

REPLACEMENT AGENDA

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA



Monday 30 November 2020

at 10.00 am

in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

PLEASE NOTE: this will be a 'remote meeting', a web-link to the public stream will be available on the Hartlepool Borough Council website at least 24 hours before the meeting.

MEMBERS: FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

- 3.1 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on 19 October 2020.
- 3.2 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership held on 4 September 2020.

4. BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ITEMS

- 4.1 Community Safety Plan (2020 – 2021) – *Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services*
- 4.2 Financial Position Update 2020/21 to 2022/23 – *Director of Resources and Development*
- 4.3 COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan and Council Plan 2020-23 Update – *Managing Director*
- 4.4 Council Tax Base and Section 106 Policy – *Director of Resources and Development*

CIVIC CENTRE EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

In the event of a fire alarm or a bomb alarm, please leave by the nearest emergency exit as directed by Council Officers. A Fire Alarm is a continuous ringing. A Bomb Alarm is a continuous tone. The Assembly Point for everyone is Victory Square by the Cenotaph. If the meeting has to be evacuated, please proceed to the Assembly Point so that you can be safely accounted for.

5. KEY DECISIONS

- 5.1 Re-Procurement of Tees Integrated Sexual Health Service – *Acting Director of Public Health*
- 5.2 HME/NMRN/HMS Trincomalee Review – *Report of Director of Resources and Development*

6. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

- 6.1 Allocation of the Community Pot – *Director of Adult and Community Based Services*

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 Corporate Procurement Quarterly Report on Contracts – *Chief Solicitor*
- 7.2 Dry Recycling Contract: Examination of Future Options – *Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

For Information:

Dates and times of forthcoming meetings of the Finance and Policy Committee –

Monday 18 January, 2021 at 10.00 am
Monday 15 February, 2021 at 10.00 am
Monday 15 March, 2021 at 10.00 am



FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

19 OCTOBER 2020

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am and was an online remote meeting in compliance with the Council Procedure Rules Relating to the holding of Remote Meetings and the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

Present:

Councillor Shane Moore (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, James Brewer, Paddy Brown, Jim Lindridge, Sue Little, Leisa Smith, John Tennant, Stephen Thomas and Mike Young.

Also Present: Councillor Tony Richardson.

Officers: Denise McGuckin, Managing Director
Hayley Martin, Chief Solicitor
Chris Little, Director of Resources and Development
Jill Harrison, Director of Adult and Community Based Services
Tony Hanson, Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services
David Cosgrove and Denise Wimpenny, Democratic Services Team

39. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Ann Marshall.

40. Declarations of Interest

None

41. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2020

A Member referred to Minute 32 'Community Safety Plan 2020-2021 and asked if a date had been set for the presentation by the Police. The Managing Director confirmed that a presentation by the Chief Constable would form part of the next scheduled Members' Seminar. The Member requested that the title of the Seminar invitation made it clear to Members the contents of the seminar.

Minutes confirmed.

42. Towns Fund Accelerated Funding Award (*Director of Resources and Development*)

Type of decision

Key Decision test (i) applies. General Exception Provisions Apply.

Purpose of report

The report updated the committee on the award of £1m in accelerated funding from the Towns Fund. The report sought approval from the Committee to spend the funding on 15 Church Street and the former Shades Hotel in line with the recommendations of the Town Deal Board. The report also included the details of the revised costs and business case for 15 Church Street.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Resources and Development reported on the background to the Town's Fund which was managed by the Town Deal Board. The Town Deal Board brought together public, private and community sectors to provide strategic leadership to the Economic Regeneration of the town and the development of the Town Deal. The Town Deal Board served as an advisory function to the Council and is a Government requirement for the development of a Town Deal. The current allocated funding of £1m to fund capital projects was required to be spent by the end of the financial year

The Town Deal Board had approved the two schemes set out in detail in the report for the two buildings in Church Street. These projects were 15 Church Street, which had Planning Permission in place and was ready to start on site, and a targeted programme of works to 16 Church Street (the former Shades Hotel).

The Town Deal Board considered options for the £1m Accelerated Funding at the 23rd July Board meeting and agreed with the proposal to focus on 15 Church Street and Shades to continue the regeneration of the Church Street area. Alternative options were discussed, however, it was concluded that these schemes were the most deliverable and had the greatest alignment with the Town Deal criteria within the constrained timescales.

A full breakdown of the costs and funding for 15 Church Street were set out in the Confidential Appendix to the report. The appendix contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3; information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

While there was general support for the proposals, there was concern expressed by a Member at the delay between the original scheme for

16 Church Street approved in March 2019 and the lack of communication with Members regarding the delay and the reasons for it. The Member suggested that a better communication mechanism needed to be implemented.

Reference was also made in relation to the conversion of business loans to grants to support local businesses. The Chair stated that the recently appointed Assistant Director, Development and Growth would be dealing with this issue and the matter would be discussed by Policy Committee Chairs later in the week.

A Member commented that for better clarity with the public, it needed to be highlighted this was Government Grant money being spent on these two buildings and not the Council's own money.

Decision

1. The Committee noted that the Council has been awarded £1m from the Towns Fund Accelerated Fund.
2. The Committee noted the recommendation of the Town Deal Board to spend the funding on 15 Church Street and Shades.
3. The Committee approved the funding set out in the confidential appendix to the report to refurbish 15 Church Street and create residential and commercial accommodation. The appendix contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3; information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. The Committee approved the funding set out in the confidential appendix to the report to carry out targeted repairs to the former Shades Hotel to help secure the future use of the building. The appendix contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3; information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
5. The Committee delegated the approval of costs for 15 Church Street to the Director of Resources and Development, in consultation with the Chair of the Finance and Policy Committee, following the value engineering exercise outlined in the confidential appendix to the report. The appendix contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3; information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

43. **Covid-19 Financial Position Update** (*Managing Director*)

Type of decision

Non-Key.

Purpose of report

To provide details of

- (i) decisions taken in relation to the delivery of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic;
- (ii) Information in relation to the "Local authority test and trace service support grant";
- (iii) Information in relation the "Local Restrictions Support Grant";
- (iv) Information in relation to the " Test and Trace Support Payment" arrangements;
- (v) Information in relation to the "Reopening High Street Safely Fund"; and
- (vi) Information in relation to the "Emergency Active Travel Fund".

Issue(s) for consideration

The Director of Resources and Development updated the Committee in regards to the published decision records in relation to the Covid-19 response since the meeting on 29 June. The report also set out the up-to-date position in relation to government funding received and proposed in relation to –

Local Authority Test and Trace Service Support Grant
 Local Restrictions Support Grant
 Test and Trace Support Payments
 Reopening High Street Safely Fund
 Emergency Active Travel Fund

Some of the financial information relating to the above grant/funding schemes was set out in confidential appendices to the report. These appendices contained exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3; information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

The Director highlighted how funding and associated guidance was still coming through from central government. For example, the Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme of £500 for people on low incomes who were unable to work while they are self-isolating because they cannot work from home had indicated that local authorities were expected to validate applications within 3 working days was announced on 20 September but it

took a further five days before the guidance on the scheme was issued to local authorities who were already receiving contact from the public as to how they applied. The Government would meet the cost of payments to individuals and also indicated they would provide funding for council set-up and ongoing administration costs – although details had not yet been provided.

The Chair commented that he saw the situation as somewhat perverse in that in the Tier 2 restrictions some businesses were being hit unfairly but the public had some normality. However, in the Tier 3 restrictions the public would lose significant freedoms but businesses would get some financial support. It was as though the government was steering areas towards Tier 3 restrictions in order for them to get financial support for their business sector.

There were comments from Members that there was great concern that many businesses simply wouldn't survive a further lockdown period. The Council needed to look at whatever means it had to support the business community and jobs in the town. The Chair agreed but did feel the government should be providing the significant share of such funding with the Council 'filling in the gaps'.

The Chair commented that residents needed to be encouraged to go out and support their local businesses while they could – spending locally could save local businesses and jobs.

