and to tell our story regionally and nationally. We are committed to providing effective communication to our residents and to work with

partners to promote Hartlepool as a vibrant, welcoming and inspiring place to live, work, invest and grow up in.

What success will look like:

- Reduced number of Council offices.
- Improved energy efficiency in Council office accommodation and reduce the Council's carbon footprint.
- Expansion of Council traded services and increase income streams.
- Increased voter engagement in the democratic process.
- Better awareness and participation of citizens in community life.
- A healthy and motivated workforce who are given the opportunity to grow the skills they need to achieve their best.
- Improved public satisfaction with the range of Council services that can be managed online.
- Improved positive coverage of the town on a local, national and international basis.

What we will do to make this happen:

- Undertake a strategic review of the Council's property and accommodation to ensure that services can be delivered in an integrated and accessible way.
- Undertake a strategic review of all fees and charges across the Council to ensure that they are fair, affordable and maximise income for the Council.
- Undertake an energy efficiency audit of all Council buildings and introduce improvement measures.
- Deliver development opportunities to ensure that our staff have the skills, resilience and motivation to achieve high standards of public service in a safe working environment.
- Provide effective communication to our residents and work with partners to promote Hartlepool regionally and nationally as a vibrant, welcoming and inspiring place to live, work, invest and grow up in.

How will we know if we are succeeding?

In order to understand whether we are on track to achieve our strategic priorities we have identified what success will look like and what we will do to make it happen (our key deliverables). We will monitor progress on these key deliverables throughout the lifetime of the plan and we will report to elected members through Finance and Policy Committee every six months. We will also produce annual reports for our residents that will set out what we have achieved during each year of the plan.

POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 APPENDIX 2

| 1. Is this decision a Budget & Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES If YES please answer question 2 below | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
| 2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES If YES please complete the matrix below | | | | |
| GROUP | POSITIVE IMPACT | NEGATIVE IMPACT | NO IMPACT | REASON & EVIDENCE |
| Young working people aged 18 - 21 | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations and this will include young people aged 18-21. |
| Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers – many of which will have a disability. |
| Those with low educational attainment | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on building better beginnings and better futures for our children and young people and increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations and this will include those with low educational attainment. |
| Those who are unemployed | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations and this will include those who are unemployed. |
| Those who are underemployed | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations and this will include those who are underemployed. |
| Children born into families in poverty | X | | | The Council Plan will focus on building better beginnings and better futures for our children and young people and increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations both of which should have a positive impact on children born into families in poverty. |
| Those who find difficulty in managing their finances | | | X | There will be no direct impact on this group. |
| Lone parents | | | X | There will be no direct impact on this group. |
| Those from minority ethnic backgrounds | | | X | There will be no direct impact on this group. |
| | | | | |

POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1
APPENDIX 2

| Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way? | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf) | POSITIVE IMPACT | NEGATIVE IMPACT | NO IMPACT | REASON & EVIDENCE |
| Children in Low Income Families (%) | X | | | The strategic priorities in the Council Plan aim to have a positive impact on all of the listed measures of poverty through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• building better beginnings and better futures for our children and young people;• increasing jobs and improving skills and aspirations;• developing a healthy Hartlepool;• improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers; and• building and improving homes that people want to live in. |
| Children in Working Households (%) | X | | | |
| Overall employment rate (%) | X | | | |
| Proportion of young people who are NEET | X | | | |
| Adults with Learning difficulties in employment | X | | | |
| Free School meals attainment gap (key stage 2 and key stage 4) | X | | | |
| Gap in progression to higher education FSM / Non FSM | X | | | |
| Achievement gap between disadvantaged pupils and all pupils (key stage 2 and key stage 4) | X | | | |
| Number of affordable homes built | X | | | |
| Prevalence of obese children in reception year | X | | | |
| Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6 | X | | | |
| Overall impact of Policy / Decision | | | | |
| POSITIVE IMPACT | | X | ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE | |
| NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE | | | STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE | |
| ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE | | | | |

| Department | Division | Section | Owner/Officer |
|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| All – CED Lead | CS | CS&P Team | Claire McLaren / Catherine Grimwood |
| Service, policy, practice being reviewed/changed or planned | Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 | | |
| Why are you making the change? | A new 3-year Council Plan being prepared as the previous plan is coming to an end. | | |
| How might this impact (positively/negatively) on people who share protected characteristics? | | | |
| <i>Please tick</i> | | POSITIVELY | NEGATIVELY |
| Age | | X | |
| The Council Plan will focus on improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers – many of which are over 60 years old. | | | |
| The Plan will also focus on building better beginning and better futures for children and young people under 19 years old. | | | |
| Disability | | X | |
| The Council Plan will focus on improving outcomes for adults with health and social care needs and their carers – many of which will have a disability. | | | |
| Gender Re-assignment | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Race | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Religion | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Gender | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Sexual Orientation | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Marriage & Civil Partnership | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Pregnancy & Maternity | | | |
| No differential impact. | | | |
| Has there been consultation /is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this policy? How has this affected your decision making? | | Initial consultation on the priorities for the Council Plan took place between 13 th September and 11 th October (4 weeks). The findings from that exercise have informed the draft Council Plan. Consultation on the draft Council Plan will take place for 5 weeks in January / February 2020 and the feedback from that will be used to inform the final Council Plan which will be presented to Finance and Policy Committee and Council in March 2020 for approval. | |
| As a result of your decision how can you mitigate negative/maximise positive outcomes and foster good relationships? | | It is not anticipated that the proposals included in the Council Plan will have any negative outcomes. By providing a range of opportunities to feed into the development of the Council Plan it is anticipated that it will maximise positive outcomes and foster good relations. | |

| | | | |
|--|----------|--|----------|
| Describe how you will address and monitor the impact | | 1. No Impact - No Major Change The draft Plan will be subject to further consultation but it is not anticipated that any negative impact will be identified. | |
| Initial Assessment | 13/12/19 | Reviewed | 00/00/00 |
| Completed | 00/00/00 | Published | 00/00/00 |

Finance and Policy Committee

13th January 2020



Report of: Director of Finance and Policy

Subject: COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020/21

1. TYPE OF DECISION / APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key Decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The report seeks member approval as required by statutory regulations to a calculated Council Tax Base for 2020/21 which will be used for Council Tax billing purposes.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council is required by law to calculate its Council Tax Base for the forthcoming year, and inform the major precepting authorities Cleveland Police Authority and Cleveland Fire Authority and local precepting authorities (Parish Councils), before 31st January 2020. The Council Tax Base is expressed as the number of Band D equivalent properties.

