REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA



Wednesday 5 February 2020

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room B at the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

MEMBERS: REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Brown, Cartwright, Cassidy, Lindridge, Marshall and Smith

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS
- 3. MINUTES
 - 3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2019 (previously circulated and published).

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 4.1 Public Rights Of Way and Other Access Supplementary Planning Document Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)
- 4.2 Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document Assistant Director, Economic Growth and Regeneration
- 4.3 Council Plan 2020-23 Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)
- 5. **KEY DECISIONS**

No items.



6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

6.1 Museum of Hartlepool Collections Development Policy 2019-22 – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Learning and Skills Service Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)
- 7.2 Student Accommodation Needs Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)

FOR INFORMATION

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 11 March 2020 at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.



REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2020



Report of: Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)

Subject: PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND OTHER ACCESS

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Part of the Budget and Policy Framework.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 Members are asked to support the consultation of the Public Rights of Way and Other Access Supplementary Planning Document (PRoW) (SPD) (see **Appendix 3**) that will help reinforce the importance of the PRoW network within the borough. The SPD will become part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and will be a material consideration in determining planning applications.
- The report had been intended for submission to the Committee on 22nd
 January 2020 however, due to the meeting being rearranged to 5th February
 2020 there was a departure from the Forward Plan.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 This is a new document within the existing suite of SPDs. The aim of this document is to allow the Council to define relevant standards and provide guidance regarding PRoW within the borough. This is to ensure that the planning and development process complements the network through sufficiently considering PRoW at early stages and throughout the process.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 No options submitted for consideration other than the recommendation.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The SPD has been composed in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012) (as amended).

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The SPD will be consulted upon from Friday 7th February until Friday 3rd April 2020. This is 2 weeks more than the 6 week statutory consultation period for SPDs. Correspondence will be sent to the statutory consultees, and other organisations and interested parties whose details are stored on our consultation database.
- The document will be available on the Council's website, and a paper copy will be made accessible at the Civic Centre.
- 6.3 All comments received will be considered, fed into the SPD, if appropriate, and the final SPD will be reported to Regeneration Services Committee and then full Council for adoption in 2020.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant issues
Financial Considerations	No relevant issues
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	See Appendix 1
Equality and Diversity Considerations	See Appendix 2
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998	No relevant issues
Considerations	
Staff Considerations	No relevant issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant issues

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that members approve the draft SPD and allow public consultation to proceed, allow officers to make amendments to the draft SPD and for the final version to be brought back to Regeneration Services Committee prior to being adopted at full Council in 2020.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To ensure that the guidance is made public and available for comment so that it can be shaped by those within an interest in the PRoW network within the borough prior to its adoption.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 There are no background papers for this report.

11. CONTACT OFFICER

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POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

1. Is this decision a Budget If YES please answer quest	•		Key Decis	ion? <u>YES</u> / NO
2. Will there be an impact of Poverty? YES / NO If YES please complete the		-	d in respec	t of Child and Family
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21				
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness				
Those with low educational attainment				
Those who are unemployed				
Those who are underemployed				
Children born into families in poverty				
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances				
Lone parents				
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds				
Poverty is measured in diffe child and family poverty and			cy / decisi	on have an impact on
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE

POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

POVERTY IIVIPACT ASSESSIVIENT FORIVI				
Overall impact of Policy / Decision				
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE	l -	ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE		
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE		STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE		
Examples of Indicators that impact of	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	d 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

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Department	Division	Section	Owner/O	fficer
Regeneration &	Economic Growth &	Planning &	Rebecca	Cockburn
Neighbourhoods	Regeneration	Development		
Service, policy, practice being	Public Rig	hts of Way and Oth	er Access SP	PD .
reviewed/changed or planned	,			
Why are you making the		s SPD to the existir		cuments to
change?		pic-specific guidand		-
How might this impact (positive	ly/negative	ely) on people who	share prote	cted
characteristics?				
		Please tick	POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY
Age				
N/A				
Disability				
N/A				_
Gender Re-assignment				
N/A				
Race				
N/A			<u> </u>	
Religion				
N/A			Г	
Gender				
N/A			T	
Sexual Orientation				
N/A			T	
Marriage & Civil Partnership				
N/A				
Pregnancy & Maternity N/A				1
Has there been consultation /is	An Q w	eek consultation pe	riod is propos	od which is in
consultation planned with		ance with the Coun		
people who will be affected by		the statutory 6 week		JOI, and
this policy? How has this	mooto	no diatatory o woor	t rogan om on	
affected your decision making?				
As a result of your decision how		D encourages the	creation, prote	ection and
can you mitigate		ement of the PRoV		
negative/maximise positive	the bor	ough.		
outcomes and foster good				
relationships?			-	
Describe how you will address		mpact - No Major (_
and monitor the impact	There is not considered to be an impact.			t.
	2. Adjust/Change Policy			
	N/A	arca Impact but Ca	antinua aa ia	
	N/A	erse Impact but Co	munue as is	
	4. Stop/Remove Policy/Proposal			
	14. Stop	THE THOUSE I OHOS/F	i oposai	
Initial Assessment 00/00/00	/ 4// 1	Reviewed	00/00/0	00
Completed 00/00/00		Published	00/00/0	
00,0000		· dolloriod	1 00,00/0	

Hartlepool Borough Council

Standards and Guidance for Public Rights of Way

Supplementary Planning Document

Draft Version





APPENDIX 3

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1 Introduction

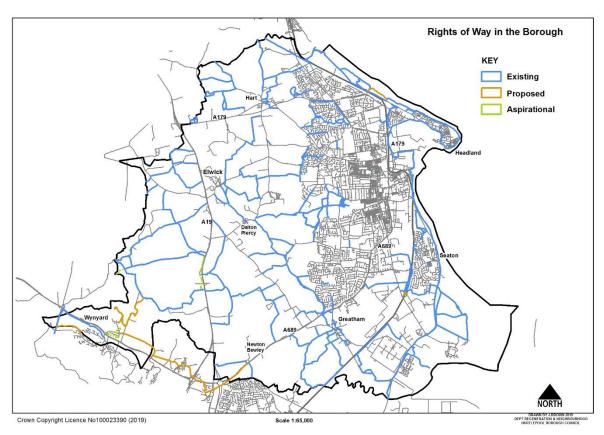
What is a Public Right of Way (PRoW)?

- 1.1 A public right of way is a way that anyone can legally use 'as of right'. There are a number of differing statuses that allow different levels of use. Footpaths are for pedestrian use only, bridleways allow pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders to access the path and byways add vehicular access to the pedestrians, cyclists and equestrian users. Legally, PRoW forms part of the highway network and is subject to the same protection in law as all other highways.
- 1.2 The aim of this guidance is for Hartlepool Borough Council (the Council) to define standards and give relevant advice so that all involved in the planning and development process consider PRoW at an early stage; designing it into a development proposal to deliver the most sustainable and viable scheme.

The Importance of Protecting PRoW

- 1.3 PRoW can positively contribute to open space provision and the access network, for a development site.
- 1.4 PRoW run through all types of development areas: residential, commercial, leisure and recreation, agricultural (including horticultural and equine) developments and minerals and waste schemes.
- 1.5 All types of development will have to consider PRoW at the earliest opportunity. The production of an accepted rights of way scheme early on will ensure that the planning process runs smoothly and public access is properly designed into the development proposals.
- 1.6 PRoW and access to the countryside are important elements of Green Infrastructure. The Council will ensure that PRoW are protected, enhanced and promoted. A commitment supported by national and local policy.
- 1.7 The PRoW network offers people access to countryside and heritage and this can have a positive effect on quality of life and health. It forms a practical part of our transport network, providing valuable access on foot, bicycle and other modes of transport to the wider countryside, employment, schools, shops and other local amenities.
- 1.8 There may be a need for improvements to the PRoW network linked to development proposals in terms of accessibility, surfacing and connectivity. Where the scale and location of development requires connections and/or leads to increased use, the Council will secure these works through appropriate developer contributions and/or planning conditions. Particular consideration will be given to achieving offsite local pedestrian/cycleway routes which connect development sites with employment, services, open spaces, leisure/community uses and strategic access routes.
- 1.9 The grant of Planning Permission in itself does not legally authorise this diversion, extinguishment or other legal change to a PRoW. Anyone undertaking a development that affects a PRoW should be aware that there are legal obligations and procedures,

which lie outside of any grant of planning permission that need to be addressed. Although not all development will impact on PRoW, it is the responsibility of the developer to find out if their development will have an impact or not and the legal obligations of this. This can be done by getting in touch with the Countryside Access Team at **01429 523524** or at rightsofway@hartlepool.gov.uk



Map 1: Rights of Way in the Borough

2. National and Local Planning Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework

2.1 Paragraph 98 of the NPPF states that planning policies should protect and enhance PRoW and access and that local authorities should seek opportunities to provide better facilities for users.

Rights of Way Circular (1/09) (2011)

2.2 Section 7 of the circular sets out the importance of PRoW when granting planning permission. Section 7.1 states that proposals for the development of land affecting PRoW give rise to the adequate consideration of the rights of way before the decision on the application is taken and the need for the right of way to be kept open and unobstructed once permission has been granted. Section 7.2 highlights that the effect of development on a PRoW is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Hartlepool Local Plan (2018)

2.3 Hartlepool Council's Local Plan includes specific policies to protect, enhance and promote the enjoyment of PRoW and countryside access. These policies can be read in Appendix 1.



3. The Role of the Council

- 3.1 The Council will protect, enhance and promote the enjoyment of the PRoW network. This will be achieved by:
 - Requiring applicants to record the route of any PRoW affected by development, and develop a scheme for their improvement, accommodation or diversion in accordance with the Council's legislative PRoW standards. For more information on this, please contact the Countryside Access Officer using the contact details in section 1.9.
 - Requiring contributions, through planning obligations, towards the PRoW network including the delivery of routes both on site and off site as appropriate.
 - Not permitting planning applications that contain proposals that would adversely affect the existing PRoW network.

Planning Conditions

- 3.2 Development that affects PRoW and access to the wider countryside should clearly identify existing PRoW and proposed changes to the PRoW, and other access links, on the proposed layout plan(s) and supporting information. This will ensure that applicants and developers both consider, at the earliest opportunity, how to plan and incorporate PRoW and access into the development. Where appropriate planning conditions or obligations may be imposed requiring the appropriate changes to any PRoW or access affected or required by a development. For example detailing
- 3.3 Prior to the commencement of a development, a scheme for the provision of PRoW shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Council to include:
 - The design of access and PRoW routes (to include landscaping, widths, surfacing and, where necessary, appropriate countryside furniture)
 - Proposals for diversion of PRoW (where necessary)
 - The temporary closure and alternative route provision (where necessary) of an existing right of way
- 3.4 Any scheme submitted should be in accordance with the approved PRoW Standards and Guidance. This is in the interests of the amenity of pedestrians and other non-motorised users and to ensure the safety of users is not compromised by the traffic associated with the development. Developers considering or undertaking works that might affect a PRoW are advised to ensure that the definitive legal line of any PRoW is mapped at the earliest opportunity and that no development should take place on or near a PRoW unless the statutory legal process (where necessary) has been completed in accordance with:
 - An order made, confirmed and certifies under the provisions of Section 257 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (The 1990 Act), or
 - 2. An order made, confirmed and certified under the provisions of sections 25, 26, 116, 118 or 119 of the Highways Act 1980 (The 1980 Act), or
 - 3. An order made under any other relevant legislation concerning the modification, creation, diversion or extinguishment of a right of way.

3.5 There may be a requirement to consider an application to temporarily close and/or divert an existing PRoW as part of the formal diversion process within the development. This allows a developer to legally either temporarily close, or close and divert the PRoW so that the Health and Safety of the public is not compromised and also so that the developer can continue to construct the housing/development without the issues of the public entering a construction site. These Traffic Regulation Orders last, initially, for six months but can be extended for longer periods of time, dependant on the development of the site.

Planning Obligations

3.6 The requirement to improve accessibility, surfacing and linkages to existing and proposed rights of way networks will still have to be provided by individual development proposals and this will have to be included, where appropriate, in S106 agreements. Where the scale and location of development will require linkage and/or lead to increased use this Council will secure appropriate planning obligations.

Types of Contribution

- 3.7 New routes or improvements to existing routes and important off-site links (including footpaths, cycleways and bridleways as appropriate) will be sought. These improvements will include surface upgrades appropriate for the use of the end user, erection of structures and countryside furniture, which are access friendly (such as bridges and gates rather than stiles), signage, lighting, dog bins and other works, where appropriate and necessary, to make routes accessible. Contributions will be sought to provide improved links to community infrastructure.
- 3.8 Contributions may include commuted sums to cover establishment, management and maintenance where new routes are required.

Steps of the Process

3.9 Table 1 below highlights the process of a planning application, from the initial site allocation to the commencement of planning permission, and it highlights the duties of the Council's Countryside Access Officer, alongside the considerations that the applicant/developer must factor in themselves. It is strongly encouraged that applicants factor in PRoW at the earliest stage in the process to mitigate against unnecessary delays.

Table 1 - PRoW throughout the development/application process

Stage of the Development/Application Process	Considerations for the Applicant/Developer	Duty of the Council's Countryside Access Officer
Site Allocation	The site allocation may highlight access and PRoW proposals that should be incorporated into a scheme.	Check site allocation
Master plan/development Proposal	The Definitive Map should be checked and the team contacted to discuss	Check Definitive Map and contact Countryside
FTOPOSAI	PRoW. Consideration given to need for diversion, design and submit RoW scheme.	Access Officer (CAO).
Pre Application	The Heads of Terms for a RoW scheme (including diversion proposals) should be drawn up with Countryside Access Team.	Consider submitted Rights of Way Scheme
Planning Application Submission	A worked up RoW scheme should be submitted. This should be submitted as part of the planning application – together with any diversion application.	Process diversion application
S106	The Section 106 agreement should include contributions towards the maintenance of on-site routes and the enhancement and maintenance of the adjoining network.	Confirm S106 contributions.
Application Process Determination	All design matters regarding the Rights of Way and access routes will have been conducted and detailed in the 'Rights of Way Scheme' document. Conditions may be imposed on the scheme.	Rights of Way scheme approved (with conditions)
Commencement of Planning Permission	Any diversion applications will be processed and there should be continual dialogue with the CAO to ensure that the access is being provided in line with the submitted 'Rights of Way Scheme'.	Rights of way Scheme approved (with conditions)

4. The Role of Developers

Submission of a Rights of Way Scheme

- 4.1 Any development that would affect or include PRoW should submit a PRoW scheme. Ideally the scheme should be submitted at outline application stage and discussed in pre-application discussions.
- 4.2 It should detail what is proposed for existing routes, including whether the paths are to be incorporated into the design or diverted, landscape proposals for the paths and details regarding new routes and connections to the rights of way and access network.
- 4.3 It must include details regarding how any rights of way are to be dealt with during construction.
- 4.4 The submission of a Rights of Way Scheme will allow for early consideration and aid the effective delivery of development proposals.

A Rights of Way Scheme should include:

- Detail drawings showing the current legal route of the PRoW
- An indication of whether a diversion order is required
- Design drawings showing the proposed new routes through the final development
- Details on how the routes are to be dealt with during the layout of the development – i.e. routes for temporary diversions
- Design, surfacing, management and maintenance details

Diversion Schemes

4.5 The best route for the right of way may be away from the original line of the path, which means a diversion order would be required. The Council will work with developers to divert rights of way as quickly as possible ensuring minimal impact on the development. In order to prevent unnecessary splits from a right of way it may be necessary to extend the diversion beyond the limits of the development and to involve other landowners. For more information on the 1990 Act and 1980 Act Orders, costs and associated timescales please contact the Countryside Access Team on 01429 523524 or email them at rightsofway@hartlepool.gov.uk

Applying for a change to the Rights of Way

- 4.6 The Council can consider applications to alter the PRoW network ahead of granting planning consent. In order to do this, applicants need to ensure that they have produced and had their Rights of Way Scheme approved by the Council.
- 4.7 Applications based on an approved Rights of Way Scheme and submitted with the planning application will be fast tracked and determined at the same time as the application for development consent.

- 4.8 Where a Rights of Way Scheme is either not approved or not submitted, any application to alter a right of way will not be processed until after planning consent has been granted. Additionally, the Council may refuse to approve the application and/or oppose the planning proposal if it does not give due consideration to the PRoW network.
- 4.9 Once an application to alter the PRoW network is approved a legal order has to be made and advertised. A charge will be made for Council administration and the cost of advertising the orders. Such orders are subject to public scrutiny and may receive objections. The Council can only confirm an order if it is unopposed. If objections are received and not withdrawn, the order can only be confirmed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs after having considered the objections a process that can take around nine months. No development affecting the legal line of a public right of way can take place until an order has been confirmed and if necessary, certified. A further charge will be made for advertising any confirmed orders and associated certificates.

Construction Phase

- 4.10 It is imperative that the route of any PRoW should be delineated through any development site throughout its construction phase. If a path is to be left on its original line the route (including the width) will have to be accurately surveyed and pegged before any works takes place. The Countryside Access Team can assist in this process.
- 4.11 Developers may need to apply for temporary diversions and will be expected to provide an alternative route through or around the site (wherever practical). A charge will be made for this process.
- 4.12 Any diverted routes should be provided at the earliest opportunity along an agreed route and should be surfaced to the standard agreed by the Council.

5. The Importance of Design

Development and Path Design

- 5.1 A development site which is affected by PRoW requires careful planning. It is not always practical to keep a PRoW on its original legal line and a diversion under the 1990 Act may be required.
- 5.2 The Council does not encourage or support the incorporation of rights of way along estate roads, permanent extinguishments, or unofficial diversions/encroachments and will oppose any proposal which does not give due consideration to the existing rights of way and their links with nearby communities.

Links to Community Facilities

5.3 PRoW often provide valuable links between communities/villages and to local facilities such as schools, shops and pubs. New developments may place pressure on these paths but provide an opportunity for localised enhancement by better design or contributions towards off-site mitigation or improvements.

Design

- 5.4 The relationship between a proposed development and the established landscape as well as the standards within the design guide are key principles that should be considered when looking at how PRoW and the countryside access network are to be incorporated into a development. Local character and distinctiveness should be factored into the design on new access routes.
- 5.5 The Council looks for PRoW to run in green corridors which connect to other rights of way and to nearby facilities and amenities. The priority is to create an enjoyable, easy accessible, direct network.

Poorly designed paths

5.6 The following picture examples show routes which are narrow and enclosed, badly designed, are poorly incorporated into public open space and infringe unduly on private space.









5.7 Poorly designed paths can be unattractive, alter people's perception of route safety, and have a potential to deter public usage. Poor design may also lead to criminal activity and anti-social behaviour.

Well Designed Paths

5.8 The following images show examples of well-designed paths. These paths are attractive, open and overlooked, and this is likely to be safer and less likely to give rise to crime and anti-social behaviour.





Path Standards

- 5.9 Paths should run through open landscaped areas away from roads. They should form part of the open space provision and, where possible, should be overlooked and free from sharp bends, in order to prevent areas where crime is easier to commit.
- 5.10 In general terms, the relevant design and engineering standards should be taken from the standards below. (Supported by Department for Transport, CBC Design Code, Sustrans, and The Fieldfare Trust's Accessibility Standards and guidance).



Urban Paths

5.11 An urban path should connect with other nearby communities, facilities and amenities. It should be direct and easily accessible to all nearby residents. The path should have a sealed surface and be incorporated within a green corridor, with an appropriate width, with raised tables, dropped kerbs and appropriate markings/signage at road junctions. If necessary, the path should utilise barriers, bollards, soft furniture etc. to prevent vehicular access.



Table 2 – Urban Path Requirements

Minimum Width	Landscaping considerations	Other matters
2m surfaced footpath	Tarmac surface	No high fences or planting
3m surfaced cycle route	Min 1m green space on either side	Not to be along estate roads or private roads



Urban Edge Paths

5.12 These paths should provide users with a gateway into the nearby countryside. They will typically have a surface dressing to ensure they are useable throughout the year, yet the surface should use materials which will easily blend the paths into their rural surroundings. These paths need to be clearly waymarked and signposted; with map boards used at all main exits of the existing rights of way network.



Table 3 – Urban Edge Path Requirements

Minimum Width	Landscaping considerations	Other matters
2m surfaced footpath	Bound surface	Located in open space
3m surfaced cycle route	Located in green corridor	



Rural Paths

5.13 Rural paths will have a natural surface that is level and well drained. These paths need to be waymarked and should be at least 2m wide. They need to have good connections with other rights of way and not be enclosed by high fences or shrubs.

Table 4 - Rural Path Requirements

Minimum Width	Landscaping considerations	Other matters
2m footpath 4m bridleway	Min. 1m greenspace either side	No high fences or planting Not along estate roads or
	Min. 1m greenspace either side	private roads



Minerals and Waste

5.14 Paths provided through quarry restoration schemes should be provided to a high standard in order to encourage use by a variety of legal users. They should have a surface dressing to ensure they are useable throughout the year, yet the surface should use materials which will easily blend the paths into their rural surroundings. Materials should be ideally sourced from the quarry itself. Paths need to be clearly waymarked and signposted; with map boards used at all main exits of the existing rights of way network.



Table 5 – Quarry Restoration Path Requirements

Minimum width	Landscaping considerations	Other matters
2m surfaced footpath 3m surfaced cycle/bridleway	Min. 1m greenspace either side	No high fences or planting
route	Min. 1m greenspace either side	

4.1 APPENDIX 3

Commercial/Industrial Development

- 5.15 Paths through these areas should have a sealed surface and be incorporated within a green corridor or the public realm, with a width of at least 2 metres, with drop kerbs and appropriate markings/signage at road junctions.
- 5.16 It is acknowledged that these sites may have particular security arrangements; however, security measures should not be put in place to the detriment of access and rights of way.



Table 6 – Commercial/Industrial Path Requirements

Minimum Width	Landscaping considerations	Other matters
2m surfaced footpath 3m surfaced cycle route	Min. 1m greenspace either side	No high fences or planting Not to be along estate roads
	Min. 1m greenspace either side	or private roads

Appendix 1 – Relevant Local Plan Policies

INF1: Sustainable Transport Network

In Hartlepool, a key priority of a sustainable transport network is to provide a comprehensive, safe and well-managed network of footpaths and cycle routes throughout the borough linking residential areas with employment sites, shopping and community facilities, and leisure/recreation sites.

INF2: Improving Connectivity in Hartlepool

The Council will aim to maximise the level of sustainable access to areas of development, which includes ensuring safe, attractive and well-lit pedestrian and cycle routes.

QP1: Planning Obligations

Planning obligations will be sought where viable and deemed to be required to address the impacts arising from a development. Green infrastructure (including PRoW) is an area towards which obligations may be sought.

HSG4: The South West Extension Strategic Housing Site

Within the South West Extension appropriate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining urban and rural area must be provided with each phase of the development.

HSG5: High Tunstall Strategic Housing Site

Within the High Tunstall site appropriate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining urban and rural area must be provided with each phase of the development.

HSG5a: Quarry Farm Strategic Housing Site

Within the Quarry Farm site appropriate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining urban and rural area must be provided as part of the development.

HSG6: Wynyard Housing Development

Within the Wynyard Developments appropriate pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining areas at Wynyard and linking to Hartlepool along the A689 must be provided by the development.

HSG7: Elwick Village Housing Development

Within the site at Elwick, appropriate pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining areas of countryside and linking to Hartlepool along Elwick Road will be required as part of the residential development.

HSG8: Hart Village Housing Development

At the Hart Village sites, appropriate pedestrian and cycle linkages to the adjoining areas of countryside and linking to Hartlepool along the footpath adjacent to the A179 will be required.

RUR1: Development in Rural Areas

Developments in the rural area has the responsibility to, where possible, create and improve sustainable connectivity.