A Member raised the issue of a potential student accommodation development in the town where the developer was still awaiting a response from the Council on the scheme proposed which could have been bringing additional revenue. The Director stated that a response would be sent to the developer shortly as it had only been finalised last week.

Decision

That the report be noted.

44. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The Committee noted the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday 30 November 2020 at 10.00 am.

The meeting concluded at 10.35 am.

H MARTIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

PUBLICATION DATE: 27 OCTOBER 2020

SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

4 SEPTEMBER 2020

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

Present:

Responsible Authority Members:

Councillor Moore, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Tennant, Elected Member, Hartlepool Borough Council
Tony Hanson, Assistant Director, Environment and Neighbourhood Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Sylvia Pinkney, Interim Assistant Director, Regulatory Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Chief Inspector Peter Graham, Chair of Youth Offending Board
Michael Houghton, Director of Commissioning, Strategy and Delivery, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees and Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group
Nick Jones, Cleveland Fire Authority

Other Members:

Sarah Wilson, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
Joanne Hodgkinson, Voluntary and Community Sector Representative, Chief Executive, Safe in Tees Valley
Sally Robinson, Director of Children's and Joint Commissioning Services, Hartlepool Borough Council

Also Present:

John Lovatt, Adult and Community Based Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Councillor Ged Hall, Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, Hartlepool Borough Council

Officers:

Rachel Parker, Community Safety Team Leader
Joan Stevens, Statutory Scrutiny Manager
Angela Armstrong, Scrutiny Support Officer
David Cosgrove and Jo Stubbs, Democratic Services Team

1. Apologies for Absence

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

Craig Blundred, Acting Director of Public Health, Hartlepool Borough Council.

Superintendent Sharon Cooney, Neighbourhood Partnership and Policing Command, Cleveland Police.

Barry Coppinger, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland.

Ann Powell, Head of Area, Cleveland National Probation Service

John Graham, Director of Operations, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company.

Angela Corner, Director of Customer Support, Thirteen Group.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 10 January 2020 and 20 March 2020

Confirmed.

4. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services Fire and Rescue Service Inspection 208/19 – Summary of Findings *(Chief Fire Officer – Cleveland Fire Brigade)*

Purpose of report

To provide Members of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership with a summary of findings from Cleveland Fire Brigade's Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services Inspection which took place in July 2019.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Fire Brigade representative stated that it had been intended to present this report earlier in the year but this had not been possible due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The overall assessment of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services found that Cleveland Fire Brigade:

- is 'good' at effectively keeping people safe and secure from fire and other risks;
- is 'good' at how efficiently it manages its resources; and
- is 'good' at looking after its people.

The Inspection Report and its findings clearly show that Cleveland Fire Brigade is one of the top performing Fire and Rescue Services in the country – it was highlighted that no Authority had been rated as Outstanding. The Fire Brigade representative thanked all the partner organisation representatives that had been involved in the inspection.

The Chair congratulated the Fire Brigade on the outcome of the inspection and commented that it reflected the excellent working relationship it had with its partner organisations and in particular its involvement in the multi-agency Community Safety Team.

Decision

That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership notes the outcome of the Cleveland Fire Brigade HMICFRS Inspection 2018/19.

5. Hartlepool Community Safety Team – Neighbourhood Policing *(Cleveland Police)*

Purpose of report

To provide an update on Neighbourhood Policing.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Cleveland Police representative outlined the update on Neighbourhood Policing Team and indicated at the meeting that there were now 13 officers in the Team and that this number was to rise to 18 over the next few months. This would consist of 3 teams each with a sergeant and a dedicated Inspector lead. The new teams were having a positive effect and were addressing in the community the main issues within the Community Safety Plan and there was particularly positive work around domestic abuse.

The Chair commented that the public appreciated the re-instigation of Police officers 'on the beat' in their communities and this was an extremely welcome and positive move.

Decision

That the Safer Hartlepool Partnership members notes the report and receives a further update report once all the Neighbourhood Policing Teams were in place.

6. Anti-Social Behaviour in Hartlepool – Final Report *(Chair of Audit and Governance Committee)*

Purpose of report

To present the Audit and Governance Committee's finding following completion of its investigation into Anti-Social Behaviour in to Hartlepool.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, Councillor Hall, presented the outcome and recommendations of the Committee's investigation into anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool. Councillor Hall stated

that the Committee began its inquiry in July 2019 and undertook a variety of methods of investigation including extensive community engagement, as outlined in section 11 of the report along with a town-wide survey and a targeted survey of young people. A number of representatives from organisations involved in the prevention of and dealing with anti-social behaviour were invited to present evidence to the Committee including Cleveland Police, North East Ambulance Service, Cleveland Fire Brigade, Registered Social Landlords and local residents groups.

During the investigation it was noted that the Victims' Commissioner had requested a piece of work be undertaken by ASB Help and the University of Nottingham Trent to look at understanding the impact and experience of victims of anti-social behaviour and the response from agencies to tackle it. One of the contributors to this piece of work, Dr James Hunter was invited to provide the Committee with a presentation which included information from the Crime Survey for England and Wales. The presentation highlighted the importance of understanding people's differing perceptions of anti-social behaviour and identifying the risk of anti-social behaviour and the prioritisation of individual cases.

Based upon the findings, a number of conclusions and recommendations have been made and these are listed in sections 14 and 15 of the report.

Councillor Hall draw attention to the Committee's emphasis on continuing the ground-breaking partnership arrangement of the Integrated Community Safety Team in delivering enforcement, support and education activity, including the prioritisation of anti-social behaviour as a crime due to its significant impact on victims and its role as a potential precursor to criminal behaviour.

During the investigation, Members of the Committee were keen to explore the potential to develop more innovative options for reporting anti-social behaviour, including online mechanisms and the use of electronic apps along with the creation of a single point of contact for reporting incidents of anti-social behaviour.

The Police representative stated that since transferring to Hartlepool earlier in the year he had very impressed with the joint working within the Community Safety Team and highlighted a specific case of anti-social behaviour that had been resolved by the team.

The Chair welcomed the report and the in-depth investigation undertaken by the Audit and Governance Committee and commented that the development of an action plan, as set out in the recommendations, was needed to support the Committee's findings. This was supported by the Partnership members. The Safe in Tees Valley representative commented that the organisation was becoming involved in mediating anti-social behaviour problems to see if that was a more productive method of resolving such issues. The progress on this would be reported to a future meeting of the Partnership.

Decision

1. That the Audit and Governance Committee's Anti-Social Behaviour report be received and its recommendations agreed, pending consideration of a detailed Action Plan.
2. That an Action Plan be developed for implementation of the report's recommendations for consideration at the meeting in November 2020.
3. That the implementation of the Action Plan be monitored and progress reported back to the Audit and Governance Committee on a six monthly basis.

7. Draft Community Safety Plan 2020-2021 (*Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services)*)**Purpose of report**

To consider and agree a draft Community Safety Plan for 2020-21.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Interim Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported that the process to develop an new three-year Community Safety Plan was due to commence earlier in the year but had been 'over-taken' by the Coronavirus Pandemic. Due to this delay and the additional work required to produce a three-year plan it was now proposed that a one-year plan for 2020-21 be developed with a new three-year plan deferred to next year.

The proposed strategic objective for 2020-21 was "To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit". The key priorities for the Partnership in 2020/21 were proposed as Drugs and Alcohol; Anti-social Behaviour; and Domestic Violence. Subject to the approval of the draft plan which was appended to the report, there would be an eight week consultation period utilising a wide range of mechanisms including local press and social media.

The Chair thanked Partner organisations for their input into the draft plan submitted which had been done in a very short time-frame and with the competing priorities brought by the Coronavirus Pandemic. The Chair also stated his support for the move to a three-year plan next year.

Decision

That the draft Community Safety Plan 2020-21 be approved for consultation.

- 8. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance** *(Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services))*
- 9. Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance** *(Assistant Director (Environment and Neighbourhood Services))*

Purpose of report

To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 3 – October to December 2019 (inclusive) and for Quarter 4 – January to March 2020 (inclusive).