3.2 The amount of Council Tax levied on each Band D property located in the Borough of Hartlepool is calculated by dividing the total amount of the precepts determined by this Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and Cleveland Fire Authority on the Collection Fund in 2020/21, by the Council Tax Base. The amount of Council Tax payable for other bands is determined by applying a fixed proportion of the Band D amount. A separate report on the calculation of the amount of Council Tax payable for each band for 2020/21 will be submitted to Council as part of the budget process.

3.3. To calculate the Council Tax Base it is necessary to:

- (a) Calculate "the relevant amount" for the year for each valuation band in the valuation list. For each band this represents the full year equivalent of each chargeable dwelling in that band, taking into account entitlement to, exemptions, disability reductions and discounts.

- (b) The relevant amount for each band are expressed in terms of Band D equivalents.
 - (c) Calculate the Empty Homes Premium impact across all valuation bands in equivalent Band D's.
 - (d) The relevant amounts for each band (b) are then added together with (c) and the total is multiplied by the Council's estimated collection rate for the year.
- 3.4. As part of the Government's welfare reforms, Councils are required to determine and operate their own local schemes for providing support with Council Tax. Under these arrangements, there is a requirement to adjust the Council Tax Base to reflect the impact of the Local Council Tax Support scheme. Finance and Policy Committee on 9th December 2019 approved the continuation of a 12% scheme for 2020/21, the same as for the last 6 years. This proposal continues to provide more support for low income households than the schemes operated by the other Tees Valley Authorities. This decision was approved by Council on 19th December 2019. The LCTS adjustment is expressed in terms of an equivalent number of Band D's within each Appendix.
- 3.5. In setting the Tax Base the Council is required to consider the effectiveness of its arrangements for collecting Council Tax and factor in an adjustment to avoid a deficit on the statutory Collection Fund. This is reflected in the detailed calculation of the Council Tax base set out in the Appendices to this report and reflects in-year collection rates for full Council Tax Payers and households in receipt of Local Council Tax Support.
- 3.6. Whilst the short term collection rate adjustment reduces the Council Tax base, the Council continues to achieve a long term collection level of 99.1% after 5 years.
- 3.7. The technical proposal within this report confirms the forecast Council Tax growth built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2020/21.

4 RATING (PROPERTY IN COMMON OCCUPATION) AND COUNCIL TAX (EMPTY DWELLINGS) ACT 2018

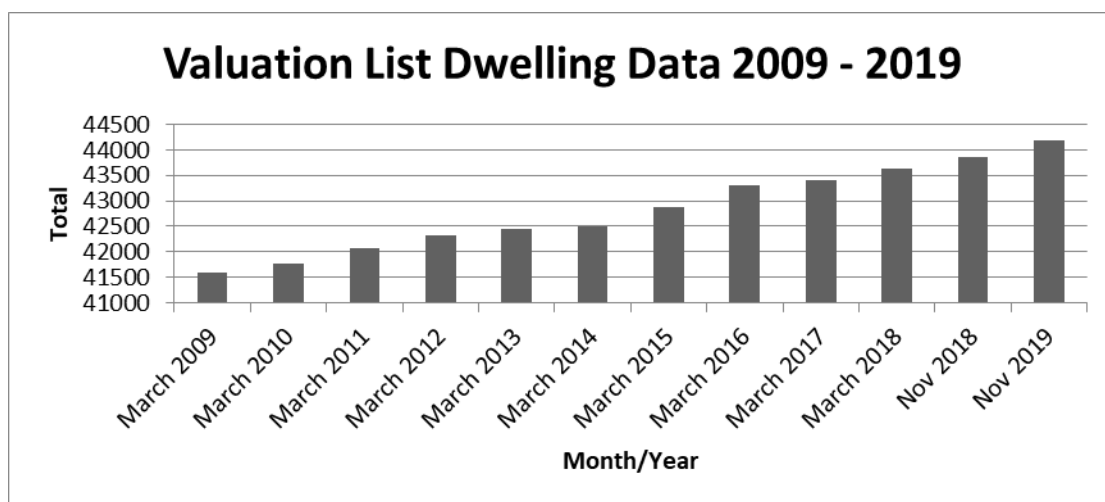
- 4.1. The Local Government Finance Act 2012 introduced a range of technical reforms to Council Tax including allowing councils to levy a Council Tax premium of an additional 50% on properties that had been empty and unfurnished for more than 2 years. Hartlepool BC has applied this 50% long term empty property premium since 1st April 2013.
- 4.2. The Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018 received royal assent on 1st November 2018. This Act allows Councils to increase the Council Tax long term empty home premium to 100% from 1st April 2019 for properties that have been

empty more than 2 years. Furthermore, the legislation provides that from April 2020 the premium can be increased to 200% for any properties empty between 5 and 10 years and from April 2021 a 300% premium can be charged on any properties empty for more than 10 years.

- 4.3. As part of the development of the Council's 2020/21 budget proposals, members have agreed that from 1st April 2020, Hartlepool will charge the 100% premium on properties that have been empty for more than 2 years. This policy will make Hartlepool consistent with other Councils both regionally and nationally and this technical adjustment has been reflected in the Tax Base figures in the appendices to this report.