RUR4: Equestrian Development

Equestrian development will be supported as an appropriate use in the rural area where they are located close to existing bridleways or other routes suitable for trekking or hacking out where this forms part of the business; where this is not the case, provision of safe equine routes should be provided.

RC2: Town Centre

Where appropriate, all developments should provide improvements to connectivity from the Town Centre to Edge of Town Centre areas and the Retail and Leisure Parks including improved pedestrian and cycle provision.

RC5: The Brewery and Stranton Edge of Town Centre Area

Development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Burn Valley Green Wedge through environmental improvement works and improved pedestrian and cycle provision.

RC6: East of Stranton Edge of Town Centre Area

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre by improving crossing points and cycling facilities.

RC7: Lynn Street Edge of Town Centre Area

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre and Retail and Leisure Parks to the north of the railway through improved pedestrian and cycle provision.

RC8: Mill House Edge of Town Centre Area

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre through environmental enhancement works and improved pedestrian and cycle provision.

RC12: The Marina Retail and Leisure Park

Development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre and the Retail and Leisure Parks through improved pedestrian and cycle links.

RC13: West of Marina Way Retail and Leisure Park

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre and the adjacent Retail and Leisure Parks through improved pedestrian and cycle links and cycling facilities.

RC14: Trincomalee Wharf Retail and Leisure Park

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the Town Centre and the Retail and Leisure Parks through improved pedestrian and cycle links.

RC15: Tees Bay Retail and Leisure Park

All development should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the surrounding area, especially to the Town Centre and Seaton Carew train station through improved public transport provision and facilities and pedestrian and cycleway provision and facilities.

RC16: The Local Centres

All development in the local centres should facilitate, where appropriate, improvements to connectivity to the surrounding area through improved pedestrian and cycle provision.

LT1: Leisure and Tourism

Summerhill will continue to be developed as a focus for access to the countryside, nature conservation and informal recreational and leisure activities such as walking, cycling and climbing.

4.1 APPENDIX 3

LT2: Tourism Development - Marina

Developments should link to each other and to leisure and tourism attractions across the borough by incorporating and encouraging sustainable transport links through the provision and enhancement of pedestrian and cycle routes.

NE2: Green Infrastructure

The Council will investigate the potential for improving access to open spaces and the countryside and will seek opportunities to expand and improve the Rights of Way network, making it accessible to sections and groups in the community in accordance with policy QP3.

REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2020



1

Report of: Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)

Subject: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPLEMENTARY

PLANNING DOCUMENT

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Part of the Budget and Policy Framework.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 Members are asked to support the consultation of the Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (see **Appendix 3**) that will help reinforce the importance of the green infrastructure network within the borough. The SPD will become part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and will be a material consideration in determining planning applications.
- 2.2 The report had been intended for submission to the Committee on 22nd January 2020 however, due to the meeting being rearranged to 5th February 2020 there was a departure from the Forward Plan.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The previous SPD was produced in 2014, and is currently in place. The SPD is split into two documents, the main document and Action Plan (see **Appendix 3 and 4**). Between the two documents, they highlight areas of green infrastructure within the borough, acknowledge the role it plays and highlights key projects that require potential funding from developer contributions. The updated document has been produced to reflect updates in local and national policy and provide an up to date picture of green infrastructure projects in the borough.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 No options submitted for consideration other than the recommendation.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The SPD has been composed in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012) (as amended).

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The SPD will be consulted upon from Friday 7th February January until Friday 3rd April 2020. This 8 week period goes above the 6 week statutory consultation period for SPDs. Correspondence will be sent to the statutory consultees, and other organisations and interested parties whose details are stored on our consultation database.
- 6.2 The document will be available on the Council's website, and a paper copy will be made accessible at the Civic Centre.
- 6.3 All comments received will be considered, fed into the SPD, if appropriate, and the final SPD will be reported to Regeneration Services Committee and full Council for adoption in 2020.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant issues
Financial Considerations	No relevant issues
Consultation	No relevant issues
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	See Appendix 1
Equality and Diversity Considerations	See Appendix 2
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998	No relevant issues
Considerations	
Staff Considerations	No relevant issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant issues

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that members approve the draft SPD and allow public consultation to proceed, allow officers to make amendments to the draft SPD and for the final version to be brought back to Regeneration Services Committee prior to being adopted at full Council in 2020

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To ensure that the guidance is made public and available for comment so that it can be shaped by those within an interest in Green Infrastructure within the borough prior to its adoption.

10. CONTACT OFFICER

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POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

1. Is this decision a Budget & Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES / NO

If YES please answer quest	ion 2 below	,							
2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES / NO									
If YES please complete the matrix below									
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE					
Young working people aged 18 - 21									
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness									
Those with low educational attainment									
Those who are unemployed									
Those who are underemployed									
Children born into families in poverty									
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances									
Lone parents									
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds									
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					

POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

POVERTY IIVIPACT ASSESSIVIENT FORIVI							
Overall impact of Policy / Decision							
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE	ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE						
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE	STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE						
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	ent						
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 recep	otion year						
Prevalence of obese children in reception ye	ear						
Prevalence of underweight children in year	6						
Prevalence of obese children in reception year 6							
Life expectancy							

APPENDIX 2

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Department		Division	Section	Owner/O	Owner/Officer				
Regeneration &		Economic Growth &	mic Planning & Rebecca Coc		Cockburn				
Neighbourhoods	F	Regeneration	Development						
Service, policy, practi		Updated Green Infrastructure SPD							
reviewed/changed or		·							
Why are you making	the	To update the SPD to reflect local/national policy and to							
change?			to date projects.						
How might this impact (positively/negatively) on people who share protected									
characteristics?									
			Please tick	POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY				
Age			T TOGGO TION	1 0011111221	NEOMINEEL				
N/A									
Disability									
N/A									
Gender Re-assignme	nt								
N/A					•				
Race									
N/A									
Religion									
N/A									
Gender									
N/A					_				
Sexual Orientation									
N/A					_				
Marriage & Civil Partr									
N/A									
Pregnancy & Maternit									
N/A		_							
Has there been consu		An 8 week consultation period is proposed, which is in							
consultation planned		ance with the Counc							
people who will be affected by meets the statutory 6 week requirement.									
this policy? How has									
	ected your decision making? a result of your decision how The SPD encourages the creation, protection								
can you mitigate enhancement of green infrastructure the borough which will have post									
outcomes and foster good to design quality, eco									
relationships?	9000	to design quality, society and notion.							
Describe how you wil	I address	1. No Impact - No Major Change							
and monitor the impa		There is not considered to be an impact.							
		2. Adjust/Change Policy							
		N/A							
			3. Adverse Impact but Continue as is						
		N/A							
			4. Stop/Remove Policy/Proposal						
		N/A		1					
Initial Assessment	00/00/00		Reviewed 00/00/00						
Completed	00/00/00	Published 00/00/00							



Hartlepool Borough Council

Green Infrastructure

Supplementary Planning Document

Draft Version





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Image 1: Seaton Park

1 Introduction

What is the purpose of this SPD?

- 1.1 The Council's Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is split into two documents; the SPD itself and the accompanying Action Plan. This document provides information regarding the importance of Green Infrastructure (GI) within the borough and details the Council's GI vision and what GI can be found within the borough, highlighting where there are any gaps which need to be addressed. The Action Plan builds upon this, setting out specifically where improvements are needed to enhance the GI network within the borough.
- 1.2 Once adopted, this SPD will form part of the Local Development Framework, to be used alongside the Local Plan to drive forward the development of GI in the borough. It will enable the Council to seek funding to help achieve the enhancement and improvement of GI and inform the public of the GI strategy.

Structure of this SPD

1.3 This SPD sets a number of objectives and an overall vision for the delivery of GI in Hartlepool. It sets out the strengths, weaknesses and functionality of GI within distinct areas of the borough. This will aid in highlighting areas of deficiency and where connections and improvements can be made in the future to further enhance the overall network of GI. This document considers relevant national, regional and local policies and guidance which will impact on the delivery of GI.

What is Green Infrastructure (GI)?

1.4 The 2018 Hartlepool Local Plan defines GI as a strategically planned and delivered network of high quality green spaces and environmental features including parks, open spaces, watercourses, trees and woodland and allotments.

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2 The Importance of Green Infrastructure

Why is GI so important?

- 2.1 With an increasing population and densification of the town, the urban environment is growing and planned GI needs to be developed alongside this. A dense built environment is considered to have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the population, due to increased pollution and reduced opportunities to undertake physical activity, alongside detrimental environmental impacts, such as heat island effects and increased surface water runoff leading to potential flooding.
- 2.2 Urban green space in particular provides accessible health benefits, therefore it is of key importance that within the borough all residents have access to green space close to where they live and work, as well as being able to reap the benefits of the wider network of GI within the borough.
- 2.3 GI is important for the people who live, work in and visit the borough, and is also critical for a multitude of species which are present and are at risk of displacement due to development.
- 2.4 An improved rights of way network will make it possible to move safely, easily and comfortably through the borough on foot or by bike. This will allow visitors and residents alike to explore the urban neighbourhoods, historical parks and village greens.
- 2.5 The rural character of the countryside will be protected and the open landscape aspect of the rural west will be maintained as far as possible.
- 2.6 The capacity of GI to accommodate protected and priority habitats and species will, where appropriate and possible, be enhanced in order to encourage valuable, healthy ecosystems to flourish, so that wildlife and plants can become more resilient to climate change.
- 2.7 Making the best use of existing and new greenspaces will provide greater opportunities for play, sport, recreation, relaxation and local food production, which in turn will promote active healthy lifestyles close to home. The hope is that the growing appreciation for the natural environment will be actively captured so people of all ages can value, manage and care for it.
- 2.8 A quality, distinctive and well connected GI network will help attract new investment, encouraging people to live and work in the borough because of its exceptional ability to delivery healthy, safe and sustainable lifestyles. New

green neighbourhoods will improve the quantity and quality of greenspace, habitats and trees for people and wildlife while integrating sustainable drainage and flood storage will help the borough mitigate the effects of, and help the natural environment adapt to, climate change.

- 2.9 To summarise, well planned and managed GI has the potential to deliver a wide range of benefits such as:
 - Improved image; helping to attract businesses and inward investment
 - Greater sense of place and pride in the local area
 - Mitigation of the effects of climate change e.g. flood alleviation, carbon storage
 - Improvements to air quality
 - Health and wellbeing benefits through places for outdoor relaxation, play, recreation and exercise
 - Encourages active and sustainable travel by providing cycle and walking routes
 - Increased local food and renewal energy production
 - Reduced crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Reduction of the heat island effect.
 - Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and habitats.
 - SANGs have the benefit of taking pressures off sensitive protected areas.

What does the Council do?

- 2.10 Through the maintenance, enhancement and extension of these networks, multi-functional benefits can be realised for local communities, businesses, visitors and the environment. Appropriate strategies, plans and programmes led by the Council and involving local partnerships and individual organisations can help to maintain existing GI, and promote solutions to remedy deficiencies and create new opportunities.
- 2.11 The Council seeks to protect and enhance the GI network through its planning policies and by seeking developer contributions to fund projects and mitigate impacts of development, alongside actively improving the existing GI network through seeking external funding and grants to support projects.

What should developers do?

2.12 There are many benefits that come with development, including an expectation that it will contribute towards ensuring the borough is a healthy, attractive place to live, with abundant green space which brings with it social, environmental and economic benefits. This is to help mitigate the drawbacks from increased

development which include increased pressure on GI resources such as footpaths and parks due to increased usage, environmental impacts and a sense of overcrowding and overdevelopment due to a lack of provision of open space.

2.13 In order to ensure the sustainability of developments within the borough, it is required that on-site GI elements are factored into schemes. Where this is not possible or on-site provisions are not considered sufficient, financial contributions towards GI provision within the borough will be sought. This will ensure that development will mitigate any negative environmental impacts, and provide visual and amenity improvements to the site.



3 National, Regional and Local Policy and Guidance

- 3.1 This document has been prepared within the context of up to date legislation and reflects the key themes of policy guidance.
- 3.2 The importance of GI is recognised in a number of documents which help to highlight the benefit of the protection and enhancement of GI within towns and cities.
 - Natural Environment White Paper (The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature) (2011)
- 3.3 This paper refers to the role of urban GI as completing "the links in our national ecological network" and "one of the most effective tools available to us in managing environmental risks such as flooding and waves".
 - <u>Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services</u> (2011)
- 3.4 This builds on the White Paper and sets out how international and European commitments are to be implemented and achieved. Action 3.4 sets out how the approach of the planning system will guide development to the best locations, encourage greener design and enhance natural networks.
 - National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019)
- 3.5 Paragraph 20 of the NPPF requires strategic policies to set out the quality of development and make sufficient provision for landscapes and GI. In Hartlepool, this has been achieved through the adoption of the 2018 Local Plan.
- 3.6 The benefits of access to high quality open spaces are highlighted in paragraph 95, which states that this can have a great impact on the health and well-being of communities. Local authorities have the duty to identify the specific needs of the area and what improvements are necessary.
- 3.7 Paragraph 150 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should plan for development in a way that avoids increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change, including through the planning of GI.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) (2014)

3.8 The PPG recognises the importance of open space in contributing to GI and providing health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby. It is key to the achievement of sustainable development.

Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guidance (2009)

- 3.9 This publication considers the planning and delivery of GI, recognising it as part of sustainable spatial planning. It highlights the role of GI as a life support system, with the ability to deliver multiple environmental functions, and to play a key part in adapting to and mitigating climate change.
- 3.10 GI is recognised as an important tool in making the north east an attractive place to live, work and play, whilst also providing the benefits highlighted in national guidance.

Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy (2008)

3.11 This sets out the strategic vision for the development of GI within the Tees Valley and identifies key strategic corridors including the coast from Crimdon Dene in the north to Cowbar in the south, and within Hartlepool borough, the Town Centre to Summerhill Country Park.

Hartlepool Local Plan (2018)

- 3.12 Chapter 16 within the Local Plan focuses on the Natural Environment and Green Networks and includes information not only on GI, but on the natural environment in general, something which forms a critical element of GI within the borough. The policies within this chapter will ensure the protection of designated nature conservation sites, woodland and other priority habitats.
- 3.13 Policy NE2 is dedicated to the safeguarding of GI and sets out the Council's aim to support the development of existing GI links within the borough and the restriction of development on GI components that would lead to their loss. This policy sets out which areas fall under the GI allocation and the restricted circumstances in which the Council may consider damaging or developing on elements of GI.
- 3.14 Policy QP1 (Planning Obligations) sets out that the Council will seek contributions from development towards a number of elements of GI, to ensure their delivery over the plan period.

Local Infrastructure Plan (2016)

3.15 Chapter 7 within this plan covers some of the key projects that the Council is seeking to further develop and enhance. Many of the areas covered are the large strategic GI corridors however there are some others which form smaller, more discrete elements of the borough's GI which provide important open space in densely populated areas.

Residential Design SPD (2019)

3.16 This SPD will play a critical role in the development of GI in the borough. It is important to consider the links between the built environment and the more natural greener spaces, and these areas need good design principles which can be applied through the planning and development process. Working with developers to secure well designed new developments which protect key green areas, provides new GI which complements existing provision and ensure mitigation where GI is lost as a result of the development will be crucial.

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Audit and Assessment (2015)

This document sets the standards for the various types of open space which it assesses. Moving towards the aspirational standards within this assessment will have a significant positive impact on the GI within the borough. The schemes highlighted in the associated Action Plan will aid in moving towards the open space standards in terms of both new provision and quality improvements in existing open space typologies, illustrating clearly the thread between the two documents.

Allotment Strategy and Action Plan (2018)

3.18 This document set out to review the current allotment provision within the borough. As a result of this review, it was found that there should be a more balanced distribution of allotment land across the town, which are geographically accessible to all communities and which include a range of plot sizes.

4 Vision and Objectives

Vision of SPD: By 2029 Hartlepool will have a high quality, multifunctional, accessible green infrastructure network which enhances the community's quality of life and sustains wildlife.

4.1 The following objectives link the vision to the rest of this Strategy. The projects identified in the accompanying Action Plan should achieve one or more of these objectives, to help deliver the vision.

Objective	Objective Description
1	Protect a high quality visual landscape and townscape, and enhance
	the unique character, heritage, function, intrinsic quality and sense of
	place of the borough's GI network to contribute positively to its
	distinctiveness.
2	Provide a network of interconnected GI and spaces rich in habitat and
	home to a diverse range of wildlife which also play a critical role in
	improving the health of residents through providing attractive
	opportunities for recreation and sustainable travel.
3	Minimise the impact of, and adapt to, the effects of climate change, by
	reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the use of resources, the risk of
	flooding and pollution and provide for species adaptation by maximising
	the protection and creation of GI.
4	Promote the preservation, restoration, management and re-creation of
	priority habitats, ecological networks and expanding and linking habitats
	together, including working across Council boundaries where
	appropriate, to assist in restoring biodiversity and allowing species to
	respond to climate change.
5	Ensure trees and hedges are protected where appropriate throughout
	the borough and integrate planting schemes within all new
	developments and, on larger housing schemes, deliver new areas of
	woodland. The preservation of ancient woodland and veteran trees
6	which are irreplaceable is imperative.
6	Protect and enhance a wide range of high quality opportunities for safe
	and accessible formal and informal sport, recreation and leisure facilities
	to encourage the community and visitors to undertake a variety of
7	healthy exercise within attractive settings.
'	Involve users, including "friends of" groups, and neighbours in the design of GI where appropriate, ensuring usability and helping to create
	a sense of ownership and pride.
	a sense of ownership and pride.

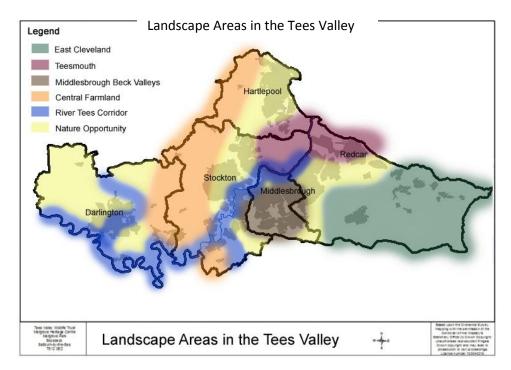
Objective	Objective Description	
8	Support economic growth, attract inward investment and support	
	redevelopment of brownfield land by improving the setting of industrial	
	and commercial areas through the delivery and enhancement of quality,	
	distinctive and attractive GI.	
9 Create a quality, distinctive and productive GI network to s		
	food production, rural diversification and tourism to meet the needs of	
	local businesses, landowners and to provide a diverse employment	
	base.	
10	Ensure key green hubs, such as parks, play spaces and woodlands,	
	are, where possible, linked by means of safe and easily accessible	
	green networks and rights of way that together form a high quality GI	
	grid across the whole of the borough.	



Image 3: Rossmere Park

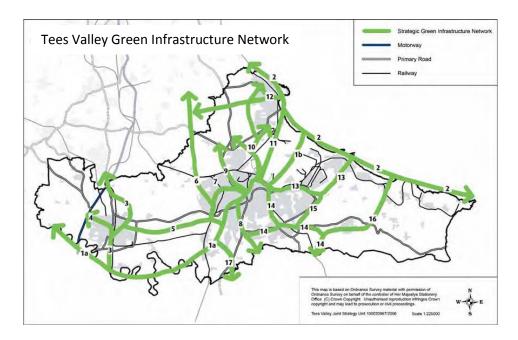
5 Strategic Green Infrastructure – Ensuring Sufficient Links within Teesside

- 5.1 Quality of place, quality of life and the well-being of communities is considered central to regional and sub-regional competitiveness, alongside relocation and investment decisions. It is recognised that the region's green spaces are a vital asset, particularly in the context of increasing development pressures, and that GI is increasingly acknowledged as being a key component of sustainable communities.
- 5.2 The Tees Valley Nature Partnership produced a diagrammatic map illustrating the six distinct landscape areas in the Tees Valley.



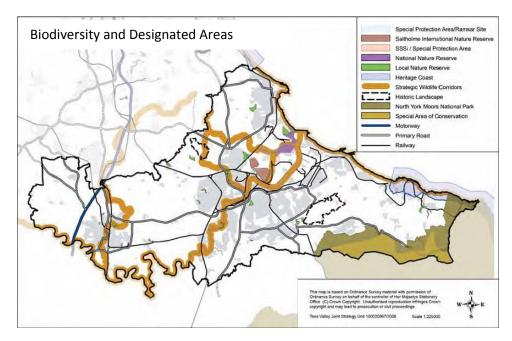
(Figure 1. Source: Tees Valley Nature Partnership)

5.3 The Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy (2008) helps to drive forward the development of a strategic network of GI across the Tees Valley and reflects links into neighbouring areas. It is important that, in developing a GI strategy, the wider aspirations of the Tees Valley and other neighbouring authorities are taken into account and reflected within Hartlepool. Figure 2, below, illustrates the key green networks in the Tees Valley.

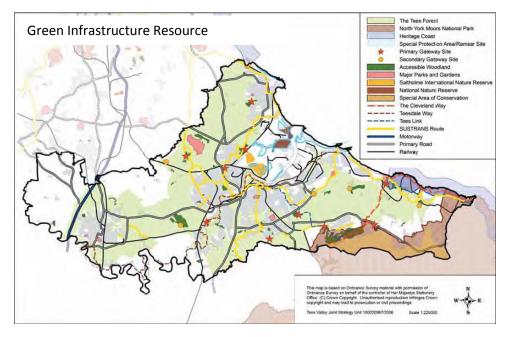


(Figure 2. Source Tees Valley GI Strategy 2008)

- 5.4 The key networks as illustrated above also fit together with many other elements of GI which help to create a Tees Valley which is rich in terms of all aspects of GI including biodiversity, landscape, habitat, green corridors, wetlands and more.
- 5.5 Figures 3 and 4 overleaf help to illustrate the variety of GI which the Tees Valley benefits from. The continual protection and enhancement of GI must respect and complement the GI in the wider region. This strategic understanding of GI in the wider region enables recognition of any weaknesses in the network which could be improved in the future, and helps identify any opportunities to build new GI.



(Figure 3. Source Tees Valley GI Strategy 2008)

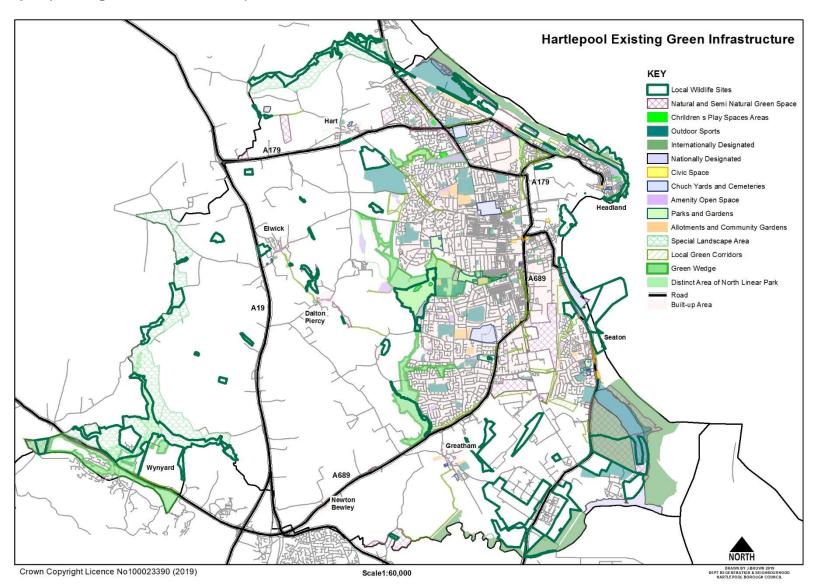


(Figure 4. Source Tees Valley GI Strategy 2008)

6 Existing Green Infrastructure in Hartlepool

- 6.1 This section provides a brief introduction to existing GI within Hartlepool. More information on areas that are in need of investment can be found within the accompanying Action Plan.
- 6.2 Hartlepool currently benefits from a wide range of GI spread across the borough. This ranges from traditional parks such as Ward Jackson and Rossmere, to significant green wedges running from the countryside into the town, to individual gardens.
- 6.3 Individual elements of GI are protected under policy NE2 of the Local Plan, and the accompanying policies map identifies GI components as being; green wedges, parks and gardens, children's playing space/areas, outdoor sport including playing fields, local green corridors, civic spaces, churchyards and cemeteries, allotments and community gardens, amenity open space and natural and semi-natural green space.
- 6.4 Map 1 presents the borough-wide GI network and the larger individual elements which it comprises of.