Issue(s) for consideration

The Community Safety Team Leader presented the two quarterly reports whose submission to the Partnership due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. The data was somewhat out of date and future quarterly reports would be based on a new data set driven by the priorities in the draft plan for 2020/21.

A Member commented that some of the statistics, such as opportunistic crime like shop-lifting would have declined to almost nil during the Coronavirus Pandemic lock-down and such changes shouldn't be utilised to skew the statistics monitored in future quarterly reports.

Decision

That the two quarterly reports be noted.

- 10. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent**

The Chairman ruled that the following item of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

- 11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The Chair reported that the next meeting would be held on Friday 13 November 2020 at 10.00 am.

The meeting concluded at 10.40 am.

CHAIR

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Director of Neighbourhood and Regulatory Services

Subject: COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN (2020 – 2021)

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Budget and Policy Framework

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To consider the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Community Safety Plan 2020-2021.

2.2 To consider referral to Council for adoption of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership Community Safety Plan 2020-2021.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established a statutory duty for Local Authorities, Police, Fire Brigades, Probation Trusts (including Community Rehabilitation Companies) and Clinical Commissioning Groups to work together to address local crime and disorder, substance misuse and reoffending issues. Collectively the organisations are known as the “Responsible Authorities” and make up the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.
- 3.2 In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have a statutory responsibility to develop and implement a Community Safety Strategy setting out how it intends to address crime and disorder, substance misuse, and re-offending issues.
- 3.3 In March 2020, the Safer Hartlepool Community Safety Plan 2017/20 came to an end.
- 3.4 At its meeting on 13th November 2020 the Safer Hartlepool Partnership agreed the Community Safety Plan for 2020/21.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2020-21

- 4.1 The Community Safety Plan 2020-21, **attached at Appendix 1** provides an overview of some of the recent activities undertaken to improve community safety in Hartlepool, and key findings from the Safer Hartlepool Partnership's Annual Strategic Assessment and public consultation.
- 4.2 The plan sets out the Partnership's strategic objective for 2020/21 and the key priorities that the Partnership will focus on.
- 4.3 The Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objective for 2020-21 is:
- “To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit”.
- 4.4 The key priorities for the Partnership in 2020/21 are:
- Drugs and Alcohol;
 - Anti-social Behaviour; and
 - Domestic Violence.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Following agreement of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objective and priorities in September 2020, the first draft of the Community Safety Plan was published for an eight week public consultation period.
- 5.2 The public consultation included an on-line survey and direct consultation with the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Hartlepool Borough Council's Finance and Policy and Audit and Governance committees.
- 5.3 Although there was relatively low take-up in relation to the on-line survey, there was strong agreement with the proposed strategic objective and priorities from respondents and committees.
- 5.4 Feedback from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner also confirmed that the Community Safety Plan supports the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan, fulfilling the obligation set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 for Police and Crime Commissioner's and Community Safety Partnership's to have due regard for the priorities established in the Police and Crime Plan, and Community Safety Plan.

6. DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- 6.1 Delivery of the Community Safety Plan will be via existing agencies, organisations and through partnership working.
- 6.2 Performance will be monitored by the existing Neighbourhood Safety Group.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 On 16th November 2020 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) advised councils that they would be providing a one-off grant of £50,000 to allow local authorities to prepare for the new statutory duty to provide domestic abuse support in safe accommodation, contained in Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Bill currently before Parliament. Further MHCLG guidance on the use of this funding is detailed in **Appendix 2**.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 Failure to develop a Community Safety Plan would undermine the Safer Hartlepool Partnerships ability to fulfil its statutory responsibilities to set out a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder, combating substance misuse and reduction in re-offending in Hartlepool.

9. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 The strategic assessment and consultation process ensures that the needs of all sections of the community are considered in formulating and implementing the Community Safety Plan.

10. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Risk Implications	No relevant issues
Child/Family Poverty Considerations	No relevant issues
Staff Considerations	No relevant issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant issues

11. RECOMMENDATION

- 11.1 That Finance and Policy Committee considers the content of the Community Safety Plan 2020-21.
- 11.2 In accordance with the budget and policy framework, Finance and Policy Committee considers making a referral to full Council for adoption of the Community Safety Plan 2020-2021.

12. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

13. BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

13.2 Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Community Safety Plan 2020-21

14. CONTACT OFFICER

Tony Hanson
Director of Neighbourhood and Regulatory Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
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Community Safety Team Leader
Hartlepool Borough Council
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Sign Off:-

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



Safer Hartlepool Partnership



Community Safety Plan

2020 - 2021



CONTENTS

Section	Heading	Page
1	Foreword	3
2	Introduction	4
3	Local Context	5
4	Summary of the 2019/20 Plan	6
5	Strategic Assessment 2019	7
6	Public Consultation	8
7	Strategic Objectives 2020/21	9
8	Priorities 2020/21	9
9	Delivering the Plan	11
10	Monitoring Performance	12



1. FOREWORD

As Chair, I am pleased to present the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Plan for 2020 – 2021 on behalf of The Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP).

The Partnership Plan brings together our aims, ambitions and priorities for the next year. We will work in Partnership to tackle the issues which impact on, and matter to local people.

During the lifetime of the previous Community Safety Plan introduced in 2017, there have been a number of key community safety achievements, not least the launch of an integrated Hartlepool Community Safety Team in March 2018.

Created in response to requests from residents for a more joined-up service, the team brings together staff from Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police and Cleveland Fire Brigade who are all based together in the Police Station on Avenue Road. During 2020, the work of this team will be strengthened by the Chief Constable of Cleveland Police's commitment to neighbourhood policing which will see an increase in dedicated resources to gather intelligence, prevent crime and problem solve in our local communities.

The Community Safety Plan 2020 – 2021 reflects the outcomes of the 2019 SHP Strategic Assessment. In utilising this data and information, it has enabled the SHP to identify the priority areas to be focussed on for the next year. This will enable us to deliver a holistic approach, with a greater emphasis on prevention and reducing harm.

The SHP has faced new challenges in recent years including, most recently, the onset of COVID-19 which has had a huge impact on all aspects of life in the town. There has been a significant change in issues that are presented to partners to address, whilst also tackling substantial resource pressures. Important matters such as organised crime, serious violence, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and responding to those members of our communities with specific vulnerabilities understandably take priority.

The SHP will continue to look at new and innovative ways of working collaboratively to reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending, and most importantly, improving the quality of life for the people who live and work in and visit Hartlepool.

Councillor Shane Moore

Chair, Safer Hartlepool Partnership



2. INTRODUCTION

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) brings together a number of agencies and organisations concerned with tackling crime and disorder in Hartlepool. As defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Partnership comprises members from each of the “responsible authorities”; Hartlepool Borough Council, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service (Cleveland), Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company and Hartlepool and Stockton Clinical Commissioning Group. In addition, a range of other stakeholders from the public and voluntary sectors are also represented and include Thirteen Group, Safe In Tees Valley and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland.

Our key role is to understand the kind of community safety issues Hartlepool is experiencing; decide which of these are the most important to deal with; and then decide what actions we can take collectively, adding value to the day-to-day work undertaken by our individual agencies and organisations.

We detail these actions in our Community Safety Plan. To help us do that we undertake a Strategic Assessment which analyses a range of detailed information that exists about crime, disorder, substance misuse, re-offending and other community matters that are affecting Hartlepool.

The outcomes of the assessment form recommendations about how to keep the Community Safety Plan priorities relevant.

In producing our plan we are also mindful of the pledges of the Police and Crime Commissioner in his Police and Crime Plan and the requirement to 'have regard' to the priorities established by this plan.