5 PROPOSALS

- 5.1. The Medium Term Financial Strategy assumes increases in the Council Tax Yield in 2020/21 from a Council Tax increase and also from increases in the Tax Base principally from housing growth in the Borough.
- 5.2. Numbers of dwellings within the Borough (as notified to the Council by the Valuation Office Agency VOA) has continued to incrementally grow year on year as shown in the graph below. However as new properties will be completed throughout a financial year those properties will not incur a full year's council tax liability in their year of completion / occupation. This phasing has been factored into the Tax Base Growth forecasts.



- 5.3. Given the importance of additional Council Tax yield to supporting the budget, the numbers of properties and their associated bandings brought onto the valuation list by the VOA are closely monitored.

6 RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Tax Base forecast is predicated on sustained housing growth within the Borough over the

coming years. The delivery of this forecast growth is dependent on a range of factors including:

- the ability to borrow finance to buy a new home;
- the economic impact of Brexit;
- the general overall health of the housing market;
- interest rate forecasts;
- the desire of house builders to build new dwellings as opposed to just “sitting” on land banks and “drip feeding” new dwellings to keep house prices at a balanced level;
- the availability of skilled trades to complete properties within reasonable timescales.

- 6.2 Progress in achieving housing growth will be monitored closely over the MTFS period. At this stage it is anticipated that whilst the forecast housing growth targets for 2020/21 and the following two years are challenging they should be achievable.

7 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1. The Council must budget to avoid a deficit on its statutory Collection Fund. In determining the 2020/21 Council Tax Base a number of underlying assumptions have been made. As part of the Council's Financial Governance Framework, throughout 2020/21 programmed monitoring reviews of Collection Fund Council Tax yield will be undertaken.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1. To comply with statutory responsibilities as set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 the Council must determine the Council Tax Base for the forthcoming financial year by 31st January. This report ensures this responsibility is discharged.

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1. There is no requirement to consult on these proposals.

10. CHILD / FAMILY POVERTY (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE)

10.1. There are no child / family poverty considerations.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE)

11.1. There are no equality and diversity considerations.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

12.1. There are no staff considerations.

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

13.1. There are no asset management considerations.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 It is recommended that Members:

- a) Approve a Hartlepool BC Council Tax Base for 2020/21 of 24,882 as detailed in Appendix 1.
- b) Approve a Council Tax Base for 2020/21 for Parishes who may levy a precept upon the Council's Collection Fund as detailed in Appendices 2 to 9:

| | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------|-------|
| Dalton Piercy | 100.0 | Elwick | 703.8 |
| Greatham | 586.8 | Hart | 318.7 |
| Newton Bewley | 33.5 | Headland | 726.5 |
| Brierton | 13.1 | Claxton | 15.7 |

15. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 To enable the Council to discharge its statutory responsibilities.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 There are no background papers.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

John Morton
Assistant Director (Finance and Customer Services)
01429 523093
John.morton@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"/> |

6.1 Appendix 1

| line | | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|--|--|--|--------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|-----------|
| 1 | No. | of properties in band | | 24,002 | 7,496 | 6,303 | 3,328 | 1,743 | 739 | 499 | 77 | 44,187 |
| 2 | | Exempt dwellings | | 459 | 152 | 75 | 28 | 14 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 739 |
| 3 | | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2 - line 3) | | | 23,543 | 7,344 | 6,228 | 3,300 | 1,729 | 732 | 495 | 77 | 43,123 |
| 5 | | Disabled reductions | | 135 | 91 | 72 | 57 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 12 | 425 |
| 6 | | Effectively chargeable | 135 | 91 | 72 | 57 | 28 | 15 | 15 | 12 | 0 | 425 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | | 135 | 23,499 | 7,325 | 6,213 | 3,271 | 1,716 | 732 | 492 | 65 | 43,123 |
| 8 | | 25% discounts | 47 | 11,186 | 2,843 | 1,727 | 722 | 307 | 96 | 37 | 2 | 16,967 |
| 9 | | 50% discounts | 8 | 44 | 11 | 22 | 15 | 6 | 8 | 13 | 2 | 129 |
| 10 | | Empty Properties undergoing Repair (50% disc) | 0 | 99 | 14 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 145 |
| 11 | | Properties 100% discount 1 month empty unfurnished | 0 | 384 | 24 | 24 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 468 |
| 12 | | No discounts | 80 | 11,786 | 4,433 | 4,425 | 2,486 | 1,401 | 626 | 441 | 61 | 25,414 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | | 119.25 | 20,599.00 | 6,599.75 | 5,760.75 | 3,074.00 | 1,635.25 | 703.00 | 475.75 | 63.50 | 39,030.25 |
| 14 | | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | | 66.25 | 13,732.67 | 5,133.14 | 5,120.67 | 3,074.00 | 1,998.64 | 1,015.44 | 792.92 | 127.00 | 31,060.72 |
| <div>Adjustment for Empty Homes Premium @100%</div> <div>Estimated collection rate (%)</div> <div>Council Tax Base</div> | | | | | | | | | | | | 178.54 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 98.5 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 30,770.7 |
| <div>LCTS Adjustment</div> <div>Tax Base Growth Dec19 - Mar 21 (New Build + LCTS claimant changes)</div> <div>Tax Base 20/21</div> | | | | | | | | | | | | -6,348.7 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 460.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 24,882 |

6.1 Appendix 2

12% LCTS Cut

[illegible]