Map 1 (borough wide GI network)



The Coast

- 6.5 Hartlepool has around 15km of coastline that faces the North Sea, with another 2km along its southern border at Seaton Channel. Access to the coastal areas is a priority as they are used by large numbers of people for various recreational purposes throughout the year. The section of the England Coast Path (designated as a National Trail) through the entire borough has been completed and was officially opened in September 2019.
- 6.6 Much of the coastline can be accessed along beaches or through the dunes, although dunes are dynamic systems which can easily be damaged. Currently there is limited access around Victoria Harbour and Seaton Channel due to industrial and commercial uses.

Ward Jackson Park

6.7 The park was provided by public money in 1883 to commemorate one of Hartlepool's greatest entrepreneurs, Ralph Ward Jackson. It is an important example of a Victorian public park and strongly linked to the buildings surrounding it, which sets the tone and reinforces the Arcadian principles of the area. Ward Jackson Park continues to play a crucial role in the provision of attractive green space in the west of the town, acting as a focal point for residents and visitors to enjoy. This is a Registered Park and Garden which, as a designated heritage asset, gives it extra protection.

Rossmere Park

6.8 This park forms an important element of the Owton Manor Green Wedge. Set in an urban residential area, the park incorporates open-grassed areas, trees, a lake, an all-weather pitch and fixed equipment playground (for toddlers and teenagers). The park is used for both formal and informal sport and recreation. This park is locally listed and therefore identified as a heritage asset, which highlights the significant positive impact that this park has on the surrounding area.

Seaton Carew

6.9 Seaton Park is 16 acres in size and provides a range of facilities for users including a play area, tennis courts, a bowling green, flower gardens and open grassed areas. The park is a valuable asset to Seaton Carew, but some restoration is needed. The large areas of informal open space provide the setting of the Seaton Carew Conservation Area forming a green swathe separating the buildings from the coast.

6.10 There are other less formal areas of public open space in Seaton Carew that play an important part in offering different types of green space in the area. For example areas such as the Green, which is a formal green space within a residential area and provides an amenity space for those in surrounding houses and also contributes to the setting of a number of heritage assets in the area.

Owton Manor Green Wedge

- 6.11 This green wedge runs from the rural fringe at Owton Manor through to Rossmere Park in the east. The eastern edge of the wedge, including the Park and the recreation ground on Rossmere Way are major assets to this area of the town and provide space for recreational and sporting activities.
- 6.12 The western end of this green wedge is predominately green open space with some recently planted woodland. This area suffers from anti-social behaviour, including use by motorbikes and quad bikes, which causes significant damage to amenity grassed area. However, due to the general lack of GI in the south of the town, it is of great value to the residents.

Burn Valley Green Wedge Inc. Summerhill Country Park

- 6.13 The Burn Valley Green Wedge runs from the centre of town out to the countryside. This 19 acre park includes three bowling greens, a bowling pavilion, Ornamental gardens, and playground. It provides a walk from the town centre to Family Wood and on to open countryside. Summerhill Country Park is recognised as an area of local importance and has been locally listed.
- 6.14 Previous work on the site saw the improvement in the environmental quality and landscape of the upper stretch of the Burn Valley Green Wedge through habitat creation and restoration thereby creating more "wild places and natural spaces" within easy reach of the urban population.

Middle Warren Green Wedge

6.15 This green wedge is an integral element of the Middle Warren housing development that has built out over the past 20 years. This forms a green corridor running through to Easington Road. The east of the green wedge is more natural with mature trees, which leads into the section that has been formed as part of the development. A stream forms an attractive feature, and its course has been diversified in order to help form wetland areas and to slow water flow in times of high rainfall.

6.16 Extensive tree planting has taken place over the years and a network of footpaths allows users to enjoy a variety of routes through the green wedge, and partake in walking, cycling and running. A children's play area to the south of Merlin Way has provided further recreational provision within the area.

Wynyard Woods Green Wedge

6.17 The green wedge at Wynyard Woods helps to provide an attractive setting for the executive housing at Wynyard. It provides green space with some tree planting, which provides recreational space including for dog walking. In line with future development in the area there is an aspiration to extend the green wedge through to link with the Castle Eden Walkway.

Golden Flatts Green Wedge

6.18 Currently this area is a semi-natural area of land which acts as a buffer between housing on Seaton Lane and the steel pipe mill. This area incorporates sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) ponds associated with housing development on Seaton Lane. This area is seen as one of great opportunity and there are aspirations for a development which would incorporate new woodland, new ponds, walking routes, play space and pitch provision.

North Linear Park

6.19 Within the northern area of the borough there are a number of elements of individual green space, such as the Town Moor on the Headland, Central Park, a green corridor on Central Estate and Clavering play area, alongside areas of accessible coastline and countryside. These all contribute towards the overall GI within the northern area of the town and are collectively known as North Linear Park. There needs to be better connectivity to ensure the individual elements of the North Linear Park can be used in conjunction.

Rural Hartlepool

6.20 The rural area covers more than half of the borough's total area, with the majority of the public and permissive rights of way path network located there. These paths are relied upon for leisure as well as access to and from work and local amenities. A major issue with the rights of way network in the rural area is the A19 dual carriageway, which severs many routes and adds a degree of danger to those walking routes where they need to cross this road.

6.21 The majority of these pathways link into a wide range of the borough's green spaces infrastructure and these vital links provide access to and from the open spaces and form part of a wider network.

<u>Allotments</u>

6.22 There are a number of allotments spread throughout the town which provide a valuable amenity for local residents, allowing for the production of fresh fruit and vegetables. This is not only beneficial in health terms but also helps economically. The allotments across the town vary in quality and maintenance, however on the whole the spaces are well cared for by tenants and considered to be an asset to those who use them.

Cemeteries

6.23 The principle role of cemeteries is clear and must be respected and pre-eminent in their use, however it is also acknowledged that they provide extensive areas of attractive green space which can have important secondary benefits. For example Spion Kop cemetery is of sub-regional importance for the coastal grassland that is found there and this has been recognised in its designation as a Local Nature Reserve in 2004. North Cemetery is a 12.6 hectare area of wooded greenspace in an area that is surrounded by dense housing and is very well used by local residents for walking. Seaton Cemetery is a popular birdwatching site due to mature trees creating a migrant staging post on the coast.

7 Natural Environment

7.1 This chapter of the SPD details the natural environment features that are present within the borough. Some elements of the natural environment form informal, crucial parts of the GI network and their conservation is essential.

Biodiversity

- 7.2 The borough contains several priority habitats and species as defined by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, Section 41 list of habitats and species of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England, and the Tees Valley Nature Partnership priority habitats and species. The potential for development to impact on these species is a material planning consideration and should where appropriate be considered during pre-planning investigations and planning application validation.
- 7.3 Many non-designated areas of green space have wildlife value, but these are generally small, isolated and widely dispersed. Expanding and linking these areas is a key objective in restoring biodiversity and allowing species to respond to climate change. The potential for development to impact on these areas is a material planning consideration.

Nature conservation site designation

7.4 The most valuable wildlife sites are protected by legal and planning designations, from European Special Protection Areas to Local Wildlife Sites, as detailed in Local Plan policy NE1. Many species of plant and animal have legal protection in their own right. Important geological sites are also protected. Sites are in both public and private ownership. Information on designated sites can be found in Appendix 3 and on the Natural England and Council websites. The potential for development to impact on these areas is a material planning consideration.

Priority Habitats

7.5 There is a concentration of priority habitats within the Tees estuary (Teesmouth) all along the coastline and in the extensive dene complex in the north of the borough. There are fewer (generally smaller) sites scattered across open farmland. A number of sites are within the town and urban fringe. The potential for development to impact on these areas is a material planning consideration.

- 7.6 Teesmouth contains areas of estuary-related habitats such as mudflats, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh and sand dunes. It includes sites of international importance for over-wintering and breeding wildfowl and wetland birds. There are several areas of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, the largest being at Greenabella Marsh and Seaton Common. The Hart Warren and Seaton Dunes areas have extensive sand dunes. Mudflats are found along the north banks of Greatham Creek and Seaton Channel and in West Harbour. Remnants of saltmarsh occur along the north bank of Greatham Creek.
- 7.7 'Previously used' brownfield (or open mosaic) habitat is centred upon areas which were formerly subject to industrial use around the town and these support plant, butterfly and amphibian species.
- 7.8 There are extensive woodland complexes along the northern and southwestern boundaries of the borough. Semi-natural ancient woodland is found in the Nesbitt, Thorpe Bulmer and Crimdon Denes complex on the northern boundary with Durham and at the Howls in Dalton Piercy. The Wynyard Woodland Park Complex in the south west of the borough contains some semi-natural ancient woodland, along with broadleaved mixed woodland and wet woodland.
- 7.9 Habitats found scattered across the open farmland include grasslands, fens, ponds and hedgerows. Some hedgerows are 'species-rich'. Semi-natural grasslands are mostly associated with slopes. Within the farmed hinterland of Hartlepool there are six fens and bogs, the most important being Hart Bog, which has a glacial origin.
- 7.10 Priority habitat ponds are mostly found in the urban and industrial areas of the borough, with a few isolated ponds scattered across farmland. The majority of these ponds meet the priority pond criteria and often support amphibians such as common toad, smooth newt and great crested newt.

Geological features

7.11 The coastline has several important geological features: Hartlepool Submerged Forest, Hartlepool Headland and Long Scar and Little Scar. Inland, there are notable geological sites at Dalton Batts and West Crimdon Dene and in four quarries. The potential for development to impact on these areas is a material planning consideration.

Priority species

- 7.12 The northern denes and Crookfoot Reservoir support good numbers of bats and harvest mouse is present near Hart Village and probably elsewhere. There is a population of harbour seal centred upon Seal Sands and they often move along Seaton Channel and haul out along Greatham Creek. Grey seals occur but do not breed. Brown hares occur on both brownfield sites and in farmland, but badgers are scarce. Once widespread, the water vole is now scarce within the borough, however otters have become more common.
- 7.13 Breeding populations of bird species of key importance in the Tees Valley are present within the farmland to the west of Hartlepool. Most of these species are also UK Biodiversity 2020 conservation priority species. Over recent years the Teesmouth population of little egrets has increased substantially, with birds roosting in Rossmere Park and the species now breeds in the borough. Most of the coastline is important for non-breeding/overwintering bird populations, and there are international and national designations to protect these. A colony of protected little terns annually nest on the beach.
- 7.14 Small populations of great crested newts are scattered across the borough. Common toads and frogs are widespread and smooth newt is abundant in some ponds.
- 7.15 Common Lizard is the only reptile found in the borough, though this species has not been recorded for over ten years.
- 7.16 A number of priority butterflies occur, especially those dependent on grasslands and brownfield sites, such as dingy skipper, small heath and grayling. Several woodlands with elm trees support white-letter hairstreak butterflies and some with oaks support purple hairstreaks. Recent butterfly colonists include brown argus, silver-washed fritillary and dark-green fritillary, demonstrating how insects are responding to climate change.

Environmental education and green tourism

7.17 Local Nature Reserves are specifically places that the public can access to appreciate or learn about wildlife, and other publically accessible sites add to people's experience of nature. The coastal network of wildlife and publically accessible sites continues northwards into County Durham and southwards to RSPB Saltholme.

Waterways and Wetlands

- 7.18 Some small watercourses run along the public right of way network or are otherwise accessible. There are also several artificial ponds and wetlands which have been created, adding to the visual appeal and wildlife value of the areas where they are located. These waterbodies are one of the ways in which the GI in the borough links together and they play a vital part in the setting and quality of green spaces, corridors and natural habitats.
- 7.19 Opportunities to improve the quality and accessibility of watercourses will be sought, and the creation and enhancement of features will be promoted for the benefit to wildlife and also to assist with flood alleviation. Opportunities to diversify watercourses, particularly within the urban areas, as part of the redevelopment of sites will be sought where it is considered the benefits of this are justified.

Alleviating Flood Risk

7.20 There is the potential for GI to include planned new water management facilities, which can include balancing ponds and water storage areas.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) can provide GI elements as well as addressing surface water drainage issues.

8 Historic Environment

- 8.1 The historic environment not only provides a valuable resource, but many tangible and intangible benefits to GI. It can help define a place and connect people to traditions and values. Such concepts can be used to animate areas and help to create or regenerate neighbourhoods and communities. The historic "ready-made" environment can provide GΙ that underpins benefits/agendas. For example, the formal space of Ward Jackson Park provided an opportunity to improve a park but in doing this much wider benefits were fulfilled in regenerating an area and providing a wider offer for visitors to the park.
- 8.2 GI can be an important mechanism for protecting heritage assets and their landscape settings and for increasing public access to and appreciation of them. Heritage assets are considered as being irreplaceable resources and GI can be planned appropriately in order to sufficiently safeguard and enhance them. At the same time, the historic environment can add greatly to the richness, scope, diversity and physical extent of GI networks.

9 Innovative Ideas for Green Infrastructure

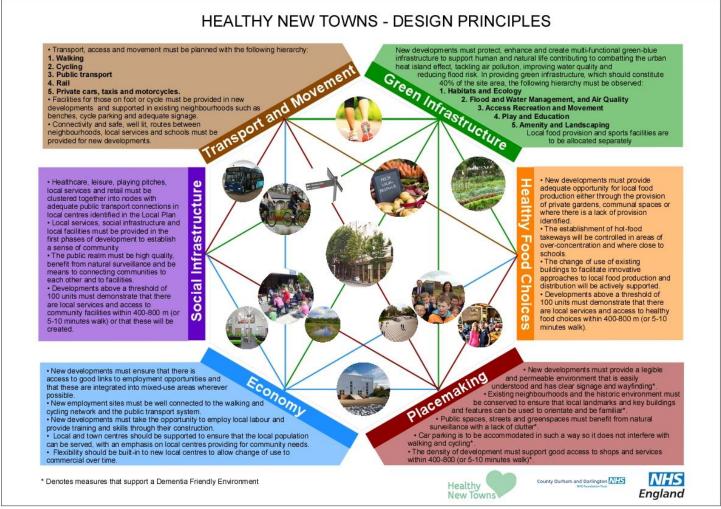
- 9.1 GI can be incorporated in a way that is not always seemingly obvious.

 Although provisions for parks and large green spaces are very important, it is possible to be innovative regarding small pockets of space within the borough.
- 9.2 Successful ideas are ones which make the most of space which may currently be run down, lacking attention or may be unsuitable for alternative uses. There are potential opportunities to develop areas like these to make them an asset to the community, and to improve the overall aesthetic and visual amenity of the area.
- 9.3 Areas with pockets of green are considered as being more desirable, and pockets of green can be developed and enhanced in easy ways such as tree planting, creation of community gardens, multisensory gardens, green roofs, green walls etc.
- 9.4 Some ways in which GI can be incorporated into specific areas include:
 - Urban areas: boulevards, green roofs and walls, street trees
 - Community centres/hubs: sustainable buildings with green roofs, rainwater collection, community gardens, green provision for relaxation and socialising
 - Green wedges: trees, green spaces, waterways, pedestrian and cycle routes
 - Small holdings: allotments, shared gardens, learning zones
 - Parks: accessible habitats and green spaces, activity zones, tree, shrub and flower planting
 - Housing developments: spaces for relaxation and healthy living, neighbourhood gardens, on-site fruit/vegetable patches, tree lined streets and garden space
- 9.5 There are many different opportunities for the provision of GI in the borough, and developers are encouraged to use their initiative to enable the creation of places which are healthy, attractive and desirable to users.

10 Green Infrastructure within Future Developments

- 10.1 There are several large and mid-sized up and coming housing developments that are factored into the Local Plan. It is of key importance that these contribute where necessary towards the borough's GI and factor it into their design when necessary.
 - Urban Local Plan sites: GI within these sites will aid in reducing the appearance of crowded urban areas through the provision of street trees, hedges etc.
 - South West extension: approx. 48.22 ha of multifunctional GI will be provided within a strategic wedge within the development.
 - High Tunstall: 12.00 of multifunctional GI will be provided within a strategic green wedge within the development.
 - Quarry Farm: 3.00 ha of multifunctional GI will be provided on this site.
 - Wynyard developments: The Wynyard Masterplan sets out a green network within the area which will be delivered by developments as they come forward.
 - Elwick village: 0.40 ha of GI, informal open space and recreational and leisure land is required to be provided.
 - Hart village: the remainder of undeveloped land at both Nine Acres and Glebe Farm developments will be used for GI.
- 10.2 This provision for GI has been factored in to provide visual, social and environmental benefits, ensuring that the communities who live in these new developments can boost their quality of life and benefit from easily accessible greenspace close to their homes. It will also avoid overdevelopment within these areas, eliminating the potential for undesirable and overcrowded estates.
- 10.3 It is of key importance that all these developments deliver these GI requirements. Further information on this can be found in Chapter 10 of the Local Plan, with each housing site having its own relevant policy.
- 10.4 It is expected that GI is factored in at the earliest design stage of all developments, which will encourage it to be incorporated organically into designs.
- 10.5 Developers should be aware of the benefits that come from taking initiative in relation to making provisions for GI on-site. Successful developments are considered as those which are aesthetically pleasing, with plenty of amenity green space built into the development and adequate paths alongside provision of cycle lanes. These small enhancements to a site, if factored in from the earliest stage, will in turn lead to the site becoming a much more

desirable place to live, and will improve the physical and mental health of the residents, as well as contributing to the sustainability of the site.



(Figure 5. Source: NHS England)

- 10.6 This diagram was produced by the Healthy New Towns pioneering project, which aims to work with the NHS and local authorities to shape the health of communities. It provides a clear vision of how GI links into other factors which contribute towards healthy and thriving places which include healthy food choices, place making, economy, social infrastructure and transport and movement. It is evident that GI plays a crucial role in mitigating environmental impacts but also its provision can lead to many multi-functional benefits such as opportunities for local food production, an increased pride of place, sustainable links to employment and improved health of residents.
- 10.7 Although these design principles were engineered for the Healthy New Towns project, they provide a good basis for things which developers can factor into schemes in order to make them a better place in general for residents and visitors.

11 Planning Obligations and Green Infrastructure

- 11.1 Related Council documents which developers are encouraged to read regarding planning obligations are:
 - 2018 Local Plan
 - Emerging Public Rights of Way & other Access SPD
 - Planning Obligations SPD
- 11.2 Paragraph 56 of the NPPF highlights that any obligations sought by the Council are required to be:
 - Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms
 - Directly related to the development; and
 - Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development
- 11.3 The Council will seek to ensure that any GI contributions that are requested of the developer meet these criteria.
- 11.4 Residential development of 5 units minimum are expected to contribute £250 per dwelling towards the provision of green infrastructure.
- 11.5 Developments falling within an A1 use class in planning terms are expected to contribute £20,000 for the initial 500sqm of A1 retail space, and an increase of £1,000 per additional 100sqm of A1 floor space. This applies for new build and change of use.
- 11.6 Developments falling within a B1 use class in planning terms are expected to contribute £5,000 for the initial 1000sqm of B1 floor space and an increase of £1,000 per additional 100sqm of floor space. This applies for new build and change of use.
- 11.7 Any other developments are assessed on a case by case basis, and an officer will determine whether GI contributions are considered necessary to mitigate the impacts of the development, or to make the development sustainable.
- 11.8 Advise on proposed development can be obtained from the Council for a small charge through its One Stop Shop pre-application advice service.

12 Investment in and Management of Green Infrastructure

- 12.1 Ongoing investment is critical to GI to ensure that all forms are provided to the best possible standard. The Council continues to work with a wide range of stakeholders in order to access various sources of funding, alongside Council funding, in order to aid in the provision, enhancement and maintenance of GI.
- 12.2 The information and records held by the Council help to identify areas of greatest need and are used to help inform the Action Plan for investment in GI.
- 12.3 Contributions which can be secured as part of the planning process on applications for development, particularly housing, can be used, within the vicinity of those developments, to seek improvements to GI which are considered necessary as a result of those developments and to ensure their sustainability.
- 12.4 For most forms of publicly accessible GI in the borough, the Council is the main organisation with the responsibility for the maintenance and management of these spaces including parks and gardens, play areas, the beaches and coastal margins and the green wedges. The delivery of new GI must be considered against the long term maintenance liabilities it will bring. Less intensive management regimes, such as wildflower meadows or woodland planting can deliver cost savings as well as being of great benefit to biodiversity and should be considered where appropriate. Sometimes in new development the land owner may put in place a management organisation which maintains areas of green infrastructure within developments and residents pay an annual fee towards the running of the management company. The long term management of GI in a development where appropriate will be secured through a relevant planning obligation.

13 Monitoring and Review

- 13.1 It is important to the success of this Strategy that measures are put in place to:
 - Evaluate the impact the Strategy is having;
 - Monitor delivery of the Action Plan; and
 - Use this information to review both the Strategy and Action Plan in the medium and long term.
- 13.2 This SPD contains a number of priorities and actions which will contribute to the achievement of this SPD's vision and objectives. The success of GI projects will be based on if they can meet any/all of the objectives in the document, and if the benefits of such schemes can be openly recognised.

Appendix 1 - Glossary of Key Terms

Accessible greenspace: space for the public to use free of charge and without time restrictions; some spaces may be closed overnight.

Ancient woodland: woodland that has existed continuously since 1600 or before.

Biodiversity: variety of life including different plants, animals and micro-organisms, and the ecosystems which they are part of.

Climate change: effect of global warming on weather conditions and unpredictable variations in temperatures.

Conservation area: area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Ecosystem: interactions between living organisms and their physical environment.

Green corridor: linear green space connecting different types of greenspace, can incorporate walking and cycling routes. Most are also wildlife corridors.

Green infrastructure: strategically planned and delivered interconnecting, visually linked network of public and private multifunctional green spaces, landscapes and natural environments in the urban and rural area used for recreation, biodiversity and food production, which supports natural, cultural and ecological processes, with benefits for people, wildlife and place.

Green wedge: open area between neighbourhoods which helps to maintain their separate distinctive qualities.

Heritage asset: a building, monument, site, place or area of landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions.

Landscape: consistent, distinct pattern of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and settlements.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR): designated by the Council and Natural England for its special local wildlife or geological value and which provide people with opportunities to learn about nature or enjoy it.

Multifunctionality: the ability of a space to perform more than one greenspace function at the same time.

Priority habitats and species: protected by national legislation because of their vulnerable status.

Public Rights of Way: includes public footpaths, bridleways and byways where the public have a right to use them at any time.

Registered Historic Parks and Gardens: protected by English Heritage as being of special historic interest.

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs): this is green space that is of a quality and type suitable to be used as mitigation for development likely to affect special protection areas.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): protected by the Government it is of national importance for wildlife, geology or geomorphology.

Special Protection Area (SPA): internationally designated wildlife site.

Surface water run-off: excess rainwater, or from drains that flow over land.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS): reduce and slow the quantity and rate of surface water run-off from new development, dealing with it as close to the source as possible.

Wildlife corridor: linear greenspace that provides links for wildlife dispersal and movement, can have wider amenity benefits.

Wildlife friendly greenspace: space where naturalness dominates.

Appendix 2 - Green Infrastructure as a result of Planning Obligations

Below is a list of some GI projects that have been secured or implemented across the borough as a result of money pooled from Section 106 planning obligations, or conditions that have been imposed on developers.