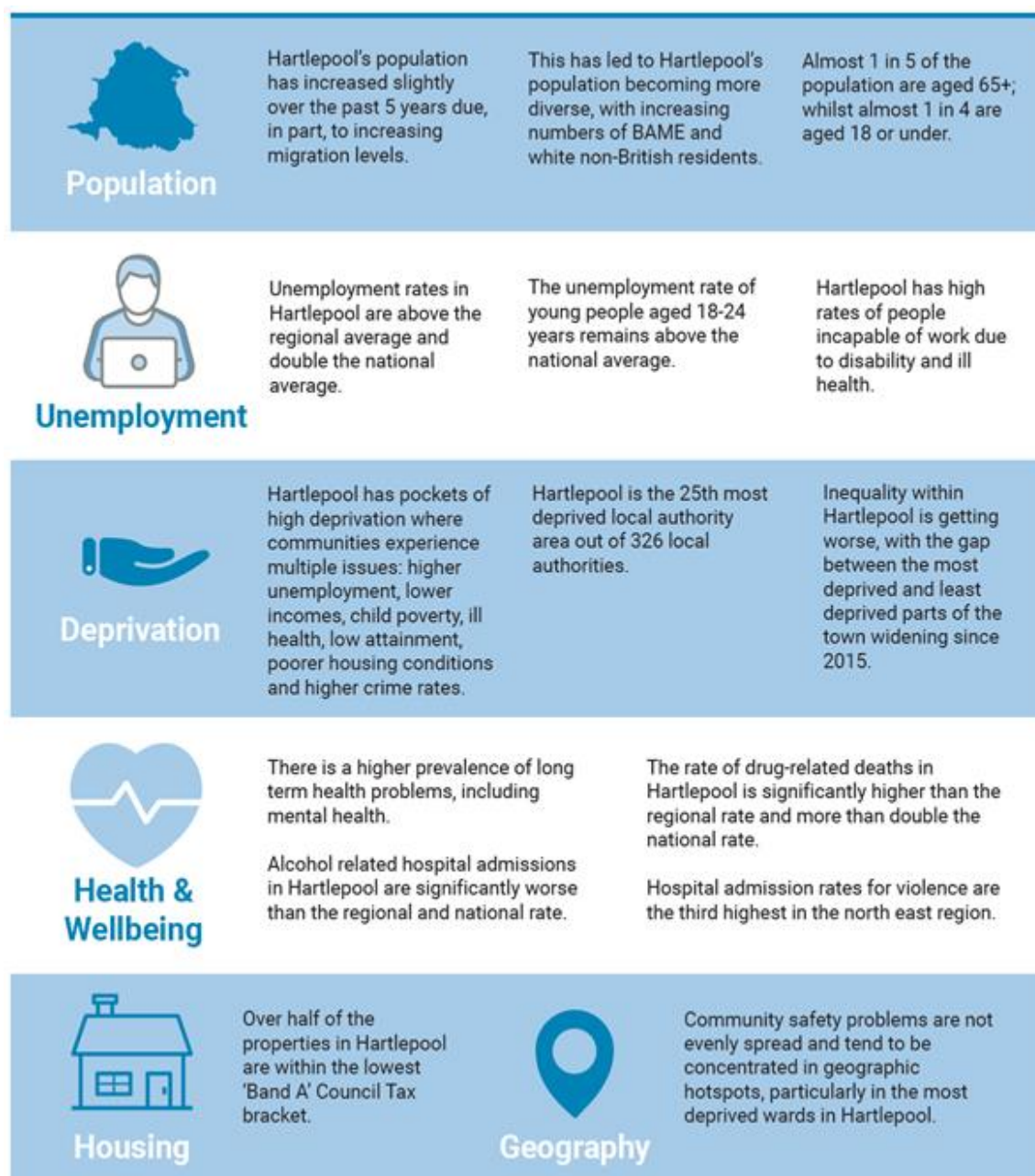
The community safety landscape continues to evolve and partners continue to face challenges in having to adapt the way services and initiatives are delivered. Since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, legislative changes have amended our focus, and also the statutory partners we work with, but the principles of working together remain at the heart of tackling crime and disorder.

APPENDIX 1



3. LOCAL CONTEXT

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



APPENDIX 1**4. SUMMARY OF THE 2019/20 PLAN**

During the final year of the Community Safety Plan 2017 – 2020 we have continued to focus our priorities on ensuring Hartlepool is a safe place for residents, workers and visitors by undertaking activity to address the issues that are likely to have most effect on people during their day to day lives.

Reduce crime and repeat victimisation

- Provided home and personal crime prevention advice, target hardening and emotional support to more than 500 victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Held regular “drop in” sessions in the Community Hubs and schools to offer property marking.
- Delivered targeted crime prevention campaigns and communicated key messages through a variety of media.
- Hosted a Serious Violence Summit to explore how agencies can work together to tackle serious violence.
- Developed a Victim Care Pathway for victims of Modern Day Slavery

Reduce the harmed caused by alcohol and drug misuse

- Developed a new integrated model for drug and alcohol services.
- Secured 18 premise closure orders for residential properties concerned in the supply of illegal drugs

Create confident, cohesive and safe communities

- Delivered early intervention, diversionary, educational and positive activities through the deployment of the Target Youth Outreach Team, achieving more than 1,600 contacts with young people identified as at risk of exploitation and / or becoming involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour.
- Co-ordinated multi-agency “Days of Action” to target anti-social behaviour and environmental issues in hotspot locations
- Carried out targeted operations to address illegal and dangerous parking at schools, identify and seize nuisance off-road vehicles, respond to complaints of aggressive begging.
- Delivered the annual Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Day (ASBAD) which highlights the consequences of anti-social behaviour and provides young people with the knowledge and understanding of the roles of support and Community Safety focused agencies working in Hartlepool.

Reduce offending and re-offending

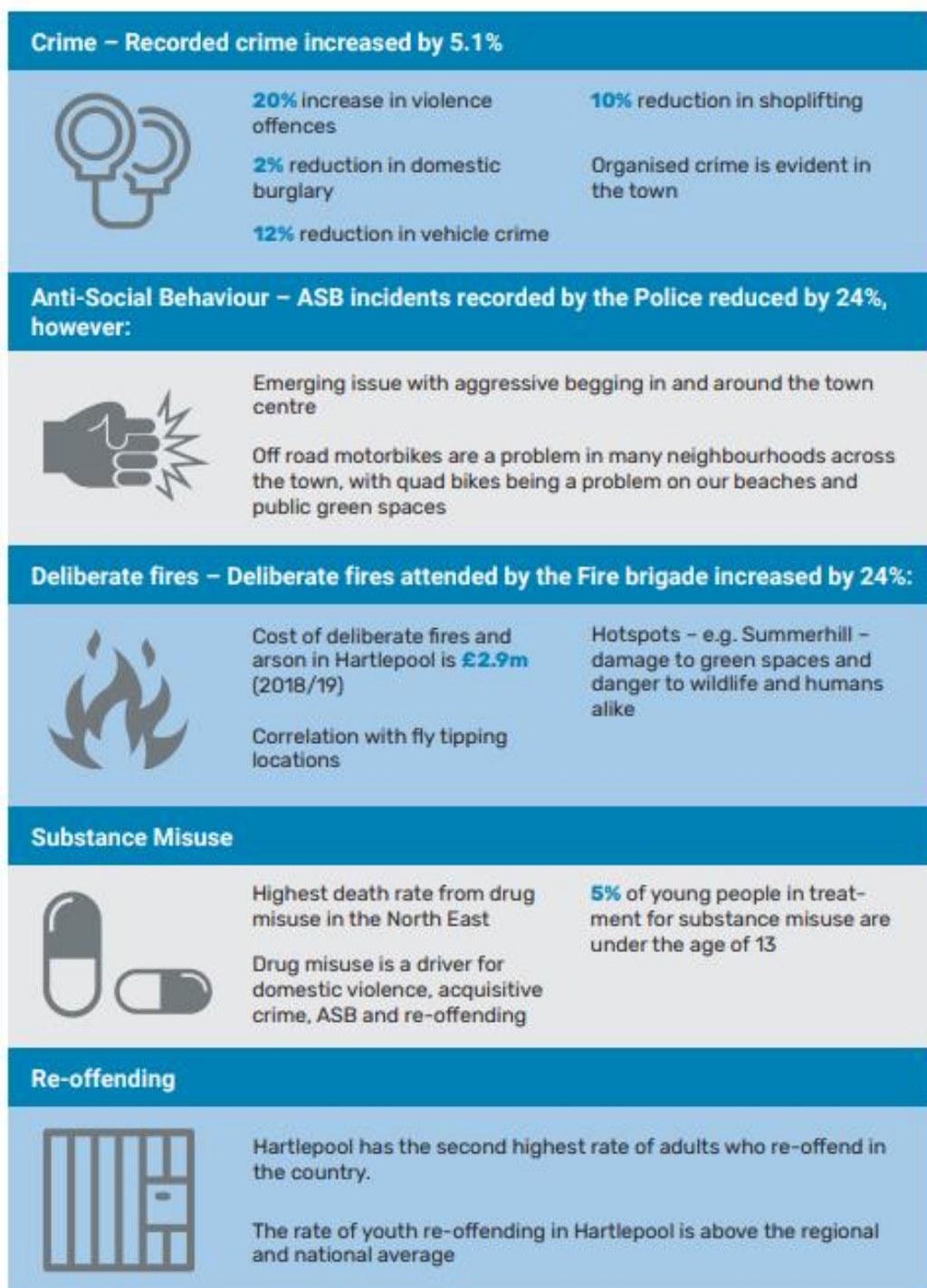
- Supported the implementation of the Cleveland Divert scheme which engages with adults at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System for low-level offences and offers eligible offenders the opportunity to engage with services as an alternative to prosecution.