ELWICK
CALCULATION OF TAX BASE 2020/21
12% LCTS Cut

6.1 Appendix 3

| line | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|------|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | No. of properties in band | | 27 | 32 | 66 | 119 | 79 | 101 | 126 | 58 | 608 |
| 2 | Exempt dwellings | | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 3 | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2- line 3) | | 24 | 32 | 65 | 117 | 78 | 100 | 126 | 58 | 600 |
| 5 | Disabled reductions | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| 6 | Effectively chargeable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | 0 | 24 | 32 | 66 | 116 | 80 | 99 | 125 | 58 | 600 |
| 8 | 25% discounts | 0 | 14 | 10 | 22 | 44 | 21 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 134 |
| 9 | 50% discounts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 10 | Empty Properties undergoing repair 50% disc | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 11 | Former Class C 100% Disc 1 month | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 15 |
| 12 | No discounts | 0 | 9 | 22 | 42 | 69 | 57 | 77 | 119 | 54 | 449 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | 0.00 | 20.42 | 29.50 | 60.33 | 104.75 | 74.17 | 94.00 | 124.17 | 56.92 | 564.25 |
| 14 | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | 0.00 | 13.61 | 22.94 | 53.63 | 104.75 | 90.65 | 135.78 | 206.94 | 113.83 | 742.14 |
| | | | | | Empty Homes Premium | | | | | | 4.22 |
| | | | | | Estimated collection rate (%) | | | | | | 98.5 |
| | | | | | Council Tax Base | | | | | | 735.2 |
| | | | | | LCTS Adjustment | | | | | | -31.4 |
| | | | | | Adjusted Tax Base | | | | | | 703.8 |

6.1 Appendix 4

| line | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|------|--|------|--------|--------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| 1 | No. of properties in band | | 182 | 420 | 182 | 81 | 37 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 922 |
| 2 | Exempt dwellings | | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| 3 | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2- line 3) | | 176 | 413 | 182 | 81 | 37 | 14 | 5 | 1 | 909 |
| 5 | Disabled reductions | | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 19 |
| 6 | Effectively chargeable | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 19 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | 5 | 176 | 413 | 179 | 80 | 36 | 14 | 6 | 0 | 909 |
| 8 | 25% discounts | 3 | 106 | 167 | 47 | 17 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 347 |
| 9 | 50% discounts | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 10 | Empty Properties undergoing repair 50% disc | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | Former Class C 100% Disc 1 month | 0 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 12 | No discounts | 2 | 68 | 241 | 131 | 63 | 30 | 13 | 5 | 0 | 553 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | 4.25 | 149.33 | 370.42 | 166.75 | 75.75 | 34.50 | 13.75 | 5.50 | 0.00 | 820.25 |
| 14 | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | 2.36 | 99.56 | 288.10 | 148.22 | 75.75 | 42.17 | 19.86 | 9.17 | 0.00 | 685.19 |
| | | | | | Empty Homes Premium | | | | | | 2.32 |
| | | | | | Estimated collection rate (%) | | | | | | 98.5 |
| | | | | | Council Tax Base | | | | | | 677.2 |
| | | | | | LCTS Adjustment | | | | | | -90.4 |
| | | | | | Adjusted Tax Base | | | | | | 586.8 |

[illegible]

6.1 Appendix 6

[illegible]

6.1 Appendix 7

| line | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|------|--|-------------|----------------|---------------|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1 | No. of properties in band | | 1323 | 290 | 76 | 23 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1723 |
| 2 | Exempt dwellings | | 38 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 43 |
| 3 | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2- line 3) | | 1285 | 288 | 74 | 22 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1680 |
| 5 | Disabled reductions | | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 6 | Effectively chargeable | 7 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | 7 | 1282 | 287 | 72 | 21 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1680 |
| 8 | 25% discounts | 2 | 630 | 91 | 16 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 744 |
| 9 | 50% discounts | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 10 | Empty Properties undergoing repair 50% disc | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 11 | Former Class C 100% Disc 1 month | 0 | 27 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 39 |
| 12 | No discounts | 3 | 619 | 189 | 52 | 17 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 889 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | 5.50 | 1119.25 | 263.67 | 67.67 | 20.17 | 6.50 | 3.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1486.75 |
| 14 | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | 3.06 | 746.17 | 205.07 | 60.15 | 20.17 | 7.94 | 4.33 | 1.67 | 0.00 | 1048.56 |
| | | | | | Empty Homes Premium Estimated collection rate (%) | | | | | | 5.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 98.5 |
| | | | | | Council Tax Base | | | | | | 1037.8 |
| | | | | | LCTS Adjustment | | | | | | -311.3 |
| | | | | | Adjusted Tax Base | | | | | | 726.5 |

6.1 Appendix 8

| line | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | No. of properties in band | | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 2 | Exempt dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2- line 3) | | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 5 | Disabled reductions | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Effectively chargeable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| 8 | 25% discounts | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 9 | 50% discounts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Empty Properties undergoing repair 50% disc | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | Former Class C 100% Disc 1 month | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 12 | No discounts | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4.50 | 4.75 | 1.92 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 14.17 |
| 14 | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3.50 | 4.22 | 1.92 | 3.67 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 13.31 |
| Empty Homes Premium | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Estimated collection rate (%) | | | | | | | | | | | 98.5 |
| Council Tax Base | | | | | | | | | | | 13.1 |
| LCTS Adjustment | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Adjusted Tax Base | | | | | | | | | | | 13.1 |

6.1 Appendix 9

| line | VALUATION BAND | @ | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1 | No. of properties in band | | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 15 |
| 2 | Exempt dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Demolished dwellings | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 1 - line 2- line 3) | | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 15 |
| 5 | Disabled reductions | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Effectively chargeable | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | ADJ CHARGEABLE DWELLINGS (line 4 - line 5 + line 6) | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 15 |
| 8 | 25% discounts | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| 9 | 50% discounts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Empty Properties undergoing repair 50% disc | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | Former Class C 100% Disc 1 month | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 | No discounts | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| 13 | TOTAL EQUIVALENT DWELLINGS | 0.00 | 1.50 | 0.00 | 0.75 | 5.25 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 13.50 |
| 14 | Ratio to Band D | 5/9 | 6/9 | 7/9 | 8/9 | 9/9 | 11/9 | 13/9 | 15/9 | 18/9 | |
| 15 | BAND D EQUIVALENTS | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.67 | 5.25 | 2.44 | 2.89 | 1.67 | 2.00 | 15.92 |
| Empty Homes Premium | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Estimated collection rate (%) | | | | | | | | | | | 98.5 |
| Council Tax Base | | | | | | | | | | | 15.7 |
| LCTS Adjustment | | | | | | | | | | | 0 |
| Adjusted Tax Base | | | | | | | | | | | 15.7 |