- Surface track, woodlands planting within Golden Flatts Green Wedge
- Contributions toward Ward Jackson Park
- · Provision of GI at various small sites in the borough adjacent to development
- Greatham Village allotment improvements
- Two new footpaths near Quarry Farm
- Croft Gardens improvements
- Coastal footpath improvements between Newburn Bridge and Marina
- Chester Road Thornhill Gardens Allotments
- Development of public footpath between South Valley Drive and Summerhill

Appendix 3 - Designated statutory and non-statutory wildlife sites in Hartlepool

Statutory	Site Name	Reason for Designation
designated sites		
(National)		
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast	Non-breeding populations of knot, redshank and sandwich tern and a breeding population of little tern. Also designated for waterbird assemblage of 20,000 birds.
Proposed SPA extension	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast	As above but with additional sites and added species: common tern, avocet and ruff.
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	Teesmouth	Covers two areas: North Gare, an area of dunes and grazing marsh north of the power station and Seal Sands, one of the largest areas of intertidal mudflats on England's north-east coast.
Ramsar site (Wetland of international importance)	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast	Populations of redshank and knot occurring at levels of international importance; assemblages of waterfowl of international importance with peak counts in winter.
European Marine Site (EMS)	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast	Non-breeding populations of knot, redshank and sandwich tern and a breeding population of little tern. Also designated for waterbird assemblage of 20,000 birds.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Seal Sands	Forms a part of 'Teesmouth Flats and Marshes', a complex of sites of international importance for overwintering shore birds. It is the only extensive area of intertidal mudflats, with tidal channels on the east coast of England between the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve to the north and the Humber Estuary to the south.

Statutory	Site Name	Reason for Designation
designated sites		3
(National)		
SSSI	Seaton Dunes	Forms a part of 'Teesmouth Flats and
	and Common	Marshes'. It is an area of considerable
		importance for its flora, invertebrate
		fauna, and bird life. The range of habitats
		present include sandy, muddy and rocky
		foreshore, dunes, dune slacks and dune
		grassland, as well as relict saltmarsh,
		grazed freshwater marsh with dykes
		(known locally as fleets and stells) pools
	<u></u>	and seawalls.
SSSI	Tees and	Coastal areas which are an integral part
	Hartlepool	of the complex of wetlands, estuarine and
	Foreshore and	maritime sites supporting the
	Wetlands	internationally important population of
SSSI	Hart Dag	wildfowl and waders on the Tees Estuary.
3331	Hart Bog	A small topogenous mire of particular botanical, invertebrate and palaeo-
		botanical interest.
SSSI	Hartlepool	Of national importance in the Flandrian
3331	Submerged	Sea-Level Changes block of the
	Forest	Geological Conservation Review.
SSSI	Durham Coast	Contains most of the para-maritime
	Damaii Godot	Magnesian Limestone vegetation in
		Britain, as well as a species-rich dune
		system. Supports nationally-important
		numbers of wintering shore birds and
		breeding little terns, which contribute to
		the internationally important populations
		of the north east coast.
Local non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory		
designated sites		
Local Wildlife Site	Hartlepool Power	Common Lizard
(LWS)	Station Grassland	
	and Wetland	
LWS	Black Wood	Fens, Flushes
	Marsh	

Local non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory designated sites		
LWS	Hart Warren	Neutral Grasslands; Coastal Grasslands
LVVO	Railway	Neutral Grassiarius, Coastal Grassiarius
	Embankment	
	Grassland	
1.00		Detterffice Occurred Linear Newtral
LWS	Hart-Haswell	Butterflies; Common Lizard; Neutral
1.74/0	Walkway	Grasslands; Calcareous Grasslands
LWS	Crimdon Road	Calcareous Grasslands; Common Lizard
1140	Verge	N . I O I I E E I I
LWS	Pawton Hill Gill	Neutral Grasslands, Fens, Flushes
	Grassland	
LWS	Beacon Hill Flush	Fens, Flushes
LWS	Crookfoot	Water Body
	Reservoir	
LWS	Amerston Gill	Broad-leaved Woodland and Replanted
	Woodland	Ancient Woodland
LWS	Thorpe Bulmer	Ancient Woodland
	and West	
	Crimdon Denes	
LWS	Greenabella	Water Vole; Common Lizard
	Marsh	
LWS	Close Wood	Ancient Woodland; Broad-leaved
	Complex	Woodland and Replanted Ancient
		Woodland; Breeding/Wintering Birds;
		Important Butterflies
LWS	North Burn Marsh	Fens, Flushes
LWS	The Howls	Ancient Woodland
	Woodland	
LWS	Carr House	Wintering population of birds
	Sands and West	
	Harbour	
LWS	West Carr	Wet Woodland
	Plantation	
LWS	Greatham Creek	Saltmarsh
	North Bank	
	Saltmarsh	
LWS	Crimdon Road	Neutral Grasslands
	Verge	
LWS	Tilery Gill	Fens, Flushes; Neutral Grasslands
	Grassland	Tene, Francisco, Francisco Contraction
	Jiacolaria	

Local non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory		
designated sites		
LWS	Phillips Tank	Urban Grassland; Great Crested Newt;
	Farm Grassland	Important Butterflies; Water Vole
LWS	The Slake	Saltmarsh
	Saltmarsh	
LWS	Bellows Burn	Fens, Flushes
	Marsh	
LWS	Greatham Beck	Water Vole
LWS	Elwick Hall	Neutral Grasslands
	Grassland	
LWS	Hart Quarry	Breeding/Wintering Birds
LWS	Brierton Quarry	Neutral Grassland
	Grassland	
LWS	Saltern Saltmarsh	Saltmarsh
LWS	Gunnersvale	Fens, Flushes
	Marsh	
LWS	Tot Fenny's	Neutral Grasslands; Fens, Flushes
	Meadow	
LWS	Queen's Meadow	Amphibians
	Wetland	
LWS	Rossmere Park	Breeding/Wintering Birds
	Island Heronry	
LWS	Brenda Road	Great Crested Newt; Urban Grassland
	Brownfield	
LWS	Zinc Works Bird	Wintering Population of Birds;
	Field	Breeding/Wintering Birds
LWS	Spion Kop	Coastal Grasslands
	Cemetery	
	Grassland	
LWS	Hart Cutting	Calcareous Grasslands
	Grassland	
LWS	Hartville Meadow	Neutral Grasslands
LWS	Craddon Bank	Neutral Grasslands; Fens/Flushes
	Grassland	
LWS	High Stofold	Neutral Grasslands
	Meadow	
LWS	North Hartlepool	Coastal Grasslands
	Dunes	
LWS	Char Beck	Neutral Grasslands
	Grassland	

Lacalinan	Cita Nama	December Designation
Local non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory		
designated sites		
LWS	Butts Lane Field	Harvest Mouse
	Margins	
LWS	Summerhill	Urban mosaic of hay meadows,
	Country Park	hedgerows, ponds and planted trees
LWS	Central Park	Urban Grassland
	Grassland	
LWS & Local	Naisberry Quarry	Neutral Grassland; disused quarry
Geological Site	Grassland	
(LGS)		
LWS & LGS	Whelly Hill Quarry	Neutral Grassland; disused quarry
	Grassland	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
LGS	Long Scar & Little	Two exposures of wave-washed scars
	Scar	consisting of Sherwood sandstone, from
		the Triassic period.
LGS	Hartlepool	A wave washed platform, revealing
	Headland	exposures of Magnesian Limestone in a
	Tieadiand	coastal zone environment.
LGS	Dalton Batts	A large river-cliff that reveals an excellent
LGS	Dailon Balls	
		exposure of glacial sands, gravels and
1.00	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	clay from the last glaciation.
LGS	West Crimdon	Exposure of Magnesian Limestone in a
	Dene	river gorge environment.
Local Nature	Hart to Haswell	Former railway line with a rich mix of
Reserve (LNR)	Walkway	magnesian limestone grassland, ponds,
		semi-mature and mature woodland.
LNR	Hart Warren	The only magnesium limestone dune
		system of any significance in the British
		Isles; supports a rich variety of both flora
		and fauna.
LNR	Spion Kop	A mix of coastal, limestone and industrial
	Cemetery	heritage habitats that produces rich dune
		grassland unique in Hartlepool and rare
		within the Tees Valley.
LNR	Summerhill	This site combines recreation and
		conservation. The site has hay meadows,
		hedgerows, ponds and over 65,000 trees.
LNR	Greatham Beck	A small site providing a haven and wildlife
,	2.00.000	corridor for many species including the
		Water Vole.
		vvator voic.

Local non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory		
designated sites		
LNR	Seaton Dunes and Common	Seaton Common is a wet grassland which attracts large numbers of passage migrants over winter and is a breeding ground for birds in the summer months. Seaton Dunes is the largest sand dune system between Lindisfarne to the north and Humber to the south.
Other non-	Site Name	Reason for Designation
statutory		
designated sites		
Country Park	Summerhill	Managed Country Park and visitor centre
	Country Park	(also a LWS)
RSPB Reserve	Saltholme	Managed reserve and visitor centre (in
		Stockton but links intrinsically with sites
		within Hartlepool)
Heritage Coast	Durham Heritage	Extends down to the Headland.
	Coast	Landscape, biodiversity, heritage and
		public enjoyment.



Hartlepool Borough Council

Green Infrastructure Action Plan

Supplementary Planning Document

Draft Version





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1 Introduction

What is the purpose of this document?

- 1.1 This document builds upon the information found in the main SPD regarding Green Infrastructure (GI) in the borough, and will set out areas of investment and improvement that are needed in the coming years to develop and grow the GI network in the borough. The improvements and schemes within this document will allow funding to be sought towards their implementation and will also be useful in directing developer contributions, which are acquired through planning applications, to schemes relevant to the application.
- 1.2 It should be noted that the schemes within this document are not the only schemes where contributions may be sought towards their implementation, they are simply the schemes which are most advanced. There are wider, more strategic aspirations which are equally as important in terms of the future delivery of GI in Hartlepool.
- 1.3 Where costs of schemes are available, these have been included.
- 1.4 It will be important that, where necessary, proposals for development or enhancement of GI will be developed in a way which will safeguard, enhance or even re-establish the assets. The involvement of key stakeholders in the development of GI will help to ensure that the proposals in this Action Plan are delivered in a sustainable manner, helping to ensure a better future for Hartlepool and its residents.
- 1.5 This Action Plan forms an integral part of the Green Infrastructure SPD and, once adopted, will form part of the Local Development Framework, linking with the Hartlepool Local Plan to drive forward the development of GI within the borough. It will enable the Council to seek funding to help implement distinct elements of the Action Plan.

2 Vision and Objectives

Vision of SPD: By 2029 Hartlepool will have a high quality, multifunctional, accessible green infrastructure network which enhances the community's quality of life and protects wildlife.

2.1 The following objectives link the vision to the rest of this Strategy. The projects identified in this Action Plan should achieve one or more of these objectives, to help deliver the vision.

Objective	Objective Description
1	Protect a high quality visual landscape and townscape, and enhance the unique character, heritage, function, intrinsic quality and sense of place of Hartlepool's GI network to contribute positively to its distinctiveness.
2	Provide a network of interconnected GI and spaces rich in habitat and home to a diverse range of wildlife which also play a critical role in improving the health of residents through providing attractive opportunities for recreation and sustainable travel.
3	Minimise the impact of, and adapt to, the effects of climate change, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the use of resources, the risk of flooding and pollution and provide for species adaptation by maximising the protection and creation of GI.
4	Promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and expanding and linking habitats together, including working across Council boundaries where appropriate, to assist in restoring biodiversity and allowing species to respond to climate change. SANGs will be used where necessary to take pressures off sensitive protected areas.
5	Ensure trees and hedges are protected throughout the borough and integrate planting schemes within all new developments and, on larger housing schemes, deliver new areas of woodland. The conservation of ancient woodland and veteran trees which are irreplaceable is imperative.
6	Protect and enhance a wide range of high quality opportunities for safe and accessible formal and informal sport, recreation and leisure facilities to encourage the community and visitors to undertake a variety of healthy exercise within attractive settings.
7	Involve users, including "friends of" groups, and neighbours in the design of GI, ensuring usability and helping to create a sense of ownership and pride.

8	Support economic growth, attract inward investment and support redevelopment of brownfield land by improving the setting of industrial and commercial areas through the delivery and enhancement of quality, distinctive and attractive GI.
9	Create a quality, distinctive and productive GI network to support local food production, rural diversification and tourism to meet the needs of local businesses, landowners and to provide a diverse employment base.
10	Ensure key green hubs, such as parks, place spaces and woodlands, are linked by means of safe and easily accessible green networks and rights of way that together form a high quality GI grid across the whole of the borough.

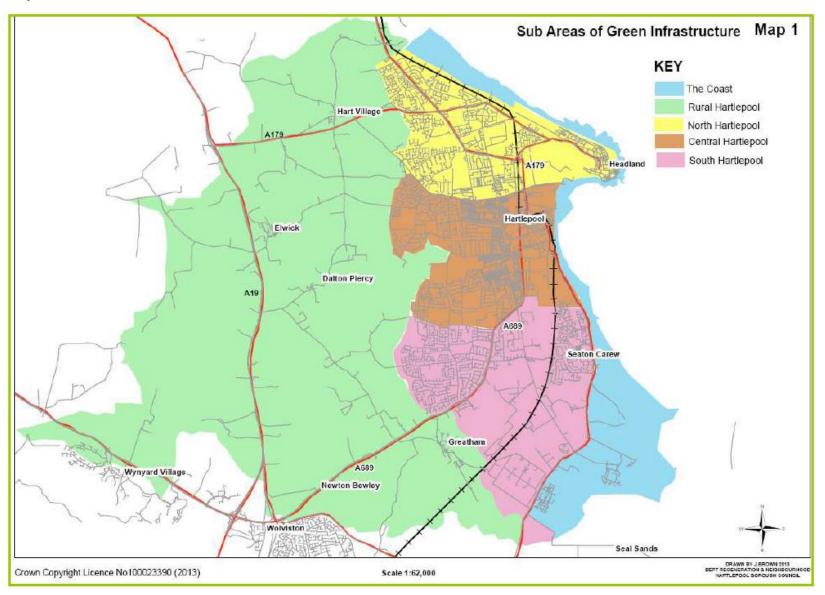


Image 1: Ward Jackson Park

3 Green Infrastructure Project Areas

- 3.1 This section splits the borough into main areas, and looks at project ideas and costs/resources (where available) which are needed over the coming years to develop the GI network within Hartlepool. In some cases, project designs are included to help aid visualisation of the potential improvements. Maps of corridors are also included to show the wider impact for areas of the town that certain projects could have in the future. Importantly, costs of improvements will be included, where known, to help secure funding packages which will be vital to the future development of GI. It must be acknowledged that these costs are estimated and could be subject to change.
- 3.2 Due to the large scale of a lot of the project areas in this document, the majority of works completed may be split down into phases or separate projects to ensure that work can be completed as and when funding is provided, to ensure the continual development of GI in Hartlepool.
- 3.3 The town has been split into sub areas to assess the GI within these areas, but will also consider how the sub areas are linked together by GI. The sub areas are:
 - 1. The Coast and its Margins
 - 2. Rural Hartlepool
 - 3. North Hartlepool
 - 4. Central Hartlepool
 - 5. South Hartlepool
- 3.4 These areas are shown on Map 1 on the following page and the individual sub areas have their own detailed maps which show more localised GI, and help to inform a view on gaps in the GI provision in certain areas of the borough and demonstrate how movement between these areas is possible.

Map 1: Sub Areas of Green Infrastructure



4 Area 1: The Coast and its Margins

- 4.1 Hartlepool's coastline continues to act as an attraction for both local residents, and visitors to the area, due to the opportunity to explore the pathways and scenery that are characteristic of the borough. There are a number of rights of way that are located on or close to the coastline, ranging from public footpaths to public bridleways. The coastline is an urban environment for the majority of its length, and so the majority of the paths and promenades are formally surfaced and maintained at public expense.
- 4.2 The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 placed a duty for a coastal path to be created along the whole of the English coastline, and the government aims for its completion in 2022. When approved and adopted by the Secretary of State (DEFRA) the route will have legal status and the title of English Coastal Path Trail, being recognised as a national trail.
- 4.3 One of the biggest challenges which the coastal area faces is to ensure that users can continue to enjoy the beauty and variety of these areas whilst at the same time, protecting the natural environment from harm. The Council will continue to work with key organisations to identify funding sources for enhancement schemes along the coast. Potential enhancement schemes along the coast may need to be subject to a Habitat Regulations Assessment, and contributions will be sought to ensure that these delicate habitats continue to be protected and enhanced where necessary and possible.

U Future Developments within this area

- 4.4 The Council has adopted Local Plan policy LT2 which stipulates that developments at The Marina should incorporate and encourage sustainable transport links through provision and enhancement of pedestrian and cycle routes, public realm and green infrastructure. The implementation of this policy, will ensure that the area is developed in a way which makes it easily accessible by all, and encourages tourism in this area.
- 4.5 The coastal fringe is a priority stretch of the ecological network (policy NE4), this means that thorough consideration will be given to the impact of any developments in this area, to mitigate any negative impacts on the natural environment and priority will be given to this area for enhancing ecological networks at a landscape scale. There is protection in this area due to Local Plan policy NE1, which covers a large stretch of the coastal area, and this ensures the protection of highlighted nature conservation areas. This protection will ensure that the GI within this area is maintained and enhanced and the coast stays attractive and accessible to all.

Map 2: The Coast Green Infrastructure Map

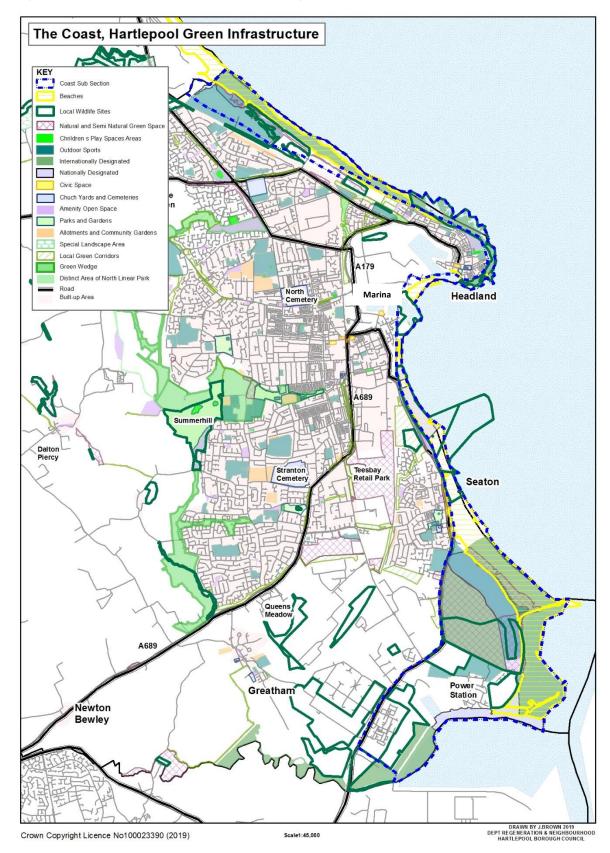


Table 1 – Coastal Area GI Projects

Item	Details	Ward	Funding	2019
				Status
Marina	Coastal footpath	Headland &	Funding	Ongoing
pedestrian	improvements	Harbour	still	
link	between Newburn		required.	
	Bridge and the			
	Marina.			
England	Way marking and	Headland &	Funding	Ongoing
Coast Path	promotion of trail.	Harbour/Seaton/De	still	
National Trail		Bruce	required.	
Premier Inn	Footpath	Headland &	Funding	Ongoing
Marina	improvements	Harbour	still	
	adjacent to the site.		required.	
Seaton	Removal of invasive	Seaton	Funding	Ongoing
Dunes	plants including sea		still	
	buckthorn and		required.	
	Japanese rose.			



Image 2: Recently installed play area and beach huts in Seaton Carew

5 Area 2: Rural Hartlepool

- 5.1 Hartlepool benefits from a large rural area, which covers over 50% of the borough. There are six villages within this area, but the majority of land is undulating farm land. The rural area can be accessed via a number of footpaths, bridleways, links and access routes.
- 5.2 The south of the rural area has seen growth and development due to the development at Wynyard Park. In order to ensure the development's sustainability and mitigation of any negative impacts on the rural area, developments at Wynyard have and will be expected to contribute towards the provision of walking and cycle links in the borough, in order to improve connectivity, enabling the local residents to travel around the borough in a sustainable way, reducing the reliance on vehicular travel.
- 5.3 A diverse range of attractive sites and places of importance for wildlife are located within this rural area and improving access to and enjoyment of these areas is a key aspiration of the Council. These improvements need to be developed in a sensitive manner which won't impact on the quality or ecological value of these natural areas. Information and signposting will be an important element of any improvements to ensure that walks provide educational as well as physical benefits. Where appropriate, developer contributions from developments nearby these areas (in particular Local Nature Reserves) will be sought to implement these improvements.
- 5.4 Improvements and new developments within this area will contribute towards the achievement of objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10.

Future Developments within this area

- 5.5 It is crucial that any developments in the rural area provide the designated areas of green infrastructure to ensure that the residents and visitors can reap the benefits associated with it, and guarantee the sustainability of the developments. More information regarding this can be found in chapter 10 of the Local Plan.
- 5.6 The rural area also contains a priority section of the ecological network; rural west from Wynyard to Thorpe Bulmer and Crimdon Dene (policy NE4), this means that thorough consideration will be given to the impact of any developments in this area, to mitigate any negative impacts on the natural environment, where possible priority will be given to this area for enhancing ecological networks at a landscape scale.

Map 3: Rural Green Infrastructure Map



Summerhill Country Park

5.7 Summerhill lies in the rural area, immediately to the west of the Burn Valley Green Wedge, acting as a gateway into the countryside. This park is owned and operated by the Council and provides opportunities for users to partake in a wide variety of activities. Key elements of the management of Summerhill are shown in table 2 below.

Table 2: Summerhill GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Existing	5 locations identified within	Supported under the	Ongoing
coppicing of	Summerhill, two of which are	Woodland Grant scheme 5	
selected areas	cut in rotation	year programme	
Future	Further possible locations	Funding would be required to	Ongoing
coppicing	have been identified	support implementation	
Existing	4 locations have been	Supported under the	Ongoing
thinning of	identified within Summerhill	Woodland Grant scheme 5	
woodland areas		year programme	
Future	Other areas throughout the	Funding would be required to	Ongoing
woodland	developing woodland of	support implementation	
thinning	Summerhill		
Gap planting	Small amount of planting to	Supported under the	Ongoing
	attend to gaps within existing	Woodland Grant scheme 5	
	hedgerows. 3 areas identified	year programme	
Hedge Laying	Annual programme of hedge	Funding required to support	Ongoing
	laying for hedges around	implementation	
	Summerhill including those		
	planted during the sites' early		
	development		
Management of	At present 9 wetland sites	Funding required to support	Ongoing
existing	have been identified including	implementation	
wetlands	areas recently excavated		
Watercourse	Management of 2 streams	Funding required to support	Ongoing
management	that run through Summerhill	implementation	
Ditching work	Excavation and management	Funding required for larger	Ongoing
	of ditches in and around	excavations involving bringing	
	Summerhill. This includes	in heavy plant. Est £2,000-	
	new ditches and re-	5,000.	
	excavating existing ditches		
Countryside	Vegetation control of tracks	Work part supported under the	Ongoing
routes	and paths throughout	5 year Woodland Grant	
vegetation	Summerhill. In total there are	Scheme. Resources will	
control	about 6.8km of tracks and	continue to be required to	
	paths	support cut back by utilising	
		works teams of staff/volunteers	

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Resurfacing of	Shared walkers/cyclists	The full route requires re-	So far
main site route	section of the main route that	surfacing. Costs depend on	approximately
	travels around Summerhill.	specifications and designs and	800m has
	Route is 2km long x 2.5km	could range from £80,000 to	been re-laid.
	wide with two sections of non-	£250,000	
	slip tarmac		
Stile and gate	Upgrading of stile, gates and	Most of the works are being	Ongoing
works	access points throughout the	funded under the existing 5	
	site.	year Woodland Grant Scheme	
		programme. Additional works	
		would need in the region of	
		£2,000.	
Bridleway	Improvements to the	Funding still required, costs	Ongoing
improvements	bridleways at Summerhill.	not available.	
Surfacing	Surfacing improvements to	Funding still required, costs	Ongoing
improvements	the permissive path from	not available.	
to Brierton	Brierton Lane to Summerhill.		
Lane.			