APPENDIX 1



5. STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT 2019

The Partnership conducts an annual assessment of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in Hartlepool to identify and address the community safety issues that impact upon and really matter to the local community. Key findings from the 2019 assessment are outlined below.





6. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Safer Hartlepool Partnership has a statutory obligation to engage and consult with the communities of Hartlepool about community safety priorities.

The annual Community Safety Survey is designed to assist the Partnership to:

- Gain a wider understanding of public perception of crime and anti-social behaviour in the local area;
- Understand what makes people feel safe and unsafe; and
- Understand which issues cause most concern

Analysis of the results of the survey conducted in February 2020 highlighted that although many residents perceive crime and anti-social behaviour to be a problem in their area, more than half of respondents said they had not been a victim of crime in the previous 12 months.

When asked about feelings of safety, most respondents said they feel safe being outside during the day and after dark. Those who said they felt unsafe stated this was due to poor street lighting, lack of police, suspicious people hanging around and people dealing drugs.

The survey findings also revealed that serious violence, organised crime and “county lines” drug dealing are issues which cause concern in our communities amongst the community and should be included as priorities in the Community Safety Plan.

The annual Face the Public event scheduled to take place on 16th March 2020, was cancelled due to safety concerns relating to COVID-19.

In addition to the Partnerships’ consultation with the public, and in fulfilling the requirements of the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Council’s Audit and Governance Committee, conducted an investigation into anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool during 2019 under its statutory crime and disorder scrutiny responsibilities.

A town wide public survey was conducted to seek residents’ opinions and experiences of ASB. The response rate was good with almost 400 surveys completed. More than two thirds of respondents stated that they had experienced ASB in the preceding six months.

The survey results further identified that the main issues of ASB experienced by respondents included rubbish / littering, groups hanging around in the street / public places, rude / abusive behaviour by young people, begging and vehicle nuisance (off-road bikes).

6. CONTINUED...



In addition to the survey, an extensive consultation and engagement exercise was conducted, with an open invitation extended to individuals and groups. Drop in sessions were held in a number of locations including the Community Hubs and Sheltered accommodation complexes.

A series of workshops were attended by representatives from resident's groups and associations, representatives from minority communities of interest or heritage, young people who attend various youth clubs across the town and representatives from the Hartlepool Taxi trade.

Several interviews were also conducted with individual residents who had experienced and reported anti-social behaviour.

Common issues of concern were identified across all of these groups and included drug and alcohol abuse and drug dealing, deliberate fires and fly-tipping, noise nuisance and littering and a lack of police visibility in neighbourhoods.



7. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2020/21

The new strategic objective for the Partnership in 2020/21 is: -

To make Hartlepool a safe, prosperous and enjoyable place to live, work and visit

8. PRIORITIES 2020/21

As with any town, Hartlepool faces many challenges and must work within an environment of conflicting demands and limited resources.

The Partnership recognises that there are many issues that impact on the lives of some, or all, of Hartlepool's residents and continued efforts will be made by all Partnership members to address these in a focussed and effective manner.

Issues such as hate crime, violence (particularly serious violence) and exploitation are significant in both the local and national context and the Partnership recognises the need to work both individually and collectively to address them.

However, the Partnership also recognises the benefits of identifying those issues that have the greatest impact on the town and the need to target resources and efforts to deal with them effectively and efficiently.

To do this, the Safer Hartlepool Partnership will focus activity on three key priority areas – each of which contributes towards a wide range of community concerns. The three key priority areas for 2020/21 are: -

Drugs and Alcohol

Through targeted partnership working, focussed efforts will be made to reduce both the demand for, and the supply of, illegal drugs in Hartlepool.

The Partnership will also work together to reduce the negative social, personal and health consequences caused by the misuse of alcohol in the town.

Anti-social Behaviour

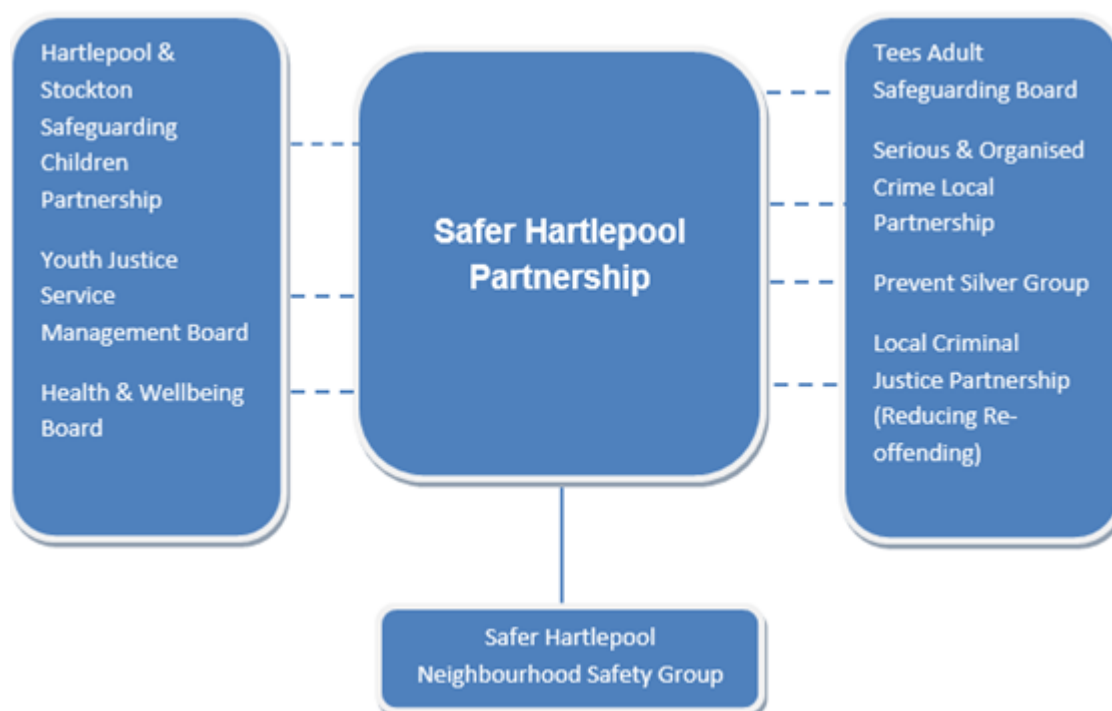
The Partnership will look to reduce anti-social behaviour in Hartlepool.

Domestic violence and abuse

The Partnership will work together to safeguard individuals and their families from domestic violence and abuse.

APPENDIX 1**9. DELIVERING THE PLAN**

The Partnership will draw on available resources to ensure delivery of the plan through the effective use of existing organisations, agencies and groups and the establishment of new ones where required.