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13 January 2020



Report of: Director, Children and Joint Commissioning Services

Subject: CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY RESERVE
PROPOSAL

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Non-key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To outline to Finance and Policy Committee a proposal for consideration to tackle child and family poverty in Hartlepool.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Child and Family Poverty reserve was created to fund initiatives that addressed and mitigated the impact of poverty on children, young people and their families in Hartlepool. Over the last few years, the fund has supported the delivery of measures to tackle food poverty by delivering a 'Filling the Gap' scheme during school holiday periods and making donations to the Hartlepool Food at times of greatest need. It has also funded the specialist Financial Advice and Guidance Service, however this is now funded from base budget.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The proposal is to deliver an initiative which promotes the best start in life for babies by offering equipment and a training programme to parents.
- 4.2 Pregnancy and early childhood are the times when the foundations for future life are laid down. A baby's brain develops in response to his or her early relationships, care and experiences. There is some evidence that antenatal education improves outcomes and mothers' experiences of birth and parenthood. The 0-19 Health Child Programme deliver a universal group

Pregnancy Birth and Beyond in partnership with midwives, covering the areas detailed below:

- Secure attachment;
 - Breastfeeding; and
 - Maternal mental health.
- 4.3 The team has trialled a vulnerable parents group for parents who may benefit from learning in a smaller group or who have additional stresses such as mental health/ substances misuse that they may want to explore in a private setting. However the pilot groups, although targeted, have not been well attended.
- 4.4 The proposal is to pilot a group for vulnerable parents who are incentivised to attend by receiving appropriate items/equipment that will keep their baby safe and help promote the best start for both parent/s and baby. Identified parents invited to attend the group would receive a targeted Pregnancy Birth and Beyond antenatal intervention which would strengthen both their parenting and relationship with their babies as well as receiving baby equipment to prepare for their new baby's arrival. The suggested items of equipment to be provided are things that would help babies feel safe and secure such as Moses baskets, safe bedding, accident prevention and first aid equipment such as fire guards and thermometers.
- 4.5 Ensuring that babies and toddlers stay safe in and around the home will help to reduce the above average number of unintentional injuries in Hartlepool families. Five causes account for 90% of unintentional injury hospital admissions for this age group and are a significant cause of preventable death and serious long-term harm, these are choking, suffocation and strangulation, falls, poisoning, burns and scalds and drowning; therefore taking action in these areas would make a significant difference. Families receiving safety equipment would also receive training in first aid, managing childhood illnesses and child safety advice. This would hopefully reduce the level of unintentional injury in Hartlepool and build confidence in parents in responding to child illness and injury.
- 4.6 In addition parents will receive the baby packs from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. Earlier in the year, the team were successful in securing 250 RoSPA packs for distribution to vulnerable families. Officers are also approaching supermarkets to seek their support and engagement in this initiative in return for the provision and promotion of their own brand of baby supplies.
- 4.7 From analysis of previous work in this area this identified there were an average of 11 referrals per month for parents who would benefit from a targeted intervention as outlined above. Officers estimate that the cost of the equipment would be around £150 per participant therefore it is estimated that this scheme would cost around £1,500 – £2,000 per month. If one course was ran every month, this would equate to a maximum spend of £24,000.

- 4.8 The impact and effectiveness of the initiative will be evaluated a report of the findings from this evaluation will be presented to a future meeting of Finance and Policy Committee.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The risks associated with this initiative are low as equipment would not be purchased until officers have secured the engagement of a group of parents to run the programme. Participating in the programme promotes the best start in life and better outcomes for vulnerable children.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 The projected costs for the delivery of this initiative for a 12 month period is £24,000. The table below shows the current position of the reserve. Were this initiative to be approved and taking into considerations all of the agreed commitments against this budget, this would leave a balance of £47,500 within the reserve.
- 6.2 This is 'one-off' funding, however, Finance and Policy Committee approved a recurring net £15,500 from External Audit fee savings be made available for Child and Family Poverty initiatives on an ongoing basis. The 2019/20 allocation is included in the Table below, however there will be a further £15,500 available in 2020/21 and each following year on a recurring basis.

Child & Family Poverty Reserve

| | £'000 |
|---|--------------|
| Opening Balance 1/04/19 | 210.0 |
| 2019/20 | |
| F&P 9/07/18 - Holiday Gap Easter 19 | (10.0) |
| F&P 9/07/18 - Holiday Gap Summer 19 | (25.0) |
| Underspends from 19/20 Schemes | 6.0 |
| F&P 21/03/19 - 5-19 Contract Extension | (50.0) |
| F&P 22/11/17 - MTFS Report External Audit Fees | 15.5 |
| F&P 22/07/19 - Safe Families Project (Sept 19 - Aug 20) | (30.0) |
| F&P 11/11/19 - Holiday Gap Christmas 19 | (10.0) |
| F&P 11/11/19 - Holiday Gap Easter 20 | (10.0) |
| F&P 11/11/19 - Holiday Gap Summer 20 | (25.0) |
| Current Uncommitted Balance | 71.5 |

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 There are no legal considerations arising from this report

8. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE.)

- 8.1 A child and family poverty impact assessment is attached at Appendix 1. The delivery of this initiative will directly support vulnerable young children and ensure their parent/s have the appropriate equipment to keep them safe from unintentional injury or harm.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS (IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM TO BE COMPLETED AS APPROPRIATE.)