5.8 Summerhill has been identified in the Local Plan as a site which will be developed in order to provide local residents and visitors to the borough with access to the countryside, and act as a green link between the rural and urban areas. Through the works highlighted in the table above, Summerhill's position as a Country park of strategic importance within the borough will be reinforced.

Other Rural Key Projects

5.9 Alongside the projects within Summerhill, there are several other isolated projects that have been identified for development or improvement within the rural area.

Table 3: Other Rural Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Greatham	Recognised as a	Funding still required.	Ongoing
Village	potential development		
Allotments	within the Rural Plan.		
Quarry Farm	A footpath near Quarry	Potential funding identified	Ongoing
Footpath	Farm to provide	in planning applications.	
	increased pedestrian		
	connectivity.		

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Elwick Footpath	Improvements to the	Funding still required.	Ongoing
1	footpath e.g. resurfacing		
Hart and	Improvements to the	Funding still required.	Ongoing
Clavering	footpath connecting the		
footpath	areas.		
Footpaths south	Improvements or	Funding still required.	Ongoing
of the A689	additions to the network		
	of footpaths south of the		
	A689		
Sappers Corner	This will link to the	Funding identified through	Ongoing.
to Wolviston	Wynyard developments	applications at Wynyard.	
Footpath and	to provide sustainable		
Cycleway.	transport links.		
Hart to Haswell	Countryside	Funding still required.	Ongoing
Walkway	management of the Hart		
	to Haswell Walkway		
	Local Nature Reserve		
	and Local Wildlife Site		

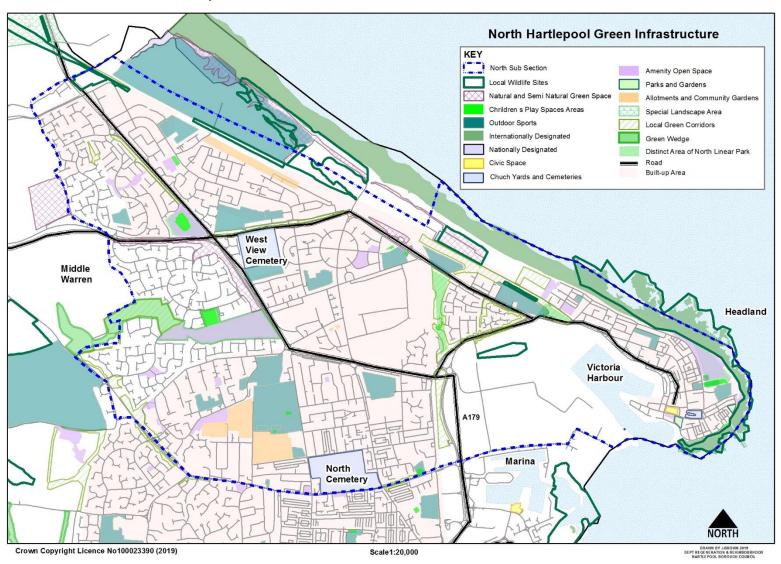
6 Area 3: North Hartlepool

- 6.1 There are a wide variety of elements of GI in this part of Hartlepool. It is crucial to ensure that these are enhanced whilst simultaneously considering the movement to and between these areas.
- 6.2 Middle Warren Green Wedge is considered a key element of the North Linear Park concept. This wedge cuts through the Middle Warren housing development and is a major aesthetic and recreational resource for the area.
- 6.3 Improvements and new developments within this area will contribute towards the achievement of objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Future Developments within this area

6.4 It is of key importance that future developments to the north of Hartlepool facilitate access to the small pockets of GI in the area alongside the more substantial green wedge at Middle Warren, which is protected under policy NE3. Developments within this sub-area may be expected to contribute towards enhancing the parks in the area, the cemetery, or other links and green areas within the north of the town. Development of sustainable links such as public rights of way or cycle links will look to be improved where necessary to enable easy movement.

Map 4: Northern Green Infrastructure Map



Clavering Park

6.5 Clavering Park is a critical element of the North Linear Park. Works to provide a modern play space in recent years have helped to dramatically improve the quality of this green space and formed the first element of a masterplan for the area. There are still improvements to be made within this area, and the Council will work with partner organisations and developers to secure the funds needed to implement all the works in the area.

Table 4: Clavering Park GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Boundary	Provision of new railings	Funding required – could be	Awaiting on
Fence	and gates.	a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £55,000	secured.
New Pathways	Includes works such as	Funding required – could be	Awaiting on
	block paving, drop kerb	a phased project, total	funding to be
	works etc.	estimated cost £38,000	secured.
Planting Works	Hedge planting.	Funding required – could be	Awaiting on
		a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £2,500	secured.



Image 4: Clavering Park

Central Park

6.6 Central Park forms a critical link between the Headland and West Hartlepool. Within the North Linear Park Steering Group, this area was considered as one of the two main priorities for improvement due to its neglect and lack of investment over the years. Previously, funding obtained by the "Big Tree Plant" enabled an early phase of tree planting in the area. This was beneficial to the GI in the area and will provide habitat for a range of species.

Table 5: Central Park (including Local Wildlife Site at Spion Kop) GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Drainage Works	Drainage works to	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
	refurbished car park,	a phased project, total	funding to be
	including excavation,	estimated cost £25,000.	secured.
	new manhole, drainage		
	runs and connections.		
Car park	New bitmac surfacing.	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
surfacing.		a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £150,000.	secured.
Footpath	New bitmac surfacing.	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Surfacing		a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £15,000.	secured.
Fencing and	Inc. timber fencing,	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Railings	entrance feature, car	a phased project, total	funding to be
	park barrier etc.	estimated cost £1,500.	secured.
Provision of	Timber steps with bound	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Timber Steps	gravel treads and	a phased project, total	funding to be
	landings.	estimated cost £10,000.	secured.
Tree Planting	Extra heavy standards	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
	trees, and transplant tree	a phased project, total	funding to be
	and shrub planting to	estimated cost £5,000.	secured.
	embankment.		
Grass Seeding	Reinstatement to grass	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
	areas.	a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £22,500.	secured.
Summer	Annual summer mow of	Pedestrian fail mower	Awaiting
Mowing	the Local Wildlife Site in	£8,000	funding to be
	Central Park.		secured.

North Cemetery

6.7 North Cemetery is located to the north of the town centre and is a large green space owned by the Council. The cemetery provides a welcome change from the dense terraced housing which surrounds the cemetery, and is of particular value to the local community as an attractive open space. The key improvements needed within the site are the provision of a more accessible, enhanced green space for the existing community, including the residents of the new housing developments. The issues of crime and anti-social behaviour might be mitigated through safe access, boundary treatment and visual surveillance in and out of the site.

Table 6: North Cemetery GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Green Space	Mixed spring bulb	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Enhancement	planting.	a phased project, total	funding to be
		estimated cost £4,000	secured.
Green Space	Woodland areas planted	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Enhancement	initially with whips rather	a phased project, total	funding to be
	than standards.	estimated cost £3,000	secured.
Access	Footpath surfacing	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Improvements	improvement works	a phased project, total	funding to be
	(network totals circa	estimated cost £105,000	secured.
	1,050 linear meters,		
	approximately 2,100m2)		
Security	Automated vehicle gates	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Improvements	to prevent motorcycles	a project in three phases	funding to be
	and cars accessing site	(£8,000 each), total	secured.
	but allowing maintenance	estimated cost £24,000.	
	vehicles daily access.		

West View Cemetery

6.8 West View Cemetery is a very important green open space providing a vital service to the community and an area for nature within an ever increasing urban area. The cemetery is in need of some road way improvements to offset the growth of large trees, boundary and internal road side planting to enhance biodiversity and increase the variety and quantity of trees and shrubs.

Table 7: West View Cemetery

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
West View	Internal refurbishment of	Funding required total	Awaiting
Cemetery, West	West View Cemetery	estimated cost £65,000	funding to be
View Road	welfare facility circa		secured.
	£30,000 including public		
	toilets circa £35,000.		
Management of	The large trees that are	Funding is required for this,	Awaiting
large tree roots	growing next to path	approx. £10,500.	funding to be
in relation to	ways in the cemetery are		secured.
road ways.	lifting the Macadam road		
	surface, making it		
	hazardous to access the		
	cemetery.		
Increase	It is wished to improve	Funding is required for this,	Awaiting
internal road	the biodiversity and	£8,000 to £9,000.	funding to be
way and	aesthetics of the		secured.
boundary tree	cemetery by increasing		
and shrub	the planting around the		
planting	boundaries of the		
	cemetery and along the		
	internal road sides		
New Macadam	As the cemetery expands	Funding is required for this,	Awaiting
areas	there is need to increase	£51,000.	funding to be
	the road ways to allow		secured.
	access.		

Grayfields Recreation Ground

6.9 Grayfields is one of the largest recreation grounds in Hartlepool offering a large area of green space in the Thornhill Gardens, Chester and Jesmond road area of the town, for many this is the nearest green space.

Table 9: Grayfields Recreation Ground

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Boundary	There is 1400 m of	Funding is required for this,	Awaiting
enhancement	boundary that if planted	£40,000 to £50,000.	funding to be
	with trees and shrubs		secured.
	would improve		
	biodiversity and the		
	quality of the grounds.		
Lowering of	There is a large stand of	Funding is required for this,	Awaiting
Poplar trees	Poplar trees within the	£2,500 to £3,500	funding to be
	site that are now very tall		secured.
	and in danger of being		
	blown over in high winds		
	given the shallow root		
	base of this type of tree,		
	to mitigate this and to		
	encourage lower growth		
	on the trees it is		
	proposed to reduce their		
	height by half		
Access	Footpath surfacing	Funding required – could be	Awaiting
Improvements	improvement works	a phased project, total	funding to be
	(network totals circa 119	estimated cost £37,100	secured.
	linear meters,		
	approximately 742m2)		

Other Northern Hartlepool Key Projects

6.10 Alongside the identified projects, there are several other isolated projects that have been identified for development or improvement within the Northern area.

Table 10: Other North Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Chester Road Allotments	Maintenance of allotments.	Estimated costs not provided.	Ongoing.
King George 5 th Recreation Ground	Boundary enhancement - there is 262 m of boundary that if planted with trees and shrubs would improve biodiversity and the quality of the grounds.	Funding is required for this, £10,000 to £12,000.	Awaiting funding to be secured.
Linear park area to rear of Phoenix Centre	Care of young trees planted previously by volunteers, children and local community, grassland area and pond. Machinery/tools for HBC volunteers 'tool library' to enable volunteers to undertake works.	Strimmer, brushcutter, pole saws, pruning saws, hand tools for pond maintenance circa £2,000.	Awaiting funding to be secured.
Improve existing informal path – Merlin Way to Hart Lane	Improve surfacing to accommodate pedestrian and cycle users	Funding required – total estimated cost £30,000	Awaiting funding to be secured.
Improve existing informal path – Bishop Cuthbert	Improve surfacing to accommodate pedestrian and cycle users	Funding required – total estimated cost £7,000	Awaiting funding to be secured.
Create new pathways – Green Wedge west of Merlin Way	Create new paths to link various housing developments	Funding required – total estimated cost £11,500	Awaiting funding to be secured.

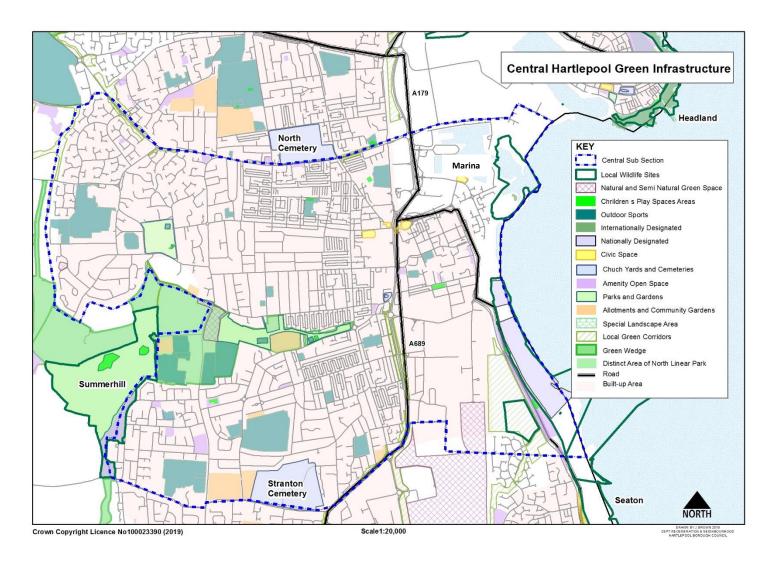
7 Area 4: Central Hartlepool

- 7.1 Hartlepool's central area is considered to be suffering from a deficiency of quality GI something which is particularly noticeable in the town centre and the northern element of this sub area. However, it is in an ideal location to be well served by the quality GI within the southern and western parts of this subarea, including Burn Valley Gardens and Ward Jackson Park. The area also houses the two largest sports pitch locations; Brierton School and the Rift House Recreational Ground. As well as this, the allotment sites and major cemetery within this area all help to contribute significantly to the GI not only in this sub-area, but borough wide.
- 7.2 As can be seen in the following map of the central sub-area, it can be noted where the shortfalls of GI can be found specifically. It is of key importance to protect the small pockets of GI as well as exploring ways in which elements of GI can be added in urban areas.
- 7.3 In areas where general green infrastructure is lacking, grass verges and planting can be very beneficial in terms of aesthetics and also providing much needed habitat for wildlife in the area.
- 7.4 Updates and new developments within this area will contribute towards the achievement of objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.

Future Developments within this area

7.5 Emphasis will be placed on enhancements of existing and development of new GI within this area. Burn Valley Green Wedge is protected under policy NE3 to ensure it is maintained as an open and attractive green space in the centre of the borough. Developments within this area may be expected to contribute not only to the larger, more obvious pockets of green infrastructure, but also to the smaller pockets of GI. This contribution could be, for example, through the introduction of street trees – which will help to improve and enhance the feel of the urban space.

Map 5: Central Green Infrastructure Map



Burn Valley

- 7.6 The Burn Valley Green Wedge is one of the Central sub-area's greatest GI assets. This wedge previously benefitted from extensive investment through Natural England and the Environment Agency in order to improve a number of aspects of the area. This has enabled enhancements to biodiversity alongside providing safe pedestrian and cycle routes.
- 7.7 The Burn Valley is crucial in creating green linkages between a number of areas of the borough, including the town centre and various residential estates in the central part of the borough. The Upper Burn Valley is a heavily tree planted area with a formal surfaced path running through it from Elwick Road to Catcote Road. Other informal and unsurfaced paths run through the community wood and are used exclusively by pedestrians. The Council will continue to ensure that these routes are well maintained and upgraded where necessary to help promote the use of sustainable travel.

Table 8: Burn Valley GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Wildlife	Timber decking for mini-	Funding required, total	Awaiting
improvements	beasts to return to	estimated cost £1,500.	funding to be
	watercourse after		secured.
	seasonal clearance of		
	timber and debris from		
	York Road culvert		
	entrance. Estimate		
	40m2.		
Wildlife	Soft landscaping	Funding required, total	Awaiting
improvements	enhancements to	estimated cost £1,500.	funding to be
	watercourse areas to be		secured.
	undertaken with support		
	from volunteers. Circa		
	60m2.		
Wildlife	Wildlife meadow creation	Funding required, total	Awaiting
improvements	(1000m2) circa £1,250	estimated cost £5,250.	funding to be
	and bulb planting		secured.
	(100m2) circa £4,000.		
Enhancement	Phase 1 Colwyn Road	Funding required, total	Awaiting
of public routes	bridge footpath access	estimated cost £13,000.	funding to be
	point to play area up to		secured.
	Brinkburn Road surfacing		
	improvement works		
	(circa 130 linear meters,		
	approximately 260m2)		

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Enhancement	Phase 2 Colwyn Road	Funding required, total	Awaiting
of public routes	access point footpath	estimated cost £17,000.	funding to be
	Brinkburn Road towards		secured.
	link footpath to Elwick		
	Road surfacing		
	improvement works		
	(circa 170 linear meters		
	approximately 340m2)		
Enhancement	Phase 3 vehicle and	Funding required, total	Awaiting
of public routes	pedestrian bridge area	estimated cost £12,000.	funding to be
	up to upper play picnic		secured.
	area and back to south		
	side path which joins		
	steps and path to Sixth		
	Form college surfacing		
	improvement works		
	(circa 120 linear meters		
Enhancement	approximately 240m2)	Fire dia a no suine di total	A a :4:-a a:
Enhancement	Phase 4 steps and path	Funding required, total	Awaiting
of public routes	to Sixth Form College	estimated cost £16,500.	funding to be
	surfacing improvement		secured.
	works (circa 165 linear		
	meters approximately 330m2)		
Enhancement	Phase 5 snake path from	Funding required, total	Awaiting
of public routes	Elwick Road to the burn.	estimated cost £10,500.	funding to be
	Replacement of		secured.
	revetments with rock		
	armour		



Image 6: Burn Valley

Ward Jackson Park

- 7.8 Ward Jackson Park was built in 1883 and boasts a collection of Victorian and Edwardian features and an impressive lake, which have contributed towards its listing in the National Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. The park makes a significant contribution to the currently 'at risk' Park Conservation area and so enhancement and maintenance is essential. The Friends of Ward Jackson Park work in partnership with the Council's Parks and Countryside team in order to keep the park in excellent condition and provide improvements where necessary.
- 7.9 Due to the high level of maintenance which is necessary within the park, contributions from developments within the vicinity that are likely to have an impact on footfall within the park may be required towards particular areas for the financial year.

Table 9: Ward Jackson Park GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Enhancement	Internal refurbishment of	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
of public access	historic public toilet	estimated cost £35,000	funding to be
	facilities estimated		secured
	budget £35,000		
Dahlia Garden	Soft landscaping	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
	improvements to	estimated cost £8,800	funding to be
	rejuvenate circa 200m2		secured
	and provision of		
	benches.		
Island Erosion	Remedial work on the	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
Repairs	island in the lake.	estimated cost £6-7,000.	funding to be
			secured
Fencing &	Provision of additional	Funding required - total	Awaiting on
Railings	security fencing circa 180	estimated cost £43,700.	funding to be
	linear meters £20,700		secured
	and new metal railings		
	circa 200 linear meters		
	£23,000		
Invigoration of	To bring more colour and	Funding still required	Awaiting on
park boundary	interest, along the inside	£10,000 to £12,000.	funding to be
planting	boundary of the park to		secured
	Park Ave. This would		
	involve thinning of		
	existing planting and the		
	introduction of new plants		

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
	of a colourful shrub that		
	fruit.		
Ward Jackson	Ward Jackson Park car	Funding still required	Awaiting on
Car park	park is designed to	£6,000 to £7,000.	funding to be
surfacing	protect the tree roots		secured
	underneath and is made		
	of a loose material that		
	has now moved owing to		
	usage and needs		
	releveling and the		
	addition of some new		
	surfacing.		

Stranton Cemetery

7.10 Stranton Cemetery and Crematorium was opened in 1912 and provided a large green space within an urban setting containing a large number of mature trees and shrubs, with a thriving community of rabbits and squirrels amongst other wildlife.

Table 10: Stranton Cemetery

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Tree planting	Small growing decorative	Funding still required	Awaiting on
	trees planted along road	£50,000 to £57,000.	funding to be
	sides to enhance the		secured
	appearance of the		
	cemetery.		
Hedge planting	In 2 areas A, Rc 17 & 23	Funding still required	Awaiting on
	and Con 36 & 34 in area	£3,000 to £4,000.	funding to be
	B rear of a car park next		secured
	to crematorium		

Other Central Hartlepool Key Projects

7.11 Alongside the identified projects, there are several other isolated projects that have been identified for development or improvement within the Central area.

Table 11: Other Central Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Thornton Street	Green space	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
linear park	enhancement, provision	estimated cost £1,800	funding to be
	of standard trees with		secured.
	protective cages		
Burbank Street	Green space	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
community	enhancement, provision	estimated cost £1,800	funding to be
garden	of standard trees with		secured.
	protective cages		



Image 8: Ward Jackson Park

8 Area 5: South Hartlepool

- 8.1 This area is served by a variety of major GI elements, some of which benefit from established green corridors which aid in linking to other areas of the borough and into the countryside. Investment is needed over the coming years to develop and rejuvenate areas of GI.
- 8.2 The provision of leisure routes within the southern industrial area is necessary to facilitate sustainable travel to work and to significantly improve the linkages south. It is critical that these routes are planned correctly to offer users the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of attractive GI, whilst avoiding any detrimental impact on the environmental designations in the south of the borough.

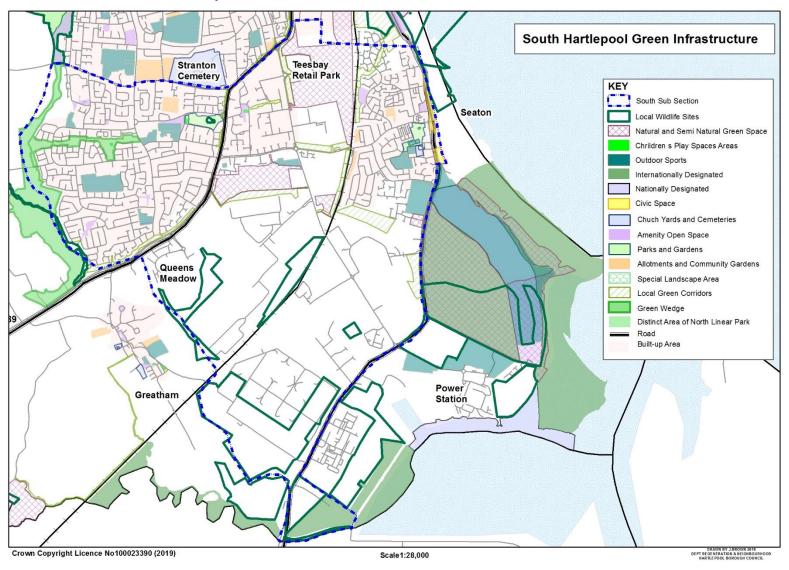
Future Developments within this area

8.3 Developments within this area will be expected to contribute towards enhancement of green infrastructure in this area, including the parks, leisure routes and the green wedges. Small scale GI will also be encouraged to improve the links from the south to other parts of the borough. Local Plan policy NE4 protects the ecological network of Dalton Beck/Greatham Beck and prioritises it for enhancement and improvement.



Image 9: Seaton Park

Map 6: Southern Green Infrastructure Map



Seaton Park

8.4 Some changes have previously been made to the park in accordance with a Masterplan created in 2011 by The Friends of Seaton Park. The final designs for the Masterplan proposes an ambitious redevelopment of the park which will compliment improvements to the sea front whilst also maintaining the traditional features of a neighbourhood park. There are individual projects which will go together to complete the aspirational vision for the park on completion.