APPENDIX 1



10. MONITORING PERFORMANCE

Performance of the Community Safety Plan will be monitored by the Safer Hartlepool Partnership against a range of key performance indicators for each of the priorities which include:

Priority	Indicator
Anti-Social Behaviour	ASB incidents reported to the Police
	Rate of ASB per 1,000 population
	Number of noise complaints received
	Number of fly-tipping reports received by the Council
	Number of Deliberate Secondary (F3) fires
	Number of Deliberate Vehicle Fires
Drugs and Alcohol	Drug Offences - Possession
	Drug Offences - Supply
	% of opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment
	% of non-opiate drug users that have successfully completed drug treatment
	% of alcohol users that have successfully completed alcohol treatment
	% of young people that have successfully completed treatment
	Number of young people known to substance misuse services
	% of people dependent on alcohol and not in the treatment system
	% of people dependent on opiates or crack and not in the treatment system
Domestic Violence	Domestic Abuse incidents reported to the Police
	Rate of Domestic Abuse incidents per 1,000 population
	Repeat Incidents of Domestic Abuse
	Rate of repeat Domestic Abuse incidents per 1,000 population



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APPENDIX 1



For further information contact:

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Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

16 November 2020

Dear

The 2020/21 Domestic Abuse Duty Capacity Building Fund: agreement to pay local authorities under the power in s31 of the Local Government Act 2003 [No.31/5228]

Thank you for your authority's continued work to provide core support for refuges and other safe accommodation services. As you know, MHCLG has secured £6 million to support local authorities in England to prepare for the new statutory duty to provide domestic abuse support in safe accommodation, contained in Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Bill currently before Parliament. The Department is now able to issue a Determination to local authorities covering the Capacity Building Fund.

The total fund of £6 million will be distributed equally in a one-off payment to 119 Tier 1 local authorities. This is a one-off grant to allow local authorities to prepare for the implementation of the new duty. Each local authority will receive £50,000 with the exception of Northamptonshire County Council who will receive £100,000. This is because from April 2021 Northamptonshire County Council will become two unitary authorities (currently operating in shadow mode) and each will need to make preparations for the new duty. Local authorities are encouraged to spend this funding within the current financial year.

The aim of the Fund is to enable local authorities to plan and prepare for implementation ahead of the new duty which is expected to come into force in April 2021 – subject to the successful passage of the Domestic Abuse Bill. Early preparation work will ensure local authorities are more ready to implement the duty and will help promote effective delivery upon commencement. To support local authorities in this work, MHCLG has published guidance on the purpose and expected outcome of this fund. While local authorities will be best placed to determine the work

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needed to prepare for implementation given local circumstances, the guidance provides recommended activities to help LAs prepare for implementation, including:

1. Hold conversations with local key stakeholders, including domestic abuse service providers and statutory agencies, to discuss the new duty and consider/plan how it could be delivered locally. This will help promote early partnership discussions and facilitate expertise & information sharing at Tier 1 level.
2. Map existing local safe accommodation providers, including consideration of any additional provision created during COVID-19.
3. Review existing governance arrangements, strategies relevant to domestic abuse and existing commissioning arrangements, to consider any adjustments needed for implementation.
4. Hold discussions with Tier 2 Local Authorities, to reach agreement over future engagement and roles of the Tier 1 / Tier 2 Local Authorities under the new duty.
5. Enable Local Authorities to engage with MHCLG to ensure they fully understand the requirements of the duty.

I enclose a Determination made under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, for the purpose of providing grant support to the local authorities listed in Annex A in England towards expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them to prepare for the new duty expected to come into force in April 2021.

Yours sincerely



Josh Goodman
Director, Social Housing

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Director of Finance and Policy

Subject: FINANCIAL POSITION UPDATE 2020/21 TO 2022/23

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Budget and Policy Framework.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide updates on:

- i) the forecast 2020/21 General Fund outturn;
- ii) the financial impact of Covid-19;
- iii) General Fund budget 2021/22 and 2022/23.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council faced nine consecutive years of cuts in Government funding up to 2019/20. Consequently, significant efficiencies and cuts had been made, including reducing the workforce by **20% (500 posts)**.

3.2 Since 2013/14, when the current funding system was introduced, Government core funding reduced by **£25.7m**, a **41%** cut. This highlights the significant reduction in funding for local services and the increasing challenge of balancing the annual budget.

3.3 Additional Government funding was provided in 2020/21 for Social Care. However, these services, particularly Looked after Children, have experienced significant annual increases in demand and the Council has had to manage this position within a reduced overall annual budget.

3.4 Previous budget strategies enabled the Council to manage the impact of Government funding cuts and the budget for 2020/21 was set using a reduced level of reserves of £0.547m. A net 2021/22 budget deficit of £1.3m was forecast in February.

3.5 As reported previously and updated later in the report the Covid pandemic will have an adverse impact on the financial position and future financial

resilience of all councils. The recent announcement of a second national lock down means the scale of the financial impact in 2020/21 and 2021/22 will continue to evolve and a further update will be provided as part of the report to set the 2021/22 budget and Council Tax level.

- 3.6 Since the previous update was provided the Government has confirmed they will only have a one year Spending Review for 2021/22. The Chancellor has stated the Spending Review will be announced 25th November 2020. On this basis the Local Government Finance Settlement is likely to be late December.
- 3.7 The one year Spending Review, alongside delays to planned major reforms of the national funding system for councils (i.e. Fair Funding Review, 75% Business Rates Retention and the long delayed reforms of Social care funding), means a prolonged period of significant financial uncertainty for councils.
- 3.8 On the back of the previous nine years of austerity the uncertainty regarding Government funding for 2021/22 onwards makes the current position the most uncertain the Council has ever faced. In turn this makes financial planning beyond 2021/22 extremely challenging. The decisions to be made by Members over the next few months will be critical to the financial resilience and sustainability of the Council.

4. 2020/21 FORECAST GENERAL FUND OUTTURN

- 4.1 An updated assessment of the forecast of the outturn has been completed. However, outturn forecasts remain uncertain as significant elements of the budget are seasonal and expenditure can vary significantly over the winter period. The position for 2020/21 is significantly more challenging owing to the impact of Covid on costs and income streams.
- 4.2 As reported previously the forecast General Fund outturn has been assessed by removing the financial impact of Covid, which is covered in the next section. In relation to the adjusted General Fund forecast outturn it is currently anticipated that the Council will face increased demand in relation to Children Services and this trend will continue into 2021/22, as detailed later in the report. It is anticipated the current year overspend can be offset from managed underspends on other service budgets and the achievement of lower borrowing costs from actions taken to secure long term borrowing for the approved capital programme.
- 4.3 The Corporate Management Team will continue to monitor the General Fund budget and updated forecasts will be reported to a future meeting.
- 4.4 Collection levels in relation to Council Tax and Business Rates will also continue to be monitored closely. At the end of September 2020:
- 51.5% of Council Tax had been collected, this compares to 54% at the end September 2019; and

- 51.9% of Business Rates had been collected, this compares to 55% at the end September 2019.
- 4.5 Details of the regular financial management information are detailed in Appendices A to G and there are no specific issues to bring to Members attention.
- 4.6 The Council successfully submitted a bid for £115,000 for works to the Borough Hall to the Arts Council 'Culture Recovery Fund' which is designed to support recovery of the sector. Some elements of the original proposal need to be revisited due to changes in guidelines since the funding applications was submitted and will need to be agreed by the Arts Council. However, the amount awarded will not change.

5. FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19

- 5.1 As reported previously the Covid pandemic has had an unprecedented financial impact on councils and this is driven by five key factors:
- Increased expenditure
 - Reduced service income
 - Increased cost of Local Council Tax Support (LCTS)
 - Reduced Business Rates income
 - Reduced Council Tax income from housing growth
- 5.2 At the outset of the pandemic the Local Government Association highlighted the financial impact of the above issues and the requirement for specific Government funding for councils.
- 5.3 The Government has now made four funding announcements, which as summarised below provide £4.7 billion of national funding and £9.325m for Hartlepool.