- 9.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations arising from this report. The initiative will be offered to identified children and families including those who have any protected characteristics.

10. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 There are no staffing considerations arising from this report.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 There are no asset management considerations arising from this report.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 For members of Finance and Policy Committee to consider the proposal outlined in this report and approve the commitment of funding from the child and family poverty reserve to deliver this initiative over the forthcoming 12 months.

13. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13.1 It is the view of officers working in children's services that the delivery of this initiative will tackle the impact of poverty on the most vulnerable children and promote parenting skills and development of a strong bond between parent and child.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 None

15. CONTACT OFFICER

Sally Robinson
Director, Children's and Joint Commissioning Services
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"/> |

| 1. Is this decision a Budget & Policy Framework or Key Decision? NO If YES please answer question 2 below | | | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES 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 | X | | | |
| Those with low educational attainment | X | | | |
| Those who are unemployed | X | | | |
| Those who are underemployed | X | | | |
| Children born into families in poverty | X | | | |
| Those who find difficulty in managing their finances | X | | | |
| Lone parents | X | | | |
| Those from minority ethnic backgrounds | X | | | |
| Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way? | | | | |
| Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf) | POSITIVE IMPACT | NEGATIVE IMPACT | NO IMPACT | REASON & EVIDENCE |
| All poverty measures | | | | For all individuals who engage with this initiative there will be a positive impact through the provision of baby equipment alongside an offer that promotes parenting skills and development of a strong bond between parent and child. |
| Overall impact of Policy / Decision | | | | |
| POSITIVE IMPACT | X | ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE | | |
| NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE | | STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE | | |
| ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE | | | | |

| Examples of Indicators that impact of Child and Family Poverty. |
|---|
| Economic |
| 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 |
| Education |
| 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) |
| Housing |
| Average time taken to process Housing Benefit / Council tax benefit claims |
| Number of affordable homes built |
| Health |
| 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

17th January 2020



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: **HARTLEPOOL POWER STATIONS DETAILED
EMERGENCY PLANNING ZONE
REDETERMINATION - UPDATE**

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update Members on the change in minimum distance for the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) for the Power station due to a change in the Consequence Report from the station following Public Health Advice.

3. UPDATE

- 3.1 Members received a report in October advising The Radiation Emergency Preparedness and Public Information Regulations (REPPIR) 2001 placed a duty for setting the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) on to the Power Station and the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). The REPPIR regulations had been updated and they came into effect on 22nd May 2019. The new regulations now place a duty for the determination of the DEPZ on the Council.
- 3.2 In order for the Council to fulfill this duty a Consequence Report from the Power Station was issued and this determines the minimum distance that countermeasures should be considered. Hartlepool's was issued to the Local Authority on the 22nd September. This stated that the minimum distance to plan for the DEPZ is 1km from the Centre of the site.
- 3.3 The Council are responsible to source independent health protection advice from Public Health England (PHE) who review the consequence report and produced their own independent report which provided conflicting information mainly around the minimum distance they proposed distance of 2km. **APPENDIX 1**
- 3.4 This conflicting information was based on two aspects, one being a certain weather pattern and the second around the effectiveness of one of the

countermeasures. As a result of these discrepancies PHE and EDF have worked together and are amending the consequence report to take into account the findings and thus increasing the minimum distance the DEPZ should be. It is worth emphasizing that the risk on the station hasn't changed just how we assess the information and countermeasures.

3.5 Once EDF have amended the Consequence report, the Council will have two months to consult on the proposal, adding local interpretation based on the regulations which state, consideration must be taken to:-

- I. The local geographic, demographic and practical implementation issues;
- II. The need to avoid, where practicable, the bisection of local communities;
- III. The inclusion of vulnerable groups immediately adjacent to the area proposed;
- IV. Be of a sufficient extent to enable an adequate response to a range of emergencies.

3.6 The area which is covered by the new 2km minimum distance for the DEPZ is also in the public information zones for two top tier industrial sites (Control of Major Accident Hazard Regulations (COMAH) sites of Venator and Lianhetech Europe and therefore all businesses in this zone already receive instructions detailing what to do in an emergency.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The original date for the setting of the DEPZ (22nd November) has not been met due to the subsequent change in information. If dates set by the regulations are not met then the ONR can open regulatory action against the Local Authority. The original date for completion of the plan 22nd May 2020, is under discussion with the regulator ONR due to the changes in distances.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The time taken and resources required to develop the DEPZ are rechargeable under REPIR to EDF. Therefore there are no additional financial costs to the Council.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 The REPIR 2019 regulations places the duty for determining the DEPZ and further writing the Off-Site Nuclear Emergency Response Plan on the Local Authority which hosts the operator's site.

6.2 Under REPIR 2019 the Office for Nuclear Regulation are responsible for carrying out a reassurance test to make sure the regulations are covered in the plan and that the Local Authority carries out a suitable test every 3 years of the plan. Hartlepool's next test of the plan is in May 2022.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Local Authority will need to consult the full Off-Site Emergency Response Plan with the agencies identified through the Local Resilience Forum that have a role to play in an off-site emergency.
- 7.2 A new consultation internally takes place on the implications of the new distance.

8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Child and 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 |
| Staff Considerations | No relevant Issues |
| Asset Management Considerations | No relevant Issues |

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Members are asked to note the changes to the minimum distance for the power station is larger than the existing DEPZ, however the area is already covered by the Public Information Zone for COMMAH Sites and the resulting work this will ensue in the notification of businesses and residents.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The DEPZ once set by the Local Authority will dictate where the detailed planning and response will be focused on, thus to make sure it has had ample time for consultation and challenge is paramount.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 Radiation Emergency Preparedness Public Information Regulations (REPPIR) 2001 and 2019.