Table 10: Seaton Park GI Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Development of	Pavilion includes	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
new park	changing rooms	estimated cost £1.5m.	funding to be
pavilion	estimated at £1.5m.		secured.
Footpath	Improvements and	Funding required, could be	Awaiting on
network	extension to footpath	phased, project total	funding to be
	network circa 250lm	estimated cost £25,000.	secured.
	(500m2)		
Creation of	Fitness trail and	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
fitness trail and	associated landscape	estimated cost £30,000.	funding to be
wildlife margin	improvements.		secured.
Canopy/open	Introduction of	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
pavilion	canopy/open pavilion for	estimated cost £60,000	funding to be
	outdoor activities.		secured.
	Canopy circa £30,000,		
	surfacing circa £20,000,		
	contingency sum and		
	fees circa £10,000		
Planting of	Provision of boundary	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
boundary	hedge 200lm £2,000	estimated cost £8,000.	funding to be
hedge and tree	including protective 1.2m		secured.
planting	high post/rail and stock		
	mesh fence £2,400. Tree		
	planting £3,600.		
Boundary	Provision of new metal	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
treatment	railing fence along	estimated cost £23,000	funding to be
	Allendale Road boundary		secured.
	circa 200lm.		
Enhancements	To include re-surfacing	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
to main park	works, 'gateway feature'	estimated cost £30,000	funding to be
entrance	and associated		secured.
	landscaping.		

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Creation of	Creation of event space	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
events space	circa £150,000 to include	estimated cost £210,000	funding to be
and overflow	overflow car parking		secured.
parking.	using SUDS type system.		
	Circa £60,000		
Wildlife	Wildflower meadow	Funding required total	Awaiting on
improvements	creation (1000m2) circa	estimated cost £10,850	funding to be
	£1,250 and bulb planting		secured.
	(240m2) circa £9,600		
Invigoration of	Along Allendale St,	Funding still required	Awaiting on
park boundary	Station Ln and to the rear	£8,000 to £10,000.	funding to be
planting to bring	of the Marine Hotel. This		secured.
more colour	would involve thinning of		
and interest	existing planting and the		
	introduction of new plants		
	of colourful shrubs that		
	fruit.		



Image 10: Seaton Park

Other South Hartlepool Key Projects

8.5 Alongside the identified projects, there are several other isolated projects that have been identified for development or improvement within the Southern area.

Table 10: Other South Projects

Item	Details	Funding	2019 Status
Rossmere Park	GI improvements.	Various funding required –	Ongoing.
		no details submitted.	
Golden Flatts	Surfaced tracks,	Some s106 already secured	Awaiting on
Green Wedge	woodlands planting, trim	however further funding	funding to be
	trail, play area and pond	required.	secured.
	creation.		
Brierton Lane	Footpath improvement	No details submitted.	Awaiting on
and Kingsley	between the two.		funding to be
Avenue			secured.
Brenda Road	Countryside	No details submitted.	Awaiting on
Brownfield	management and		funding to be
Local Wildlife	creation of new ponds.		secured.
Site			
Belle Vue Way	Landscape improvement	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
and Brenda	works	estimated cost £25,000	funding to be
Road			secured.
Roundabout			
Creation of new	Create a new footpath	Funding required – total	Awaiting on
public footpath	between Longhill	estimated cost £46,500	funding to be
	Industrial Estate and		secured.
	Station Lane, Seaton		
	Carew		

9 Linkages and Movement

- 9.1 The creation and enhancement of green, sustainable links and corridors between areas of GI will be a key priority of the Council and will be of vital importance to the implementation of the Action Plan.
- 9.2 Planting trees, plants and shrubbery to create attractive, multi-functional corridors will ensure that residents and visitors will be able to move freely and safely in a sustainable manner along green corridors between residential, employment and more natural areas. The delivery of these will also contribute towards vital habitats and new wildlife corridors.
- 9.3 It is also important to ensure that as part of new developments, thought is given to how open space, tree planting and walkways are integrated into the plans from the outset so they link into the existing GI network.
- 9.4 These improvements will go hand in hand with the improvements highlighted within this document, alongside any further GI development in the borough. Hartlepool's GI network will develop and grow in the future and develop the multi-functional benefits widely associated with successful GI.

10 How Green Infrastructure Objectives are to be met

10.1 In order to ensure that the Council is successfully working towards the 10 objectives that are set out in the main document, and at the beginning of this action plan, this table has been created to inform all users and summarise what actions are taking place and need to take place to achieve these.

Objective	Objective Description	Actions to meet Objective
1	Protect a high quality visual	The Council will continue to work
	landscape and townscape, and	within the sub-areas identified in
	enhance the unique character,	this document to seek to ensure
	heritage, function, intrinsic quality	that the GI components are of a
	and sense of place of Hartlepool's	high quality. Developments within
	GI network to contribute positively	the borough will be required to
	to its distinctiveness.	positively reflect the character of
		the local area.
2	Provide a network of	Policy NE4 specifies that all
	interconnected GI and spaces rich	developments within the borough
	in habitat and home to a diverse	must take consideration of any
	range of wildlife which also play a	ecological importance within the
	critical role in improving the health	area. Disturbance of ecological
	of residents through providing	networks will be restricted and
	attractive opportunities for	particular attention will be paid to
	recreation and sustainable travel.	the priority sections of the
		network.
3	Minimise the impact of, and adapt	All new developments are
	to, the effects of climate change,	required to be designed in a way
	by reducing greenhouse gas	which minimise their impact on
	emissions, the use of resources,	the environment. Developments
	the risk of flooding and pollution	will be encouraged to contribute
	and provide for species	towards the protection and
	adaptation by maximising the	creation of GI in the area, through
	protection and creation of GI.	design, conditions and planning
		obligations.
4	Promote the preservation,	Policy NE4 recognises priority
	restoration and re-creation of	sections of the ecological
	priority habitats, ecological	network, however the network as
	networks and expanding and	a whole is of importance and
	linking habitats together, including	needs protecting. Developments
	working across Council	must consider the natural
	boundaries where appropriate, to	environment as a whole, and it is
	assist in restoring biodiversity and	encouraged that applicants
		consult with the Council's

Objective	Objective Description	Actions to meet Objective
-	allowing species to respond to climate change.	ecologist to understand any risks their development pose to ecological networks,the natural environment and any mitigation required to address this.
5	Ensure trees and hedges are protected throughout the borough and integrate planting schemes within all new developments and, on larger housing schemes, deliver new areas of woodland. The conservation of ancient woodland and veteran trees which are irreplaceable is imperative.	Development within the major parks in the borough (Summerhill, Clavering Park etc.) will include new planting schemes, and maintenance of existing trees and hedges. Development which impacts on ancient woodland and veteran trees will be restricted.
6	Protect and enhance a wide range of high quality opportunities for safe and accessible formal and informal sport, recreation and leisure facilities to encourage the community and visitors to undertake a variety of healthy exercise within attractive settings.	Policy NE5 ensures that the Council will protect existing playing fields, tennis courts and bowling greens. Developer contributions towards playing pitches and built sports facilities will be required on a range of developments, to enhance existing or develop new facilities.
7	Involve users, including "friends of" groups, and neighbours of GI in its design, ensuring usability and helping to create a sense of ownership and pride.	Those proposing improvements in areas where "friends of" groups are present e.g. Ward Jackson Park, will be encouraged to consult with these groups to ensure that works completed will be beneficial for the local community.
8	Support economic growth, attract inward investment and support redevelopment of brownfield land by improving the setting of industrial and commercial areas through the delivery and enhancement of quality, distinctive and attractive GI.	The 2018 Local Plan dedicates a chapter to strengthening the local economy. This includes requirements for developments at Queen's Meadow Business Park to provide high quality landscaping, woodland planting, wildlife habitat enhancement etc. The Council will encourage redevelopment within brownfield sites.

Objective	Objective Description	Actions to meet Objective
9	Create a quality, distinctive and	GI developments and
	productive GI network to support	improvements which are
	local food production, rural	highlighted in this document,
	diversification and tourism to meet	alongside any future schemes
	the needs of local businesses,	that may materialise, will where
	landowners and to provide a	apppropriate contribute towards
	diverse employment base.	achieving an effective GI network
		which all residents can reap the
		benefits of.
10	Ensure key green hubs, such as	New developments may be
	parks, play spaces and	required make GI contributions
	woodlands, are linked by means	where appropriate. Where
	of safe and easily accessible	necessary, these may go towards
	green networks and rights of way	enhancing GI links within the
	that together form a high quality	local area to ensure access to
	GI grid across the whole of the	green hubs is made easier.
	borough.	

- 10.2 As highlighted in this document, the Council has explored how the proposed developments and enhancement of GI in the sub-areas will contribute towards the achievement of the 10 key objectives. Completing the actions needed to meet these 10 objectives will lead to the Council achieving its vision regarding Green Infrastructure.
- 10.3 It is important to consider that this does not represent an exhaustive list of main GI improvements that are needed within the town, and depending on the type of future developments, alongside their location, the Council may identify a requirement for contributions to other elements of GI including towards smaller, less obvious areas of GI and this will be considered on a case by case basis. Developers must consider that the Council consider improvements in GI as necessary to render a development sustainable. Creation of or enhancements to GI will improve the conditions in which people work and live, encourage sustainable transport and improve the appearance of the borough as a whole, leading to increased visitors, more investment in the borough and overall a better quality of life for residents.

REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2020



1

Report of: Assistant Director (Economic Growth and

Regeneration)

Subject: COUNCIL PLAN 2020-23

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Budget and Policy Framework.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To provide the Committee the opportunity to consider the proposals that fall under the remit of the Committee for inclusion in the Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 which is currently out to 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 consultation draft of the Council Plan was agreed by Finance and Policy Committee at their meeting on 13th January 2020. 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 (5th 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.
- 4.3 The consultation draft of the Council Plan is included as **Appendix 3** 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.
- 4.4 As a whole, the priorities identified in the Council Plan will improve opportunities across in the town. However, the actions set out under the strategic priorities will be of particular interest to the Committee:
 - Growing a diverse economy by supporting businesses, increasing jobs, attracting inward investment and improving skills and aspirations;
 - Creating an attractive and connected Hartlepool by attracting investment to improve key buildings, derelict land and our transport network;
 - Building and improving homes that people want to live in; and
 - Shaping a well-led, safe, high performing and efficient council that is fit for the 21st Century.

The Committee is requested to consider the consultation draft and provide feedback which will inform the preparation of the final Council Plan.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Following the end of the consultation period the final Council Plan will be prepared and taken to Finance and Policy Committee on 16th March 2020 for agreement and referral to Council on 19th March 2020.
- 5.2 Comments and observations from Policy Committees will be added to those received through the rest of the consultation and included in the overall presentation of the final draft of the Council Plan to Finance and Policy Committee on 16th March 2020, before being taken for formal agreement by Council at its meeting on 19th March 2020.

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

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 4.2 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

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 1.** 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 2**. 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 Regeneration Services Committee is recommended to consider the consultation draft of the Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23 included as **Appendix 3** and provide feedback to inform the preparation of the final Council Plan.

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

15.2 Regeneration Services Committee are the responsible Committee for a number of areas within the Council Plan.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 Developing a new Council Plan 2020/21 2022/23 report to Finance and Policy Committee 22nd July 2019.
- 16.2 Council Plan 2020-23 report to Finance and Policy Committee 13th January 2020.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

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CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 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	Х			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	Х			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	Х			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	Х			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	Х			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	Х			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			Х	There will be no direct impact on this group.
Lone parents			х	There will be no direct impact on this group.
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds			Х	There will be no direct impact on this group.

CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Poverty is measured in differe	nt ways. W	ill the policy	/ decision h	nave an impact on child and family			
poverty and in what way?							
Poverty Measure (examples	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT				
of poverty measures				REASON & EVIDENCE			
appended overleaf)	IIVIFACI	IIVIFACI	IIVIFACI				
Children in Low Income	X						
Families (%)	^						
Children in Working	X						
Households (%)	^						
Overall employment rate (%)	Х			The strategic priorities in the Council			
Proportion of young people	Х			Plan aim to have a positive impact on			
who are NEET	^			all of the listed measures of poverty			
Adults with Learning	Х			through:			
difficulties in employment	^			 building better beginnings and 			
Free School meals				better futures for our children and			
attainment gap (key stage 2	Χ			young people;			
and key stage 4)				 increasing jobs and improving skills 			
Gap in progression to higher	Х			and aspirations;			
education FSM / Non FSM	^			 developing a healthy Hartlepool; 			
Achievement gap between				 improving outcomes for adults with 			
disadvantaged pupils and all	Х			health and social care needs and			
pupils (key stage 2 and key	^			their carers; and			
stage 4)				 building and improving homes that 			
Number of affordable homes	X			people want to live in.			
built	^						
Prevalence of obese children	X						
in reception year	^						
Prevalence of obese children	X						
in reception year 6							
Overall impact of Policy / Dec	ision						
POSITIVE IMPACT		Χ	ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE				
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE			STOP / RE	MOVE POLICY / SERVICE			
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTIL							

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Impact Assessment Form

Department	Division	Section	Owner/Of				
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 (positive characteristics?	ely/negativel	y) on people who	share protec	eted			
		Please tick	POSITIVELY	NEGATIVELY			
Age			Χ				
The Council Plan will focus on imposeds and their carers – many of			n health and s	ocial care			
The Plan will also focus on buildin young people under 19 years old.		nning and better fu	itures for child	ren and			
Disability			Х				
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.	No differential impact.						
Gender							
No differential impact.							
Sexual Orientation							
No differential impact.							
Marriage & Civil Partnership							
No differential impact.							
Pregnancy & Maternity	Pregnancy & Maternity						
No differential impact.	No differential impact.						

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Has there been consultation /is consultation planned with people who will be affected by this policy? How has this affected your decision making?		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 wil	I address	1. No Impact - No Major Change			
and monitor the impa		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	

Consultation Draft

Council Plan 2020/21 – 2022/23



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

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.

- 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.

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.

- 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.

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.

- 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.

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.

- 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.

- 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).

- 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.

- 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.

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.

- 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.

REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITEE

5th February 2020



Report of: Director for Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: MUSEUM OF HARTLEPOOL COLLECTIONS

DEVELOPMENT POLICY 2019-22

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key Decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To update the Committee with regard to the Council's Museum of Hartlepool's Collections Development Policy, and seek endorsement of the policy and on an ongoing basis manage, acquire and dispose of objects into the Museum's Collection in accordance with the policy (see **Appendix 1**).

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Museum Collection originated in 1919 through the actions of the shipbuilding magnate and philanthropist Sir William Cresswell Gray, who gifted his deceased sister-in-law's house "The Willows" to the town of West Hartlepool on 7th January 1919 to become a museum and art gallery. After a year of conversion and development work the building opened on 4th November 1920 as the "Gray Museum and Art Gallery".
- 3.2 From the beginning the museum collection included founding donations of artworks, including 50 items from William Cresswell Gray's own private collection, works gifted from various civic leaders and dignitaries, and from the owners of various local companies and businesses. During late 1919 onwards the first curator, Major J. A. Louis Downey, gathered industrial, natural science, and social history specimens for display with a focus on those which were deemed instructional and educational for the public.
- 3.3 This early focus on artworks, natural science, and instructional exhibits continued throughout the 1920s, supported by an active partnership with the V&A who regularly loaned works for both temporary and long term exhibition.

- Collecting widened during the 1930s to include collecting ceramics, fine art, and World Culture items due to the direct patronage of Col. William Tomlinson.
- 3.4 Collecting was moribund after the Second World War. This continued until 1967 when the Amalgamation of the Hartlepools led to an expansion of staffing and resources, which in turn allowed better documenting of the collection and a proactive plan to acquire items then not represented in the collection, especially maritime and social history items. A new Maritime Museum was opened on the Headland to complement the Gray in 1972, and further stimulated the acquisition of these themes.
- 3.5 In 1972 the Gray Art Gallery held the first exhibition of Freud's works outside of London, enabled by museum staff member John McCracken (1936-1982), a practicing artist and friend of Lucian Freud. This greatly influenced the collection, and initiated our policy of collecting major works by contemporary artists which had been shown in the gallery, including the acquisition of Lucian Freud's "Head of a Woman" and Frank Auerbach's "Shell Building Site no. 1".
- 3.6 The acquisition of the Robert Wood Collection of printed ephemera in 1977 further enhanced the collection by preserving a unique collection of social history items.
- 3.7 In 1986 the collection acquired its largest object, the 1934 Paddle Steamer "Wingfield Castle", which was restored with the help of the expertise previously gained during the restoration of HMS Warrior between 1979 and 1987.
- 3.8 In 1994 the Teesside Development Corporation and Hartlepool Borough Council opened the Hartlepool Historic Quay, a reconstruction of an early 19th century seaport around the independent museum ship HMS Trincomalee. That same year both the Gray Museum and Art Gallery and the Maritime Museum were closed as public venues, in preparation for the service expanding into a new Museum of Hartlepool next to the Historic Quay, and a new Hartlepool Art Gallery in Church Square within the original Christ Church of 1854. Both these new venues opened in 1996, with the Gray remaining as the headquarters, back office, and collections storage facility for the museum collection.
- 3.9 Recent major acquisitions include the Hartlepool Mail Photographic Collection (2015), comprising of over 30,000 images, and the Reg Smythe Collection (2016), encompassing a full range of items relating to his creation "Andy Capp", including over 1400 original cartoons, personalia, and awards.
- 3.10 The curation of the objects held in the Museum of Hartlepool continues and has to accord with guidelines and best practice which is advocated by numerous bodies but most importantly the Arts Council. Bearing this in mind the Council has regularly updated its policy with regard to the development, acquisition and disposal of objects on an ongoing basis. Working with the Arts

Council officers have drafted an updated Collections Development Policy 2019-2022.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The proposed Collections Development Policy (included as appendix 1) has been prepared using the Arts Council standard template and sets out the Council's approach to development, acquisition and disposal of objects on an ongoing basis.
- 4.2 The proposed policy sets out details on the following issues:
 - Sections 2 & 3: The history and overview of the collections.
 - Section 4: Themes and priorities for future collecting.
 - Section 5: Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal.
 - Section 6: Legal and ethical framework for acquisition and disposal of items.
 - Section 7: Collecting policies of other museums.
 - Section 8: Archival holdings.
 - Section 9: Acquisition procedures.
 - Section 10: Human remains
 - Section 11: Biological and geological material
 - Section 12: Archaeological material.
 - Section 13: Exceptions.
 - Section 14: Spoilation.
 - Section 15: The Repatriation and Restitution of objects and human remains.
 - Section 16: Disposal procedures.
- 4.3 Having worked with the Arts Council in its preparation to date, the proposed policy is in accordance with the guidance set out by the Arts Council and would provide an effective and robust policy going forward.
- 4.4 Whilst the proposed policy sets out the guidelines by which the service will develop, acquire and dispose of objects on an ongoing basis it specifically does not set out an action plan, which could include a "collection review" as to how this will be achieved.
- 4.5 Work is ongoing which is looking at the museum and leisure/culture offer in the Borough and how this can be provided in the future going forward. Once the work is complete a report will be brought back to the relevant committee in the future which will set out the proposed provision.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- The proposed policy sets out how the Council will manage, develop, acquisition and disposal of objects on an ongoing basis in accordance with guidance set out by the Arts Council. There are numerous examples where other Councils have failed to follow best practice guidance (as set out in the policy) and the following risks are subsequently identified:
 - The Council could lose its accredited Museum status for both the Museum and the Art Gallery.
 - The Council would be at serious risk of losing or being compromised in securing external funding from public bodies including the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the Arts Council of England (ACE) and other charitable or benevolent sources.
 - Strong opposition and protest from the local community, from government organisations, from communities of interest, and from users of the Museum services.
 - A negative impact on the perception of the Borough as a place which values its heritage, even long after any penalties have long expired.
 - Potentially the perception of the Borough as an area of little interest by cultural Tourists.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal implications relating to this report as the proposed policy is in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Arts Council.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The Arts Council was specifically consulted as part of the policy preparation.

8. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 There are no specific asset management considerations related to the decision to be made by Elected Members as part of this report. Going forward any assets which are acquired to or disposed of from the Museum's Collection will be done so in accordance with the policy included as **Appendix 1**.

9. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Financial Considerations	No relevant issues
Section 17 of The Crime And Disorder Act 1998	No relevant issues
Considerations	
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	No relevant issues

Equality and Diversity Considerations	No relevant issues
Staff Considerations	No relevant issues

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Endorse the Hartlepool Collections Development Policy 2019-2022 and to refer the policy for a decision at the next appropriate Council meeting.
- On an ongoing basis acquire and dispose of objects into the Museum's Collection in accordance with the Hartlepool Collections Development Policy 2019-2022.
- Delegation is given to the Director of Regeneration & Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Chair of the Regeneration Committee, to make minor changes, where necessary, to the Hartlepool Collections Development Policy 2019-2022 and that these changes be agreed with Arts Council England.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To ensure that the Council has an up to date collections policy which is in accordance with national guidance.

12 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 There are no background papers in relation to this report.

13. CONTACT OFFICERS

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Accreditation Scheme for Museums and Galleries in the United Kingdom

Collections Development Policy

Hartlepool Borough Council Cultural Services

2019-2022



Name of Museums:

The Museum of Hartlepool, Hartlepool Art Gallery, and all collections stored at Sir William Gray House.

Name of governing body:

Hartlepool Borough Council.

Date on which this policy was approved by governing body: July 2019

Policy review procedure:

The collections development policy will be published and reviewed from time to time, at least once every five years.

Date at which this policy is due for review:

June 2022.

Arts Council England will be notified of any changes to the collections development policy, and the implications of any such changes for the future of collections.



Relationship to other relevant policies/ plans of the organisation:

1.1 The museum's statement of purpose is:

Hartlepool Borough Council's museum collection exists to conserve, document, interpret and make publically accessible the shared material heritage of the Borough.

This purpose meets the strategic objectives of the Council, and supports Cultural Services mission,

"To enhance the quality of life by providing cultural opportunities through a series of accessible exhibitions, performances and events, which challenge, educate and entertain".

- 1.2 The Council will ensure that both acquisition and disposal are carried out openly and with transparency.
- 1.3 By definition, the museum has a long-term purpose and holds collections in trust for the benefit of the public in relation to its stated objectives. The Council therefore accepts the principle that sound curatorial reasons must be established before consideration is given to any acquisition to the collection, or the disposal of any items in the museum's collection.
- **1.4** Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in exceptional circumstances.
- 1.5 The Council recognises its responsibility, when acquiring additions to its collections, to ensure that care of collections, documentation arrangements and use of collections will meet the requirements of the Museum Accreditation Standard. This includes using Spectrum primary procedures for collections management. It will take into account limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as staffing, storage and care of collection arrangements.
- 1.6 The Council will undertake due diligence and make every effort not to acquire, whether by purchase, gift, bequest or exchange, any object or specimen unless the governing body or responsible officer is satisfied that the museum can acquire a valid title to the item in question.
- **1.7** The Council will not undertake disposal motivated principally by financial reasons.