Tranche	Date of funding announcement	Value of national funding	Hartlepool Allocation
1	16.03.20	£1.6 billion	£3.404 million
2	18.04.20	£1.6 billion	£2.559 million
3	02.07.20	£0.5 billion	£1.013 million
4	12.10.20	£1.0 billion	£2.349 million
Total		£4.7 billion	£9.325 million

- 5.4 Additionally, the Government confirmed the detailed technical arrangements for providing grant funding to offset income losses, including which income streams are eligible for support, which basically relates services income such as car parking income, leisure centre income etc. Under these arrangements councils are responsible for the first 5% of the budgeted income loss – the Government then pays a grant for 75% of the loss. These arrangements effectively split eligible income losses 29% to councils and 71% to the Government.

- 5.5 Councils are required to submit returns at the end of September, December and March 2021 to access this support. The Government has indicated this arrangement will end in March 2021. It is envisaged that many income streams will not recover to their pre-Covid levels until the end of 2021/22 and the timing of recovery remains uncertain. This risk is reflected in the 2021/22 budget forecast as the Council will have to manage the ongoing income shortfalls from its own resources.
- 5.6 The income streams not eligible for support under this regime are commercial income streams. This is a major issue for some councils which have been active in buying assets to achieve a financial return. This is not a significant issue for Hartlepool and the only income not eligible for support is the lost income from the Shopping Centre.
- 5.7 Prior to the announcement of a fourth tranche of funding it was anticipated that the Council faced a Covid funding deficit of **£2.154m**, as summarised below:

Summary of Financial Impact of Covid

	Covid Costs	Irrecoverable Sales, Fees and Charges income	Collection Fund Deficit	Total
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m
Cost / Income loss	4.658	4.587	3.000	12.245
Less – Tranche 1, 2 and 3 Government Grant	(4.658)	(1.472)	(0.846)	(6.976)
Less Forecast Government Grant	0.000	(3.115)	0.000	(3.115)
Funding Shortfall / (Surplus)	0.000	0.000	2.154	2.154

- 5.8 On the basis of the financial impact detailed in the above table the fourth tranche of funding eliminates this deficit and provides an uncommitted 'contingency' of **£0.195m** to meet increased Covid costs/income losses that may arise over the winter. To put this amount into context it is only **1.6%** of the current forecast **£12.245m** Covid financial impact. The second national lockdown means there is an increased risk that these costs / income losses will increase in the current year and may also continue to impact into 2021/22. This position will continue to be kept under review and further updates will be provided.
- 5.9 At a national level the Local Government Association is continuing to work with the Government to secure whatever additional funding may be required.
- 5.10 Before the fourth funding tranche was announced the August report had set out a strategy to address the forecast Covid funding shortfall to avoid this position impacting on the 2020/21 and 2021/22 budgets. This strategy

recommended capitalising the shortfall to enable the cost to be spread over a number of years. The resulting loan repayment costs will be funded from the senior management structure recurring saving and the net uncommitted saving in borrowing costs achieved in relation to the approved capital programme. In total the recurring revenue saving is £100,000.

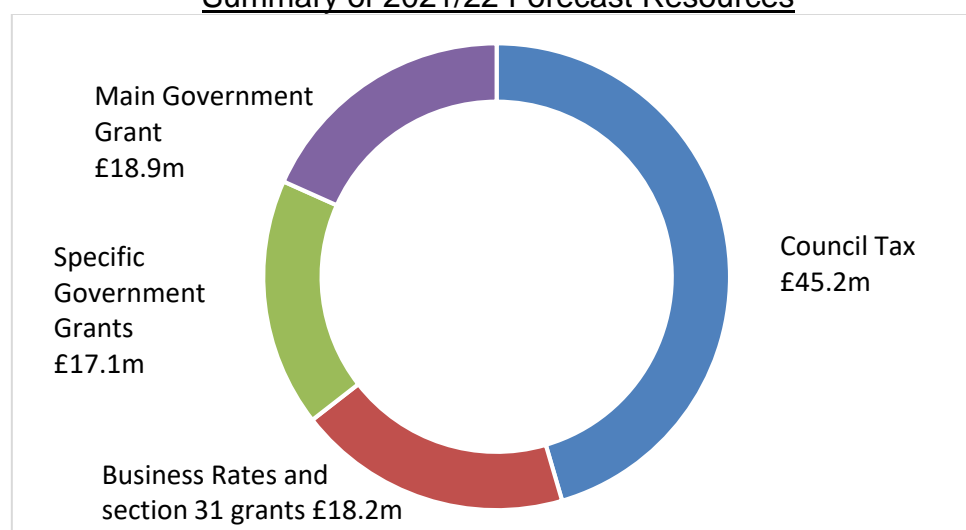
- 5.11 As the Covid shortfall is a revenue cost this proposal will need to be implemented through a funding swap where prudential borrowing will be used to meet approved capital expenditure commitments, which it was planned to fund from the Capital Funding Reserve. This strategy releases the Capital Funding Reserve which is revenue funding and can therefore be reallocated to address the Covid funding shortfall.
- 5.12 The announcement of the fourth tranche of Government funding should enable this financial flexibility to be retained and as detailed later in the report this will help support the 2022/23 budget. This position is dependent on the financial impact of Covid in 2020/21 and 2021/22 not being any worse than currently forecast – which cannot be guaranteed.

6. GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2021/22 AND FUTURE YEAR OUTLOOK

6.1 Context

- 6.2 To provide context to the 2021/22 budget the following table summarises the key forecast resources available to fund services.

Summary of 2021/22 Forecast Resources



- 6.3 On the basis of decisions made by Government in relation to 2020/21 funding it is not unreasonable to assume that 2021/22 funding will be maintained at this level. However, this cannot be guaranteed and on 21st July 2020 when launching the 2020 Spending Review the Chancellor said:

- 'it is clear there will be "tough choices" in other areas of spending at the review, and departments have been asked to identify opportunities to reprioritise and deliver savings'.

6.4 In view of the large amounts already promised for priority areas like the NHS, schools and police, the Chancellor's emphasis on the need for 'tough choices' means another round of budget cuts for other lower priority departments is a potential possibility. On the basis of a one year Spending Review this is unlikely for 2021/22, but a risk for 2022/23 and future years as the Government will need to prioritise spending and tax rises at some stage to address the costs of Covid and the increase in Government debt.

6.5 **Updated Forecast of 2021/22 Budget Deficit**

6.6 Further work has been completed since the August update in relation to the budget forecast and in particular the continuing Children Services pressures, which was initially estimated to be £1.350m. As previously reported Covid 19 has impacted upon the number of children in care and there has been a net increase as children have continued to become looked after where they are assessed as being at risk of significant harm, however fewer children have left care during this period. The reasons for this are multiple, including the closure of the Family Court leading to delays and a backlog of cases and the need for young people ready to leave care to remain in their placements. An additional pressure of £1.167m has been quantified consisting of two elements:

- Children's Social Work capacity - £0.567m

Staffing capacity has remained unchanged for the last 3 years and over this period there has been a significant increase in both the complexity and number of vulnerable children needing support. More children are requiring support at the highest levels of intervention, i.e. subject to child protection plans or in the care of the local authority. This has led to social workers and Independent Reviewing Officers having caseloads that are too high and need to be reduced. Parallel to this, within the safeguarding teams the complexity of need is not compatible with the level of experience of the workforce. When experienced social workers leave posts within the Safeguarding teams, they are replaced with less experienced staff who require more supervision and lower individual caseloads.

An increase in capacity is therefore needed to ensure the Council can retain a highly effective service that keeps children and staff safe. The recommendation is to create additional social worker posts where needed to create the necessary capacity and thereby reduce caseloads to a safe and manageable level.

It is not envisaged that the existing levels of demand and complexity will reduce in the next few years as the factors driving the increase have been exacerbated by Covid. Hopefully, at some future date the demand will begin to reduce, although any potential reduction will take place on a

gradual basis. At that stage it should then be possible to also begin to phase down the staffing capacity, which should be achieved on a managed basis given the demand for experienced Social Workers.