12. CONTACT OFFICER

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

2km DEPZ



FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

13 January 2020



Report of: Director of Finance and Policy

Subject: CORPORATE PROCUREMENT QUARTERLY
REPORT ON CONTRACTS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To satisfy the requirements of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules with regard to the Finance and Policy Committee:

- Receiving and examining quarterly reports on the outcome of contract letting procedures including those where the lowest/highest price is not payable/receivable.
- Receiving and examining reports on any exemptions granted in respect of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules require that the following information be presented to the Finance and Policy Committee on a quarterly basis:

| Section of Contract Procedure Rules | | Information to be reported |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Introduction | Para 8 iii & Para 8 vi | Outcome of contract letting procedures |
| Part G | Para 12 v | |

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Introduction Part B | Para 8 iii Para 3 v | Basis of award decision if not lowest/highest price payable/receivable |
| Introduction | Para 8 vi | Contract Name and Reference Number |
| Part G | Para 12 v | |
| Introduction | Para 8 vi | Description of Goods/Services being procured |
| Part G | Para 12 v | |
| Introduction | Para 8 vi | Department/Service area procuring the goods/services |
| Part G | Para 12 v | |
| Introduction | Para 8 vi | Prices (separate to Bidders details to preserve commercial confidentiality) |
| Part G | Para 12 v | |
| Part G | Para 12 v | Details of Bidders |

- 3.2 In addition to tender related information, details of exemptions granted to the Contract Procedure Rules are also reportable quarterly.

4. INFORMATION FOR REVIEW

4.1 Tender information

Appendix A details the required information for each procurement tender awarded since the last quarterly report.

4.2 Exemption information

Appendix B provides details of the required information in relation to Contract Procedure Rules exemptions granted since the last Corporate Procurement Quarterly Report on Contracts.

4.3 Commercial / Confidential information

Appendix C includes the commercial information in respect of the tenders received and any confidential information relating to Contract Procedure Rule exemptions or contract extensions.

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, Appendix C.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report is for information only. There are no risk implications attached to this report.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 This report is for information only. There are no financial considerations attached to this report.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 This report is for information only. There are no legal considerations attached to this report.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 No consultation required. Report for information only.

9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 9.1 This report is for information only. There are no child and family poverty implications attached to this report.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 This report is for information only. There are no equality and diversity considerations attached to this report.

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

- 11.1 This report is for information only. There are no Section 17 considerations attached to this report.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 This report is for information only. There are no staff considerations attached to this report.

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 13.1 This report is for information only. There are no asset management considerations attached to this report.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 That the Committee note and comment on the contents of the report,

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15.1 The Committee is required to review the information supplied to ensure that monitoring in the award of contracts is carried out and evidenced.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 There are no background papers.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

- 17.1 Chris Little
Director of Finance and Policy
Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY
Email chris.little@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523003

Sign Off:-

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

7.2 APPENDIX A

Tender Information

| Date of Contract Award | Contract Name and Reference Number | Description of Goods / Services being procured | Duration of Contract (optional extensions in brackets) | Department / Service area procuring the goods / services | Details of Companies invited including location | Details of Bids received | Basis of award decision if not lowest/highest price payable / receivable | Outcome of contract letting procedures | Previous Provider / Location |
|------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 15 08 19 | Various Vehicles DN412680 | 10 vehicles procured as per the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Plan. A direct award was made from the NEPO - TPPL Framework Lot 2 for Light/Medium Vehicles up to 12 tonne | One off Purchase | R&N | Jennings Ford Transit Centre, Middlesbrough | Jennings Ford Transit Centre, Middlesbrough | 100% Price | Jennings Ford Transit Centre, Middlesbrough | N/A |
| 29 08 19 | Print and Mailing Tender for Council Tax Bills and Other Related Items DN 411574 | Printing and issuing of personalised Council Tax Bills, Local Council Tax Support & Housing Benefit Notifications, Business Rates Bills, Recovery documents and Overpayment Letters. A two stage tender was carried out. 24 submissions were received at the first stage. Reduced down to 5 for the Tender Stage. | 36 months plus (2 x 12 month extensions) | CEX | Print UK T/A CFH Documail Ltd Bath Critiqom Ltd Bellshill Lanarkshire DSI Billing Services Ltd Dagenham, Essex Latcham Direct Ltd Bristol Virtual Mail Room Ltd Twickenham | Print UK T/A CFH Documail Ltd Bath Critiqom Ltd Bellshill Lanarkshire DSI Billing Services Ltd Dagenham, Essex Latcham Direct Ltd Bristol | 50% Price 50% Quality | Critiqom Ltd Bellshill Lanarkshire | Critiqom Ltd Bellshill Lanarkshire |

7.2 APPENDIX A

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|-----|---|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| | | | | | | Virtual Mail Room Ltd Twickenham | | | |
| 03 09 19 | Compact Precinct Sweeper DN417176 | Further competition carried out using the NEPO – TPPL Framework Lot 3 – Pedestrian, Compact and Chassis Mounted Road Sweepers up to 12.5 tonne. 10 companies invited to bid | One Off Purchase | R&N | Aebi Schmidt UK Ltd, Surrey Bruce (Ashbury) Ltd, Wiltshire Euromoc Contracts Ltd, Leicestershire Green Machines Sweepers UK Ltd, Stirlingshire Hako Machines Ltd, Cambridgeshire Johnston Sweepers Ltd, Northamptonshire Motus Group UK Ltd, Derby Multevo Ltd, Lancashire Scarab Sweepers Ltd, Kent Trafalgar Cleaning Equipment Ltd, West Sussex | Aebi Schmidt UK Ltd, Surrey Hako Machines Ltd, Cambridgeshire Johnston Sweepers Ltd, Northamptonshire | 50% Price 50% Quality | Aebi Schmidt UK Ltd, Surrey | N/A |