History of the Collections

- 2.1 The museum collection originated in 1919 through the actions of the shipbuilding magnate and philanthropist Sir William Cresswell Gray, who gifted his deceased sister-in-law's house "The Willows" to the town of West Hartlepool on 7th January 1919 to become a museum and art gallery. After a year of conversion and development work the building opened on 4th November 1920 as the "Gray Museum and Art Gallery".
- 2.2 From the beginning the museum collection included founding donations of artworks, including 50 items from William Cresswell Gray's own private collection, works gifted from various civic leaders and dignitaries, and from the owners of various local companies and businesses. During late 1919 onwards the first curator, Major J. A. Louis Downey, gathered industrial, natural science, and social history specimens for display with a focus on those which were deemed instructional and educational for the public.
- 2.3 This early focus on artworks, natural science, and instructional exhibits continued throughout the 1920s, supported by an active partnership with the V&A who regularly loaned works for both temporary and long term exhibition. Collecting widened during the 1930s to include collecting ceramics, fine art, and World Culture items due to the direct patronage of Col. William Tomlinson.
- 2.4 Collecting was moribund after the Second World War. This continued until 1967 when the Amalgamation of the Hartlepools led to an expansion of staffing and resources, which in turn allowed better documenting of the collection and a proactive plan to acquire items then not represented in the collection, especially maritime and social history items. A new Maritime Museum was opened on the Headland to complement the Gray in 1972, and further stimulated the acquisition of these themes.
- 2.5 In 1972 the Gray Art Gallery held the first exhibition of Freud's works outside of London, enabled by museum staff member John McCracken (1936-1982), a practicing artist and friend of Lucian Freud. This greatly influenced the collection, and initiated our policy of collecting major works by contemporary artists which had been shown in the gallery, including the acquisition of Lucian Freud's "Head of a Woman" and Frank Auerbach's "Shell Building Site no. 1".
- 2.5 The acquisition of the Robert Wood Collection of printed ephemera in 1977 further enhanced the collection by preserving a unique collection of social history items.
- 2.6 In 1986 the collection acquired its largest object, the 1934 Paddle Steamer "Wingfield Castle", which was restored with the help of the

- expertise previously gained during the restoration of HMS Warrior between 1979 and 1987.
- 2.7 In 1994 the Teesside Development Corporation and Hartlepool Borough Council opened the Hartlepool Historic Quay, a reconstruction of an early 19th century seaport around the independent museum ship HMS Trincomalee. That same year both the Gray Museum and Art Gallery and the Maritime Museum were closed as public venues, in preparation for the service expanding into a new Museum of Hartlepool next to the Historic Quay, and a new Hartlepool Art Gallery in Church Square within the original Christ Church of 1854. Both these new venues opened in 1996, with the Gray remaining as the headquarters, back office, and collections storage facility for the museum collection.
- 2.8 Recent major acquisitions include the Hartlepool Mail Photographic Collection (2015), comprising of over 30,000 images, and the Reg Smythe Collection (2016), encompassing a full range of items relating to his creation "Andy Capp", including over 1400 original cartoons, personalia, and awards.



An overview of current collections

3.1 Maritime Collections

The collection at present comprises of:

A small number of Hartlepool/traditional North East built and used vessels including the PSS Wingfield Castle (launched 1934, on the National Register of Historic Ships), and fishing cobles including The Three Brothers Grant.

Objects relating to maritime activity including ship, sail and engine parts, shipbuilding tools, and fishing.

Ship models, either directly produced by Hartlepool shipbuilders as aids to construction or for marketing/legacy purposes, or by enthusiasts as examples of ships made or working in the Borough.

Ship plans, including a major collection of plans from Gray and Company (1863-1963) mainly dating from the Edwardian period through to the 1950s.

Photographs, and a small number of cine film, relating to maritime activity.

Ephemera, including but not limited to seamen's papers, yard books, pay books, company magazines, and publicity material and sales brochures.

3.2 Fine Art

3.2.1 Oil Paintings

The collection is mainly Victorian and Edwardian in period, largely as a result of the founding collection donated by Sir William Cresswell Gray. His donation of a large number of pictures was supplemented by gifts from other local people; among them were Cllr William Edgar, Capt. A.B.Horsley, Mr A.B.Guthe, Cllr J.W.Wilson and Major A.G.Rickinson who all gave one or more pictures.

With few exceptions, most subsequent collecting has been works of artists living or working at least part of their lives in the area. A most notable example of this is J.W. Carmichael who painted a number of town and sea-scapes which relate to Hartlepool and are currently in the collection.

3.2.2 Watercolour Paintings

The collection is comprehensive and contains some early works. Artists represented include T.M. Richardson Senior, T.M. Richardson Junior, J.W. Beavis, David Cox, John Varley, Myles Birkett Foster, F.H. Mason

and James Clark.

3.2.3 Drawing, Pastels and Prints

The collection includes few drawings, but there is a Stanley Spencer and an L.S. Lowry of Hartlepool. The majority of pastel works are by R.L. Howey of Seaton Carew. The print collection contains a wide variety of work. As well as artists' limited editions there are many topographical prints of the town.

3.3 <u>Decorative Art</u>

There is a good collection of decorative art, which includes material acquired from the ex-Cleveland County collection. This shows a broad range of decorative art material from a broad range of techniques, materials and periods.

This mainly comprises;

3.3.1 Ceramics

The collection includes ceramics dating from the late 17th century through to the 20th century. There is a large collection of Batavian and other Brown Glazed wares. The collection also contains Staffordshire ware and local wares such as Linthorpe ware, Middlesbrough ware, Stockton ware, Newcastle ware, Sunderland ware, Cleveland ware and West Hartlepool ware.

3.3.2 Glass

The collection includes glass dating from the 18th century through to the 20th century. The collection comprises of Sunderland ware, Georgian goblets, a piece of Lalique glass and Art Deco glass.

3.3.3 Silver & Metal

The collection includes glass from the 18th century through to the 20th century. The collection comprises of Georgian silverware, Art Nouveau metal and silverware, including pieces by Christopher Dresser.

3.4 Costume and Textiles

The costume collection dates mainly from 1900 -1960 and includes male and female dress and children's clothing, Civic Regalia and uniform. It also includes underclothes and accessories. As with social history the costume collections aims to represent the social and working lives of people of Hartlepool and surrounding districts.

3.5 Asian and Oriental

This collection contains a considerable variety of material, originating from the Middle and Far Eastern countries and from different periods. The majority was acquired in the early years of the Museum service (1920s-1930s) from local donors mostly connected with local industries. This collection includes Indian religious figures, Indian dolls, Indo-Chinese and Nepalese images of the Buddha and other deities, oriental porcelain, Japanese Netsuke and Japanese Armour and Arms.

3.6 <u>Archaeology</u>

Archaeological collections comprise of artefacts from sites within the Borough and include Mesolithic and Neolithic artefacts from the "submerged forest" (tidal zone), the late Bronze Age including the Throston Hoard, Romano-British artefacts including those from the Catcote settlement, finds from the 7th and 8th century Anglo-Saxon Monastery, and artefacts from the Medieval walled town. These mainly comprise pottery, metallic small finds, animal remains, human remains, glass, tile and masonry, with a small number of leather and wood items.

In addition, Tees Archaeology, the joint archaeology service funded by Hartlepool Borough Council and Stockton Borough Council, share storage space within Sir William Gray House. They do not have an active acquisitions policy and material is only kept on a temporary basis before being transferred to the appropriate museums service for formal acquisition. Original documentary archives are however held in their permanent archaeology archive. These collections and documentary archives are stored at Sir William Gray House, and in the open access store and the safe in the Art Store.

3.7 World Cultures

The service possesses a small, but interesting collection, mostly comprising weapons and ornaments from Africa and the Middle Eastern Countries. Much of this material was collected by local personalities and families, particularly Col. William Thomlinson, and has been an integral part of the museum since its early years.

3.8 <u>Social and Industrial History</u>

The Social and Industrial History collections help to illustrate the everyday life and history of the inhabitants of the Hartlepool District. The collection currently consists mainly of printed ephemera (the bulk of this being the Robert Wood collection, see 3.11 below), photographs, books and maps. The collection reflects the social aspects of local life as well as the industry in this area. The social history collections are quite small and reflect only a small part of the lives of these inhabitants. The iron, steel, engineering and the chemical production industries are not well represented other than by printed material.

3.9 <u>Natural History</u>

The collection consists of a comprehensive collection of British birds and common mammals, British entomology, local geology and a small number of foreign and exotic mounted specimens. These were acquired pre-World War Two.

3.10 Coins and Medals

There is presently a large collection of coins in the collection, mostly collected on an ad hoc basis, of British and foreign origin. The medal and medallions collection have a strong local connection, including the medals of Col. Robson, and attendance medallions from local schools.

3.11 Ephemera, Photographs and Archival Material

The collection consists of photographs, plans, maps, posters etc. The core photo collection consists of over 8000 items and includes photographs of local scenes, events, people and local ships. The Hartlepool Mail Photographic Collection consists of c. 30,000 modern (1950s-1990s) journalistic photographs and negatives. The ephemera collections include pilot journals, school registers, newspaper cuttings, commemorative pamphlets, council minutes, theatre programmes, commercial brochures and letterheads. The collection also includes maps and architectural drawings transferred from the council planning departments.

A hugely informative collection is that preserved by Robert Wood, a local historian, which contains approximately 45,000 unique examples of 19th century and early 20th century printed ephemera and manuscript material from the West Hartlepool printing and publishing concern owned by John Proctor (and his successors).

3.12 Firearms and Militaria

The collection includes a small collection of historic firearms held under the provision of a Home Office Museum Firearms Licence. Militaria are mainly confined to items directly relating to locally raised military units and volunteer militia, mainly printed ephemera and a personal items. One important area is items relating to the Bombardment of the Hartlepools in 1914, otherwise not covered by inclusion in 3.8, 3.10, and 3.11 above (shells, deactivated munitions, and souvenirs).

3.13 Other Collection Not Part of the Museum Collection

The Civic Collection currently comprises of 170 historical items either owned by, or given into the long-term care of, the Council, which are not part of the Museum Collection. This currently includes older items of Civic regalia and ceremonial, items belonging to defunct societies or organisation, various trophies, and official photographs. A selection of

these items is currently on display in the Long Gallery.

The Jewish Silver comprises of eleven items used in worship and study by the West Hartlepool Jewish Community at the Synagogue in Whitby Street between 1872 and the Temple's closure in 1969. These silver items include handles for holding the Torah scrolls, five Yads (pointers for reading lines of the Torah), decorative items known as "Kele Kodesh" which were placed on the Torah, and a Kiddish Cup and Spice Boxes used for celebrating the beginning and end of the Sabbath. They were passed into the care of the Council through a "permanent loan" in 1969 when the Synagogue closed and the community moved to Middlesbrough.

The Antiphonarium (also known as an Antiphoner) was donated to the Gray Museum and Art Gallery on the 13th September 1920 by Lt. Col. William Thomlinson, and legally recorded in the Accession Register as item 1920.103. The item was on display in Sir William Gray House until the Second World War. The item was noticed by Mr Lyde, the Chief librarian, in 1947 and sent down to the British Museum for identification. In 1970 the Museum resurged under the newly Amalgamated Hartlepool Borough Council and expanded with new displays, additional staff, and in 1972, the opening of the Maritime Museum on the Headland. There was also a collections review and major push to document the collection in a better way. Evidence at the time suggests that during this collections review the Antiphonarium was found to be in a poor condition and requiring extensive specialist conservation. It was therefore passed over to the HBC Library Service, who subsequently engaged Durham Cathedral specialists to conserve the item.

3.14 Long Term Loans

The Museum of Hartlepool currently displays six items on Long-Term Loan from other Museums and Organisations. Long Term Loans are agreed in writing as per the ACE Museum Accreditation Standard and the requirements of the UKRG (UK Registrars Group), and last typically for three years before being formally renewed or the item returned. Current lenders include the British Museum, the Science Museum, the RNLI, and a single Private Collector.

The Museum of Hartlepool currently has three Long Term Loans out to borrowers. A long term loan is defined as a loan of more than 18 months in duration. Two of these are on long term display; 8 items of archaeological material at Durham University Museums (ending 2022), and 20 items of ceramics to the Dorman Museum, Middlesbrough (ending 2021). The third is a long term loan of 21 reels of original cine film to our partners NEFA (North East Film Archive) for identification and digitisation, which is due to be completed by the end of 2020.

At present we have only one Short Term Loan out with a borrower, an oil painting by Norman Cornish at the mining heritage exhibition at Bishop Auckland Trust museums, due back on 30th January 2020.



Themes and priorities for future collecting

4.1 <u>Maritime collections</u>

4.1.1 Shipbuilding and Repairing

This includes wooden, iron and steel shipbuilding in Hartlepool and Teesside, and the construction of offshore oil and gas drilling rigs. A particular emphasis will be placed on the construction, use and development of fishing cobles.

4.1.2 Marine Engineering

Including the construction and fitting of ship's engines and boilers as well as associated foundry and other subsidiary industries.

4.1.3 Fishing and Associated Trades

Fishing is currently underrepresented in the collection, especially items relating to the division of labour within fishing families, tools and equipment, sales of catches, and items from supporting trades (including net making and those allied with recreational use of fishing vessels). Active collecting will include deep-sea fishing, in-shore fishing, fish curing and boat building (the latter only where directly related to the fishing industry).

4.1.4 Dock and Navigational Services

Including the work of the Dock and Harbour Authorities, pilotage and stevedores.

4.1.5 Shipping and Supporting Services

Including shipowning, coal and timber cargoes, and associated industries and businesses i.e. insurance, training, safety, and salvage.

4.1.6 Maritime Social History

Items representative of the lives and working conditions of fishermen, seamen, marine artisans, apprentices, their families, and other members of the maritime community.

These will include personal papers, technical plans and drawings, instruments, tools and other equipment, builders and sailor's models, small craft with local connections, navigational charts and maps, business and other archives, personalia and photographs.

Where appropriate duplication of material will be avoided.

4.2 Fine Art

4.2.1 Oil paintings

We will strengthen the existing collection through active collecting with an emphasis on topographical works relating to the Hartlepool area and works relating to Hartlepool artists in particular e.g. Fredrick Shields, James Clark, Frank Mason, and Maurice Cockrill.

Notable gaps in the collection include works by Seymour Walker and William Davison, and works by local female artists. These should be acquired whenever the opportunity arises. In addition, examples of North Eastern artists in general with an emphasis on marine and maritime paintings.

Contemporary works will also be collected to represent those publically exhibited in our Museums, as previously with the case of Lucian Freud and Nahem Shoa.

4.2.2 Watercolour Paintings

A similar policy to oil paintings 4.2.1 will apply

4.2.3 Drawing, Pastels and Prints

The print collection is sufficiently significant to warrant further development through acquisition, especially where it complements the intention and policies stated under 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 above.

4.3 Decorative art

4.3.1 Ceramics

It will be policy to collect missing pieces of Batavian and other Brown Glazed wares and locally produced wares such as Hartlepool pottery. Ceramics will also be collected to represent works on exhibition in our Museums and those by locally working and born crafts people.

4.3.2 Glass

It will be policy to collect gaps in the collection and locally produced wares. Glass will also be collected to represent works exhibited in our Museums and those by locally working and born crafts people.

4.3.3 Silver & Metal

It will be policy to collect missing pieces of metal and silverware in the collection and locally produced wares. Silverware and metal will also be collected to represent works on exhibition in our Museums and those by locally working and born silversmiths and metal crafts people.

4.4 Costume and textiles

As with social history (4.8), development and acquisition of costume collections will aim to better represent the social and working lives of people of Hartlepool and surrounding districts.

4.5 Asian and Oriental

Collecting in this area will concentrate on closing gaps in current holdings, and expanding the collection with contemporary collecting to better represent contemporary communities.

4.6 <u>Archaeology</u>

The service possesses a large and growing collection of archaeological material relating to the Hartlepool district. As far as possible any and all excavated material and chance finds (together with notebooks, plans, drawings photos etc.) from the district should be acquired. A close working relationship will be maintained with Tees Archaeology in the furtherance of this policy.

4.7 World Cultures

Collecting in this area will concentrate on filling gaps and expanding the collection with contemporary collecting to represent current living communities, especially the world cultures from which migrants to Hartlepool have originated.

4.8 Social and Industrial History

Social History material will be collected to be as inclusive as possible. Particular efforts will be made to make this area more culturally diverse. This will include acquiring social history material from communities currently underrepresented in our collections including BAME groups, disabled people, LGBT people, and religious communities.

Specific effort will be made to improve the representation in collections of those Irish and Jewish migrants who settled in the Borough from the middle of the 19th century.

Contemporary and historical collecting from all communities will be led by issues identified as important in people's lives, such as life events (birth, childhood, coming of age, marriage, adulthood, older age, and death), religious beliefs, folklore, healthcare, housing, entertainment poverty, unemployment, crime, consumerism and environment.

There will be active collecting of Civic items including regalia, costume, ephemera, photographs, and items relating to both the governance and civic life of the Borough.

The principle area of Industrial Collecting will include trades and professions, personal and domestic items and exhibits relating to education, religion, trade unions, friendly societies, civic life, public entertainment, coins and medals.

Industrial collecting will focus on the industries of the past 150 years and reflect heavy engineering, iron and steel, shipbuilding, timber, railways, salt production etc.

With changing economic patterns, different industries and firms will become more prominent and every effort will be made to reflect these changes within the Museum Collections.

4.9 Natural History

Policy is to accept only those natural history and geological items relating to the area in exceptional circumstances.

4.10 Coins and Medals

Policy will be to only collect commemorative medallions, coins, medals and printed currency with strong and direct associations to Hartlepool.

4.11 <u>Ephemera, Photographs and Archival Material</u>

Collecting will be carried out to support other collecting areas such as Social and Industrial History.

4.12 Firearms and Militaria

It will be policy not to collect further examples of firearms, except in exceptional circumstances and then only after consultation with the Home Office.

There will be active collecting of social history items relating to past conflicts which directly involved the people of the Borough, either through military or civilian service, the home front, or in local war industries. This will focus on social history items relating to local experiences during World War One, and to a lesser extent the Boer Wars and World War Two and later conflicts. These will include items of uniform, personalia, ephemera, documents, letters, and photographs.



Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal

- The museum recognises that the principles on which priorities for rationalisation and disposal are determined will be through a formal review process that identifies which collections are included and excluded from the review. The outcome of review and any subsequent rationalisation will not reduce the quality or significance of the collection and will result in a more useable, well managed collection.
- The procedures used will meet professional standards. The process will be documented, open and transparent. There will be clear communication with key stakeholders about the outcomes and the process.
- 5.3 Disposals may be undertaken outside of this formal review process only in exceptional circumstances, specifically those directly due to legal, health and safety, or care and conservation reasons. Examples of these circumstances include Spoliation, Repatriation, radiation emission, the presence of unstable asbestos, and pest infestation.

Legal and ethical framework for acquisition and disposal of items

6.1 The museum recognises its responsibility to work within the parameters of the Museum Association Code of Ethics when considering acquisition and disposal.

7

Collecting policies of other museums

- 7.1 The museum will take account of the collecting policies of other museums and other organisations collecting in the same or related areas or subject fields. It will consult with these organisations where conflicts of interest may arise or to define areas of specialism, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and waste of resources.
- **7.2** Specific reference is made to the following museum(s)/organisation(s):

Middlesbrough Museums and Galleries Redcar and Cleveland Museums Service Stockton Museums Service Head of Steam, Darlington Railway Museum Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum Heugh Battery Museum National Museum of the Royal Navy Hartlepool Tees Archaeology Teesside Archives North East Film Archive (NEFA) Durham County Council Beamish Museum Tyne and Wear Museums and Archives (TWAM)

Archival holdings

8.1 As the museum holds / intends to acquire archives, including photographs and printed ephemera, its governing body will in addition to the above policies also be guided by the *Code of Practice on Archives for Museums and Galleries in the United Kingdom* (2002).

Acquisition

9.1 The policy for agreeing acquisitions is:

Authority for agreeing to an acquisition is with Elected Members of the Council, specifically via the Regeneration Services Committee and the Chair of the Regeneration Services Committee. Cases where a potential acquisition would have major resource, financial, or community implications, should also be referred to Full Council. The Hartlepool Council Constitution Part 3 (Finance & Policy Committee) sets out the delegation for the Director of Neighbourhoods & Regeneration:

"Powers for a variety of transactions within £100,000 in capital value and £50,000 in rental value (annual figure). The powers are to approve land and property disposals and acquisitions, leases, lettings, licences, wayleaves, easements, undertaking and concluding rent reviews, lease renewals and the release and amendments of restrictions, covenants and other land and property matters."

Therefore unless the asset in question is in excess of £100,000 in value this authority will be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Chair of Regeneration Services Committee.

Curatorial and collections staff advise on acquisitions, and can only acquire after discussion with, and with the express permission of, Members or that of the relevant delegated authority.

9.2 The museum will not acquire any object or specimen unless it is satisfied that the object or specimen has not been acquired in, or

exported from, its country of origin (or any intermediate country in which it may have been legally owned) in violation of that country's laws. (For the purposes of this paragraph 'country of origin' includes the United Kingdom).

9.3 In accordance with the provisions of the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which the UK ratified with effect from November 1 2002, and the Dealing in Cultural Objects (Offences) Act 2003, the museum will reject any items that have been illicitly traded. The governing body will be guided by the national guidance on the responsible acquisition of cultural property issued by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in 2005.

Human remains

- 10.1 As the museum holds or intends to acquire human remains under 100 years old, it will obtain the necessary licence under the Human Tissue Act 2004 and any subordinate legislation from time to time in force
- As the museum holds or intends to acquire human remains from any period, it will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005.

Biological and geological material

11.1 So far as biological and geological material is concerned, the museum will not acquire by any direct or indirect means any specimen that has been collected, sold or otherwise transferred in contravention of any national or international wildlife protection or natural history conservation law or treaty of the United Kingdom or any other country, except with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority.

Archaeological material

- 12.1 The museum will not acquire archaeological material (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the governing body or responsible officer has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures.
- In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the procedures include reporting finds to the landowner or occupier of the land and to the proper authorities in the case of possible treasure (i.e. the Coroner for Treasure) as set out in the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by the

Coroners & Justice Act 2009).



Exceptions

Any exceptions to the above clauses will only be because the museum is:

Acting as an externally approved repository of last resort for material of local (UK) origin.

Acting with the permission of authorities with the requisite jurisdiction in the country of origin.

In these cases the museum will be open and transparent in the way it makes decisions and will act only with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority. The museum will document when these exceptions occur.



Spoliation

14.1 The museum will use the statement of principles 'Spoliation of Works of Art during the Nazi, Holocaust and World War II period', issued for non-national museums in 1999 by the Museums and Galleries Commission.



The Repatriation and Restitution of objects and human remains

- The museum's governing body, acting on the advice of the museum's professional staff, if any, may take a decision to return human remains (unless covered by the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005), objects or specimens to a country or people of origin. The museum will take such decisions on a case by case basis; within its legal position and taking into account all ethical implications and available guidance. This will mean that the procedures described in 16.1-5 will be followed but the remaining procedures are not appropriate.
- The disposal of human remains from museums in England, Northern Ireland and Wales will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums.



Disposal Procedures

Authority for agreeing to a disposal is with Elected Members of the Council, specifically via the Regeneration Services Committee and the Chair of the Regeneration Services Committee. Cases where a potential acquisition would have major resource, financial, or community implications, should also be referred to Full Council. The Hartlepool Council Constitution Part 3 (Finance & Policy Committee) sets out the delegation for the Director of Neighbourhoods & Regeneration:

"Powers for a variety of transactions within £100,000 in capital value and £50,000 in rental value (annual figure). The powers are to approve land and property disposals and acquisitions, leases, lettings, licences, wayleaves, easements, undertaking and concluding rent reviews, lease renewals and the release and amendments of restrictions, covenants and other land and property matters."

Therefore unless the asset in question is in excess of £100,000 in value this authority will be delegated to the Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Chair of Regeneration Services Committee.

- The governing body will confirm that it is legally free to dispose of an item. Agreements on disposal made with donors will also be taken into account.
- When disposal of a museum object is being considered, the museum will establish if it was acquired with the aid of an external funding organisation. In such cases, any conditions attached to the original grant will be followed. This may include repayment of the original grant and a proportion of the proceeds if the item is disposed of by sale.
- When disposal is motivated by curatorial reasons the procedures outlined below will be followed and the method of disposal may be by gift, sale, exchange or as a last resort destruction.
- The decision to dispose of material from the collections will be taken by the governing body only after full consideration of the reasons for disposal. Other factors including public benefit, the implications for the museum's collections and collections held by museums and other organisations collecting the same material or in related fields will be considered. Expert advice will be obtained and the views of stakeholders such as donors, researchers, local and source communities and others served by the museum will also be sought.
- A decision to dispose of a specimen or object, whether by gift, exchange, sale or destruction (in the case of an item too badly damaged or deteriorated to be of any use for the purposes of the collections or for reasons of health and safety), will be the responsibility of the governing body of the museum acting on the advice of professional curatorial staff, if

any, and not of the curator or manager of the collection acting alone.