7.2 APPENDIX A

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---------|-----|---|---|--------------|--|---|
| 09 09 19 | Select List of Contractors for Civil Engineering and Highways Works and Coastal Protection Works DN 415115 | Following and Initial Expression of Interest exercise – 17 companies were invited to complete the Application form for the 4 lots on offer. 9 submissions were received | 4 years | R&N | <p>APK Construction Services UK Ltd Penrith</p> <p>BAM Ritchies/BAM Nuttall Ltd Camberley Surrey</p> <p>Boskalis Westminster Ltd Hampshire</p> <p>Brambledown Durham</p> <p>Cleveland Land Services Ltd Guisborough</p> <p>ESH Construction Ltd Durham</p> <p>Galliford Try Infrastructure Ltd Leicestershire</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd Rushyford County Durham</p> <p>Highway Construction Services Ltd Stockton</p> <p>NEDCo Contracts Ferryhill, Durham</p> <p>Rainton Construction Ltd Durham</p> | <p>APK Construction Services UK Ltd Penrith</p> <p>BAM Ritchies/BAM Nuttall Camberley Surrey</p> <p>Boskalis Westminster Ltd Hampshire</p> <p>ESH Construction Durham</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd Rushyford County Durham</p> <p>Highway Construction Services Ltd Stockton</p> <p>Rainton Construction Durham</p> <p>Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd Hartlepool</p> <p>Tangent Construction Ltd Hartlepool</p> | 100% Quality | <p><u>Civil Engineering & Highways Works (up to £450K)</u></p> <p>BAM Ritchies/BAM Nuttall</p> <p>Esh Construction</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd</p> <p>Highway Construction Services</p> <p>Rainton Construction</p> <p>Seymour Civil Engineering contractors Ltd</p> <p><u>Civil Engineering & Highways Works (£450K to £4.5M)</u></p> <p>BAM Ritchies/BAM Nuttall</p> <p>Esh Construction</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd</p> | <p><u>Civil Engineering & Highways Works (up to £450K)</u></p> <p>Esh Construction Ltd</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd</p> <p>Highway Construction Services Ltd</p> <p>Seymour Civil Engineering contractors Ltd</p> <p>Tangent Construction Ltd</p> <p><u>Civil Engineering & Highways Works (£450K to £4.5M)</u></p> <p>Esh Construction Ltd</p> <p>Hall Construction Services Ltd</p> <p>Highway Construction Services Ltd</p> |
|----------|--|---|---------|-----|---|---|--------------|--|---|

7.2 APPENDIX A

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|----------|---|--|-------------------------------------|-----|---|--|------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | Rainton Construction Ltd Durham | Stockton Rainton Construction Ltd Durham | | | |
| | | | | | Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd Hartlepool | Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd Hartlepool | | | |
| 22 10 19 | Seaton Carew Seaview Car Park DN434566 | The work was for the extension of the existing car park into adjacent former fairground site. A Mini Competition using the 5 companies on HBCs Civil Engineering & Highways Select List was carried out. | 16 weeks | R&N | Esh Construction Ltd Durham | Esh Construction Ltd Durham | 100% | Esh Construction Ltd Durham | N/A |
| | | | | | Hall Construction Ltd Rushyford County Durham | Hall Construction Ltd Rushyford County Durham | | | |
| | | | | | Highway Construction Services Ltd Stockton | Highway Construction Services Ltd Stockton | | | |
| | | | | | Rainton Construction Ltd Durham | Rainton Construction Ltd Durham | | | |
| | | | | | Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd Hartlepool | Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd Hartlepool | | | |
| 3.12.19 | Emotional Wellbeing Support Service DN433519 | The Service will work with children and young people who are in care and care leavers up to 25 years of age, who require therapeutic | 2 Years plus 1 x 12 month extension | C&A | - | Barnados, Essex Hartlepool and East Durham Mind, Hartlepool | 100% | The Junction Foundation, Redcar | Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust, Middlesbrough |

7.2 APPENDIX A

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|---------|---|---|-------------------------------------|-----|---|---|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| | | input for emotional, behavioural or psychological problems. | | | | PM Psychology, London The Junction Foundation, Redcar | | | |
| 4.12.19 | Drug & Alcohol Treatment Service DN 440343 | Drug & Alcohol Treatment Service for Hartlepool | 3 Years plus 2 x 12 month extension | C&A | - | Addaction, London Foundations Partnership, Middlesbrough | 80% Quality 20% Price | Foundations Partnership, Middlesbrough | Addaction, London |

7.2 APPENDIX B**Procurements Exempted from Council Contract Procedure Rules****Exemption Information**

| Dept. | Service Unit | Company Name | Company based at | Duration | Description | Approval |
|-------|--|---|------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| R&N | Highways, Traffic and Transport | Advanced Communication Projects Ltd (APL) | Bramley, Leeds | One Off Procurement | GPS system Installation for the Winter Gritting Service | Request approved by Tony Hanson on 21.11.2019 |
| C&A | Community Based Services; Leisure Recreation and Participation | CC Leisure Solutions | Buckley | Oct 2019 – Jan 2020 | Bespoke Customer Care Training for our Leisure Facility Staff | Request approved by Gemma Ptak |

7.2 APPENDIX B**Extension Information**

| Dept. | Service Unit | Company Name | Company based at | Duration | Description | Approval |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| CEX | Childrens & Joint Commissioning | Addaction | Middlesbrough | 01/01/2020 - 31/05/2020 | Extension to the Drugs and Alcohol Service | Approved by Danielle Swainston, Sally Robinson, Neil Wilson and John Morton on 13.09.2019 |
| R&N | Public Protection | Durham County Council | Durham | 01/04/2020 - 31/03/2021 | Metrology Services | Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little, Denise McGuckin and Hayley Martin on 14.10.2019 |
| C&A | Public Protection | Alliance Psychological Services | Stockton | 01/01/2020 - 31/03/2020 | Emotional Wellbeing Support for Parents | Approved by Jane Young, Chris Little, Sally Robinson and Hayley Martin on 30.10.2019 |