- Once a decision to dispose of material in the collection has been taken, priority will be given to retaining it within the public domain. It will therefore be offered in the first instance, by gift or sale, directly to other Accredited Museums likely to be interested in its acquisition.
- 16.8 If the material is not acquired by any Accredited museum to which it was offered as a gift or for sale, then the museum community at large will be advised of the intention to dispose of the material normally through a notice on the MA's Find an Object web listing service, an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites (if appropriate).
- The announcement relating to gift or sale will indicate the number and nature of specimens or objects involved, and the basis on which the material will be transferred to another institution. Preference will be given to expressions of interest from other Accredited Museums. A period of at least two months will be allowed for an interest in acquiring the material to be expressed. At the end of this period, if no expressions of interest have been received, the museum may consider disposing of the material to other interested individuals and organisations giving priority to organisations in the public domain.
- Any monies received by the museum governing body from the disposal of items will be applied solely and directly for the benefit of the collections. This normally means the purchase of further acquisitions. In exceptional cases, improvements relating to the care of collections in order to meet or exceed Accreditation requirements relating to the risk of damage to and deterioration of the collections may be justifiable. Any monies received in compensation for the damage, loss or destruction of items will be applied in the same way. Advice on those cases where the monies are intended to be used for the care of collections will be sought from the Arts Council England.
- The proceeds of a sale will be allocated so it can be demonstrated that they are spent in a manner compatible with the requirements of the Accreditation standard. Money must be restricted to the long-term sustainability, use and development of the collection.
- 16.12 Full records will be kept of all decisions on disposals and the items involved and proper arrangements made for the preservation and/or transfer, as appropriate, of the documentation relating to the items concerned, including photographic records where practicable in accordance with Spectrum procedure on deaccession and disposal.

Disposal by exchange

16.13 The nature of disposal by exchange means that the museum will not necessarily be in a position to exchange the material with another

Accredited Museum. The governing body will therefore ensure that issues relating to accountability and impartiality are carefully considered to avoid undue influence on its decision-making process.

- 16.13.1 In cases where the governing body wishes for sound curatorial reasons to exchange material directly with Accredited or non-Accredited Museums, with other organisations or with individuals, the procedures in paragraphs 16.1-5 will apply.
- **16.13.2** If the exchange is proposed to be made with a specific Accredited Museum, other Accredited Museums which collect in the same or related areas will be directly notified of the proposal and their comments will be requested.
- 16.13.3 If the exchange is proposed with a non-Accredited Museum, with another type of organisation or with an individual, the museum will place a notice on the MA's Find an Object web listing service, or make an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites (if appropriate).
- 16.13.4 Both the notification and announcement must provide information on the number and nature of the specimens or objects involved both in the museum's collection and those intended to be acquired in exchange. A period of at least two months must be allowed for comments to be received. At the end of this period, the governing body must consider the comments before a final decision on the exchange is made.

Disposal by destruction

- 16.14 If it is not possible to dispose of an object through transfer or sale, the governing body may decide to destroy it.
- 16.15 It is acceptable to destroy material of low intrinsic significance (duplicate mass-produced articles or common specimens which lack significant provenance) where no alternative method of disposal can be found.
- Destruction is also an acceptable method of disposal in cases where an object is in extremely poor condition, has high associated health and safety risks or is part of an approved destructive testing request identified in an organisation's research policy.
- Where necessary, specialist advice will be sought to establish the appropriate method of destruction. Health and safety risk assessments will be carried out by trained staff where required.
- The destruction of objects should be witnessed by an appropriate member of the museum workforce. In circumstances where this is not possible, e.g. the destruction of controlled substances, a police certificate should be obtained and kept in the relevant object history file.









REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2020



Report of: Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)

Subject: LEARNING AND SKILLS SERVICE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Non Key, report for information only.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of the report is to provide Members with an update on the progress of the Council's Learning & Skills Service.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In January 2016, the Council's Economic Regeneration Employment & Skills Team and Adult Education were integrated within one service area, the Learning & Skills Service, in Regeneration & Neighbourhoods Department.
- 3.2 Since this period, there have been significant positive changes within the service resulting in a wide range of successes such as:
 - Through securing external funding, the overall budget has increased from approximately £1m in 2016 to the current level of circa £33.5m
 - In November 2017, the service was awarded a 'Good' grade by Ofsted with excellent features identified by Her Majesty's Inspectors
 - Being the first training provider in the Country to secure the highly prestigious awards of:
 - Investors in Volunteering
 - Investors in Careers
 - Matrix standard
 - Investors in People (Silver Award)
 - Better Health @ Work (Bronze) Award

- 3.3 The service has a ten year strategy (2016-2026) which sets out our shared ambition and vision. This provides a clear framework that will support the ongoing implementation of Government and local priorities relating to areas such as tackling youth unemployment, increasing the Apprenticeship rate, increasing employment and skill levels, widening participation, developing stronger communities and transforming the quality of learning.
- 3.4 Over the past three years, through the strategic direction of the strategy, the service has continued to manage and deliver large scale education, employment and skills provision and make substantial changes to meet the demands of key stakeholders such as learners, community, employers, external funders and external regulators.

4. OVERVIEW OF THE SERVICE

- 4.1 The service delivers a wide range of initiatives and activities to address socioeconomic inclusion for all, to tackle skills shortages, upskill the workforce, tackle
 marginalisation and the causes of family poverty through partnership working,
 raising a learner's aspirations and progressing people into higher levels of
 education and learning and sustained employment.
- 4.2 In line with the expectations of external regulators such as Ofsted and external funders, there is now an established Independent Strategic Board consisting of an Elected Member, industry and educational experts, employers and community ambassadors to support and challenge Senior Managers to continuously improve performance and quality standards.
- 4.3 Within the service, there is now an established comprehensive 'entitlement' for all learners, with a guarantee of provision such as Pastoral Support Workers, access to a universal, impartial Careers service and access to a guaranteed high quality and meaningful work placement via Volunteer Hartlepool.
- 4.4 The vast majority of initiatives within the service are externally funded and therefore they are closely scrutinised both internally and externally to ensure that all individual projects are performing to expectations and are effectively financially managed in line with relevant external funding rules. It should be noted that delivering externally funded programmes will always have a level of risk associated with them. The service has robust performance, quality assurance and financial management systems in place and have a wide range of extremely dedicated and committed staff who have significant experience of successfully managing and/or delivering programmes/initiatives which helps to ameliorate risk of financial clawback.
- 4.5 Due to the types of provision that the service delivers, such as Adult Education courses and Apprenticeships, it is in scope for Ofsted Inspections and therefore the service works towards the relevant standards set by Ofsted which are shown within the new Education Inspection Framework which were formally launched on 1st September 2019.

5. OVERVIEW OF PROJECTS

- 5.1 Tees Valley Youth Employment Initiative (YEI):
- 5.1.1 The Tees Valley Pathways & Routeways YEI programmes are unprecedented in size and scale in terms of youth provision within the sub-region and are a flagship initiative for the Council, with a combined contract value of £28.1m which comprises £10.5m of European Social Fund, £10.5m of YEI and £7.1m of local match funding. The Managing Agent for the YEI programme is Department for Work & Pensions (DWP).
- 5.1.2 The purpose of the programmes is to support unemployed and/or economically inactive young people aged 15 to 29 years across Tees Valley to progress into education, employment, Apprenticeships, training and self-employment.
- 5.1.3 The YEI programmes are managed by the Council as the Lead Accountable Body with delivery from a consortium currently comprising of 22 Delivery Partners including 5 Local Authorities, Colleges and organisations from the Public, Private and Voluntary Sector.
- 5.1.4 The programmes commenced on 1st October 2015 and were initially due to end on 31st July 2018. However, a successful Project Change Request was submitted on 22nd May 2018 which extended the programmes for an additional four years until 31st July 2022. Pleasingly, the contract extension safeguarded circa 400 staff who are all employed through the YEI programmes, spread over all the delivery partners.
- 5.1.5 It should be noted, that the Council successfully secured a quarter of the overall national allocation for the extension within a competitive process which enables the consortium to pro-actively tackle youth unemployment across the Tees Valley.
- 5.1.6 The current performance to the end of September 2019 is shown below: -

	Starts on Programme		Progressions			
Programme	Overall Target	Current Profile	Current Actual	Overall Target	Current Profile	Current Actual
Tees Valley Pathways	8,698	6,247	6,677	3,717	2,583	3,122
Tees Valley Routeways	925	655	801	445	294	383
TOTAL	9,623	6,902	7,478	4,162	2,877	3,505

5.1.7 YEI is proving to be highly successful and the overall targets are forecasted to be over-delivered by the end of the project. Whilst there is currently an under-spend against profile work is being undertaken with partners to ensure the funding is maximised. In addition, there are strict rules and regulations in the use of

European funding and therefore the Project Team continues to closely scrutinise financial claims of all partners to prevent the risk of clawback.

5.2 Routes to Work Pilot

- 5.2.1 Tees Valley Routes to Work is a pilot project funded via DWP 'Hardest to Help' national pilots. The funding was secured through the intervention of Hartlepool Borough Council and the total contract value is £7.5m (With DWP funding £6m and £1.5m match from Tees Valley Combined Authority (TVCA).
- 5.2.2 TVCA is the Accountable Body and managing agent for the funding and TVCA has an established Strategic Group with representation from all 5 Local Authorities in attendance.
- 5.2.3 This Tees Valley wide pilot initiative supports unemployed and economically inactive adults aged 30 and over who face the greatest difficulties in accessing employment. This includes people who have been out of work for a long period of time, those who have multiple barriers to employment due to physical and mental health challenges and those who have had a claim for Employment Support Allowance rejected.
- 5.2.4 The initiative aims to support up to 2,500 people over the three-year lifetime of the pilot, move 15% into employment and help the other participants to make significant progress towards securing work. As a pilot, the Combined Authority will have an independent evaluation carried out to understand what services are most successful in supporting adults, and use this evidence base to make a case for future local investment.
- 5.2.5 For the project, the 5 Tees Valley Local Authority's deliver and/or commission organisations such as Voluntary and Community Sector groups to deliver directly.
- 5.2.6 The official start and end date is 1st October 2017 to March 2021 and each Local Authority has been allocated an indicative number of learners to work with and Hartlepool's target is to support 398 participants.
- 5.2.7 The Council's Learning & Skills Service has been allocated £978,297 of funding to deliver the project and the delivery team are progressing very well with the following outputs delivered to date:

Outputs	Profiled Delivery	Actual Delivery	Overall Profile
		to Date	
Referrals	220	454	650
Engagements on Routes to Work	160	319	400
Positive Outcomes	144	227	360
Significant Outcomes	60	86	150
Progression into Employment	28	54	100

Outputs	Profiled Delivery	Actual Delivery to Date	Overall Profile
Sustained Employment	30	24	60

5.3 Adult Education Provision

- 5.3.1 The service receives an Adult Education Budget (AEB) allocation of £654k from TVCA, who manage the overall Tees Valley AEB under devolved powers and an AEB allocation from Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of £47k (This ESFA allocation predominantly relates to funding for continuing learners from 2018/19). In addition, the service has an £11k budget for the provision of an Advanced Learner Loan Facility. The service also delivers provision that is funded by employers and individuals directly.
- 5.3.2 Through this funding, the service delivers a wide range of post-19 accredited and non-accredited courses. This includes GCSEs, Preparation for Life and Work, Functional Skills, Community Learning, Support Teaching & Learning in Schools, Distance Learning, Leadership and Management, Business Administration, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and National Vocational Qualifications which are delivered in local venues such as Community Hubs.
- 5.3.3 The funding is aimed at both employed and unemployed adults and is to be maximised in areas such as to support an individual's personal and professional development, aid re-engagement in education and learning and prepare adults for the world of work.
- 5.3.4 A key area for the service is accredited Adult Skills provision and there has been significant investment on performance and quality improvement in this area which has paid dividends with year-on-year increases in achievement rates, as shown within the table below. The current achievement rate is the highest ever recorded in the service:

Academic Year	Adult Skills Achievement Rate
2015/16	80.55%
2016/17	86.09%
2017/18	90.48%
2018/19	92.97%

- 5.3.5 At the end of the 2018/19 academic year, across all of its Adult Education provision and Enterprise provision, the service recorded a final out-turn on progression rates for learners of 81%.
- 5.3.6 Over the past three years, the service's Adult Education team has diversified and is now more focused in terms of delivering innovative programmes. For instance, in 2016, the team successfully collaborated with representatives from

Gijon in Spain to deliver an ERASMUS European Student Exchange Programme for the first time and due to its success, this was repeated in 2018. Furthermore, the service works with teams across the Council, such as the Resettlement Team to deliver bespoke education and training programmes.

5.3.7 Alongside inspections by Ofsted, Adult Education receives regular scrutiny on the quality of its provision from other regulators such as Awarding Body External Verifiers and Examination Inspectors and feedback continues to be extremely positive.

5.4 Apprenticeships

- 5.4.1 The introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy in April 2017 has enabled the service to review its apprenticeship offer to levy paying and non-levy paying employers.
- 5.4.2 In 2018/19, the service supported 31 Council Apprentices and pleasingly the service has a forecasted 93% timely achievement rate, which is 25.7 percentage points above the current national average which is 67.3%. It is also forecast that 100% of the apprentices will progress into further learning or full time employment.
- 5.4.3 In 2019/20, the service has welcomed a new intake of 20 apprentices who are on apprenticeships in Business Administration Level 2 and 3 and Residential Childcare Level 3. Apprenticeship numbers will grow within the service over the next year through the opportunity of being able to deliver training to levy paying and non-levy paying employers.
- 5.5 Promoting Change, Transforming Lives (Lottery Funded Project)
- 5.5.1 In June 2015, the Council secured £400,000 of Big Lottery Reaching Communities Funding to support the development of the Waverley Allotment Project until December 2020.
- 5.5.2 The project incorporates three key elements, Therapeutic Services, Employment and Training Services and Commercial Services.
- 5.5.3 There have been major improvements to the Waverley site through focused capital works and through the efforts of the dedicated team and army of volunteers. The National Lottery Community Fund are extremely impressed with the progress of the programme, particularly with the positive impact on individuals, the number of outputs achieved to date (examples shown within the Table below) and the capital works carried out.

Outputs	Profiled Delivery	Actual Delivery	Overall Targets
Disadvantaged people will access Therapeutic Support at Waverley Terrace Allotment	375	516	500
Disadvantaged people with mental health issues and learning difficulties will be assisted to progress into Volunteering, Permitted Earning, Employment and or Learning	150	200	200
Adults with learning difficulties or disadvantaged unemployed adults aged 18 to 69 supported towards employment.	68	237	90
Adults with mental health or with physical disabilities, aged 18 and over supported towards employment.	97	145	130

5.5.4 The Waverley site is a very important asset for the service as it provides much needed provision to support vulnerable adults to access protected, volunteer placements where they can learn new skills and build confidence to move on. The next stages for the site will be to pro-actively explore what opportunities are available to sustain the Waverley site beyond the end of the funding in December 2020.

5.6 Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) Project Team

- 5.6.1 The VCS Project Team was launched in April 2019 and has been established to provide infrastructure support to the voluntary and community sector in Hartlepool. The support available to the sector includes:
 - Help with setting up a VCS organisation;
 - Access to grant funding;
 - Support with identifying income generation and funding opportunities;
 - Access to business advisers to help an organisation to thrive;
 - Capacity building support in areas such as policy and systems development, performance management and strengthening governance arrangements;
 - Undertaking a training needs analysis on an organisation and delivering bespoke training;
 - Support with recruitment and training of new staff;
 - Access to trained volunteers and the facility to advertise opportunities through Volunteer Hartlepool;

- Networking opportunities within the sector and the wider business community.
- 5.6.2 The team is the single point of contact within the Council for the VCS and will help strengthen the sector which plays a vital role in the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the town. The team works closely with key stakeholders on developing new opportunities to support the sector, such as Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE) who have submitted a Local Access Fund application on behalf of Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in Hartlepool and Redcar & Cleveland.
- 5.6.3 An initial application has been submitted by VONNE who will be informed in January 2020 if they will be invited to the final Local Access Fund application stage which if successful, could lead to additional funding and support including social investment and blended finance (i.e. loans and grants).

5.7 European Social Fund (ESF) Community Grants

- 5.7.1 The Council, on behalf of the other local authority's in the Tees Valley, is the accountable body for the ESF Community Grants programme. The programme will disseminate small grants of up to £20,000 to third sector and other small organisations for the purpose of mobilising disadvantaged or excluded unemployed and inactive people aged 19+ to enable their progress towards employment.
- 5.7.2 The programme has been running from April 2019 and all grants must be issued by December 2020, with all activity ceasing by July 2021. The contract value for the programme is £2.97m based on the delivery of outcomes as shown below with £2.7m for grants and £270k for the management of the programme.

Deliverables	Volume
Learner Assessment and Plan	2,105
Progression into Employment	356
Progression into Education	295

5.7.3 To date, there have been 24 applications received, with only two rejected. Total grant application values approved to date are £283k with a further £117K awaiting approval at the next monthly Grants Awards Panel. Significant work is being undertaken to promote this funding opportunity to prevent any risk of the funding not being utilised.

5.8 **Volunteer Hartlepool**

5.8.1 Volunteer Hartlepool is a key initiative for the service and has significantly expanded over recent years. The service is extremely proud to guarantee all interested learners a voluntary placement through Volunteer Hartlepool and this further reinforces our commitment to prepare all individuals for the world of work.

- 5.8.2 In 2018/19, Volunteer Hartlepool engaged with 259 participants, 168 received volunteer training, 179 entered into a placement and 249 placements were developed.
- 5.8.3 In 2019/20, Volunteer Hartlepool will be further enhanced and expanded through increased engagement with not-for-profit organisations to enable even more voluntary opportunities to be created. All learners interested in becoming a volunteer receive a bespoke package including training, advice on placements, in-work placement support and advice on career pathways.

5.9 **Step Forward Tees Valley**

- 5.9.1 Between October 2017 and September 2019, the service delivered Northern Inclusion Consortium's (NIC) National Lottery Funded Step Forward Tees Valley (SFTV) programme through a subcontract arrangement. There was a total of £54,600 of funding received over the two year period and this funding was used to effectively engage with participants aged 18 plus who had complex reasons preventing them from finding work.
- 5.9.2 As a subcontractor to NIC, the role of the service was to engage with the participants, undertake a comprehensive 1:1 interview and progress them towards navigators within the consortium who would then move them into a range of specialist provision such as health link workers. In total, the service worked with 346 participants throughout the lifetime of the project.

5.10 Careers Service

- 5.10.1 Section 41 of the Technical and Further Education Act 2017 requires that Ofsted inspects the quality of careers guidance provided to students in further education colleges, sixth form colleges and designated institutions (Including Adult Education provision).
- 5.10.2 In line with this legislation, in April 2018 the service implemented a 3-year Careers Plan to ensure that the service provides the highest quality, impartial Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for all learners to help them make informed choices about their futures.
- 5.10.3 The plan has set ambitious targets for progressing all learners into a positive outcome against all projects and standards are being set based on good practice as outlined within The Gatsby Good Career Guidance Benchmarks, Investors in Careers and matrix. A key part of the plan is to invest in Advisers through training so that their knowledge base on careers is enhanced and becomes specialised, therefore enabling them to provide high quality CEIAG.

6. RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 This report sets out that the programmes are externally funded and therefore there is risk associated in their delivery. However, the service has a significant track record of managing and delivering externally funded programmes and has robust performance and financial management systems in place to protect

against clawback or under-performance and works closely with internal audit, external funders and external regulators to monitor performance, finance and quality.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 There are no financial considerations relating to this report. However, as the programmes delivered by the Learning & Skills Service are externally funded there are robust systems in place to effectively monitor and manage the performance and financial management of each individual project to prevent any financial risks to the Council.

8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Legal Considerations	There are no legal considerations relating to this report.
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
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	No relevant issues

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 As outlined within this report, the service has enhanced its performance and quality standards and significantly increased the overall budget which enables it to support even more local residents into education, training and employment. The positive accomplishments and achievement levels of programmes is testament to the efforts of learners, staff, volunteers and all stakeholders associated with the service.
- 9.2 Going forward, the service will need to positively re-brand, explore and take advantage of future income generation and external funding opportunities. This will enable the service to replace programmes which will cease in the future and continue to strategically position itself so that it delivers national and local priorities and can compete within an extremely competitive market.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That members note the contents of this report.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 There are no background papers in relation to this report.

12. CONTACT OFFICER

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REGENERATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

5th February 2020



Report of: Assistant Director (Economic Growth and Regeneration)

Subject: STUDENT ACCOMMODATION NEEDS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 For Information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.2 The purpose of the report is to inform the Regeneration Services Committee of the work being undertaken on establishing the current and future student accommodation need in the Borough.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In recent years Hartlepool has begun to experience a growth in the student population associated with significant investment in the higher educational facilities within the town. As a result of this some purpose built student accommodation has been developed within Hartlepool and is currently occupied by students mainly from The Northern School of Art (NSoA) whose Hartlepool campus is located in Church Street.
- 3.2 The higher educational establishment within the town is The Northern School of Art and further education establishments are Hartlepool College of Further Education and the Hartlepool 6th Form College who both now offer some higher education provision. Growth in the student population is anticipated but the extent to which student additional accommodation is required, the number of bed spaces, the type of accommodation and over what period is still yet to be established.
- 3.3 To remedy this situation the Council has appointed Arc4 consultants to undertake a student accommodation needs assessment which will establish the current and emerging need and demand for student accommodation within Hartlepool. This study will inform the emerging Housing Strategy in which student accommodation is a new theme with an action to 'deliver a range of accommodation for the increasing student population'. The study will also be aligned with the Councils ambition for the ISQ quarter and the regeneration of Church Street.

The consultants presented their interim findings at Regeneration Services Committee on 18th September 2019.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The student accommodation needs study will seek to establish a more comprehensive evidence base regarding the existing need and emerging demand for student accommodation in Hartlepool; the cost and quality of existing accommodation and aspirations of existing and future residential students.
- 4.2 Post the presentation and subsequent discussion at Regeneration Services Committee on 18th September 2019 the Council has received a first draft of the assessment. Officers are now currently working with the consultant to deliver the final study document, which looks at the following objectives:
 - To understand and categorise the local student housing market (Age, nationality, disability and current accommodation arrangements e.g. living alone, HMO, shared accommodation, couples).
 - To provide a robust and comprehensive evidence base on the need for student accommodation in Hartlepool.
 - To establish the existing and emerging demand for student accommodation.
 - To advise on the type and size of accommodation and specification for any future student provision including if disabled or adapted accommodation is required.
- 4.3 Hartlepool has been chosen as one of 100 places that have been invited to develop proposals for a Town Deal, as part of the Governments £3.6bn Towns Fund. Capacity funding has been provided to enable the Council to develop a Town Centre Masterplan that will set out a programme of transformative structural changes that will enable Hartlepool Town Centre to evolve and adopt in response to the challenges of vacant retail space, declining footfall, declining market share, limited end user/occupier demand, poor quality public realm and a fragmented retail and leisure offer within the town.
- 4.4 The masterplan will then form the basis of a Town Deal between the Council and central Government facilitating the release of up to £25M for the regeneration of the central area of Hartlepool addressing connectivity and property issues including residential properties. The findings of the agreed student accommodation report will help inform the Town Centre Masterplan.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 The contract value of the study is £17K and is 100% funded by Tees Valley Combined Authority Indigenous Growth Fund.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Council has continuous consultation with the higher education providers in the Borough with regard to current and future student accommodation needs and physical provision.
- The consultant undertaking the needs study has consulted with the higher education providers in Hartlepool including the Northern School of Art, Hartlepool College of Further Education and Hartlepool 6th Form College and also local accommodation providers and businesses to establish their growth ambition and student accommodation requirement projections.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

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

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That Elected Members of the Committee note the content of the report and refer the final Student Accommodation Needs Study, when completed inform the Town Centre Masterplan and Town Deal.

9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 To make Elected Members aware of the progress made on the preparation of the Student Accommodation Needs Study and how the information will be considered going forward.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 There are no background papers for this report.

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