- Placement capacity - £0.600m

Further placement capacity is needed to meet existing and forecast demand and ensure the Council has a sufficient supply of placements within residential care. The proposal is to open an additional Children's Home as this provides the best possible outcome for children and is 25% (£0.2m) more cost effective than external placements.

- 6.7 In light of the one year spending review for 2021/22, and delayed reform of Adult Social care funding, it is hoped that the Government will recognise the financial uncertainty for councils and therefore seek to partially address this by providing additional Social Care grant in 2021/22, as they did in 2020/21. Even if this additional funding is provided the additional budget pressures mean the net forecast deficit has increased to **£4.053m**. If this additional funding is not provided the 2021/22 forecast deficit would increase to **£6.253m**, as summarised below:

Update 2021/22 Forecast Deficit

Forecast reported 13.08.20 £'m		Latest Forecast £'m
1.301	Forecast Deficit Reported February	1.301
0.400	Add - Recurring impact of April 2020 National Pay Award	0.400
0.760	Add- Reduction in Forecast Housing Growth	0.760
1.475	Add- Budget Pressures	1.475
1.150	Forecast 2021/22 Income Shortfalls	1.150
0.000	Add – Additional Children's Care Pressure	1.167
5.086	Forecast Deficit without 2021/22 New Social Care Government Grant	6.253
(2.200)	Less – Potential 2021/22 New Social Care Government Grant	(2.200)
2.886	Revised Forecast Deficit	4.053

6.8 Strategy for Managing Forecast Deficit

- 6.9 In normal circumstances it would be recommended that a savings strategy is developed to address the recurring budget deficit and identify the service cuts which need to be implemented from 1st April 2021. However, the deficit includes forecast income shortfalls which may be temporary for 2021/22 if activity returns to normal levels over the next 18 months. This will depend how peoples' behaviours may have changed as a result of the pandemic and whether there are further outbreaks.

- 6.10 Achieving permanent savings of this magnitude would undermine capacity of the Council to support the town recover from the pandemic and consume a significant amount of management capacity. In addition, the delayed implementation of major reform of the Local Government until 2022/23 means there is significant uncertainty regarding funding levels beyond 2021/22 – particularly in relation to Social Care.
- 6.11 Therefore, against this background, at the meeting on 13th August 2020 the Committee endorsed the proposal to fund the forecast 2021/22 deficit identified at that stage from reserves, **whilst recognising this is not a permanent solution and defers a deficit until 2022/23 to provide a longer lead time to identify budget cuts and clarity over recurring national funding.**
- 6.12 This strategy remains appropriate. However, adopting this strategy will now require the use of a higher level of one of resources in 2021/22 and will also need to consider the implications on the 2022/23 financial position. These issues are considered in sections 7 to 8.
- 6.13 **2021/22 Council Tax and other issues raised by Members 13.08.20**
- 6.14 As detailed in the previous report the decisions regarding the 2021/22 Council Tax level cannot be made until the Government determines the indicative Council Tax referendum limits. The forecasts detailed in the previous paragraphs are based on the 2% planning assumption reported in February.
- 6.15 Members have previously expressed a desire to explore the potential to freeze Council Tax and this was reflected in the Council's response to the Spending Review consultation.
- 6.16 At the meeting on 13th August 2020 Members requested information on the following issues:
- Review of non-statutory services to determine if alternative service delivery options could potentially provide savings and review of current building stock / home working arrangements. It has not been possible to progress these tasks owing to the ongoing response to the pandemic.
 - Full Review of fees and Charges.
 - As detailed earlier in the report the pandemic has significantly reduced income from fees and charges. This issue is affecting all councils and the Government is providing specific funding in the current years towards these losses.
 - The forecasts for 2021/22 anticipates income will not return to normal until part way through 2021/22 and this is reflected in the strategy for managing the 2021/22 budget deficit.

- The forecast for 2021/22 includes an inflationary increase in all fees and charges, which if not achieved would increase the forecast deficit by £0.9m.
- Against this uncertain background and current capacity constraints it is recommended that a full review of fees and charges is built into the 2022/23 budget process. If additional income can be secured this will help reduce the recurring budget deficit.
- Loss of income in the leisure sector, costs of operational and potential income with a reduced re-opening capacity.
 - The income shortfall for 2020/21 detailed in section 5 of £4.587m includes an income shortfall for Leisure Facilities of £0.974m. The 2020/21 Leisure Facilities budget consists of the following components:

	£'000
Expenditure	2,362
Less Income	(1,835)
Net General Fund budget	527

- Review of section 106 arrangements – this is covered in a separate report.

7. 2022/23 Forecast Budget Position

7.1 It is difficult to plan for 2022/23 and future years in the absence of a multi-year local Government Finance Settlement and lack of certainty in relation the following key issues:

- the completion of a multi-year Comprehensive Spending Review by the Government covering their expenditure priorities, tax strategy and strategy for managing the significant increase in public sector debt arising from the measures taken to support the economy during the pandemic;
 - The next Comprehensive Spending Review is extremely unlikely to prioritise additional funding for council services, as the Chancellor has already indicated priority will be given to the NHS, schools and priority infrastructure projects – which have been given a multi-year settlement.

The best potential outcome for councils is additional funding for Adult Social care and Children's Services – which may not happen. For all other council services the best potential outcome may be a cash freeze for three year commencing 2022/23 – with a risk of further cuts in funding.

- whether the Fair Funding review will be completed.

- From the Council's perspective (and other areas with a low council tax base and higher levels of service demand / deprivation) this review needs to recognise that annual increase in Government funding are needed, as Council Tax increases and housing growth will never keep pace with modest inflation pressures – let alone provide funding for increased service demand;
- Additionally, the review needs to recognise that areas with a low Council Tax base (i.e. higher than average percentage of properties in the lowest Council Tax bands) raise less of their resources from Council Tax. Therefore, there is continued reliance on Government grant funding;
- whether Business Rates reforms will be implemented;
- whether reforms of the funding system for Adult Social Care will be implemented, or will again be delayed and the Government will continue to rely on one off funding and potential continuation of the Adult Social Care precept;
- whether Children's Services pressures will be recognised at a national level and additional Government resources are allocated to areas with the greatest need and least ability to manage these financial pressures within existing resources.

7.2 Despite these uncertainties the Council needs to develop a two year financial strategy to cover 2021/22 and 2022/23 to ensure the implications of decisions made when the 2021/22 budget is set are understood.

7.3 The following planning assumptions have been used to forecast the budget position for 2022/23

Planning Assumption	Risk
Reserves are used to set the 2021/22 budget of between £4.053m and £6.253m.	Using reserves defers a budget deficit and is not sustainable. This risks needs be managed by developing a saving plan during 2021/22 to remove reliance on the use of reserves in 2022/23 and to fully eliminate before 2023/24.
Main Government Grant is not cut in 2022/23.	This grant accounts for 19% (£18.9m) of current resources – each 1% cut equates to £189,000.
Specific Government Grants (i.e. Public Health Grant and various Adult Social Care grants) are not cut in 2022/23.	These grants account for 17% (£17.1m) of current resources – each 1% cut equates to £171,000.
Inflation and pay awards (including changes to the National Living Wage) – overall 2% provision made.	Each 1% change equates to £510k for pay and £430k for non pay budgets.

Housing Growth will continue at 400 band D equivalent properties per year.	Each 100 changes equates to £180,000.
Local Council Tax Support (LCTS) households will return to pre- Covid level before the start of 2022/23	An increase in households eligible for LCTS reduces the Council Tax base as the Council Tax liability reduces from 100% to 12%. There has been an 8% claimant increase up to October – which underlines the initial economic impact. Further increases are forecast, although this position has become more uncertain following the announcement of a second national lockdown. This position will be updated before the budget for 2021/22 is set to enable the risks to be assessed.
Service Income will return to the pre-Covid level before the start of 2022/23.	<p>Provided the pandemic does not continue beyond the early part of the 2021/22 financial year activity should return to normal. However, this may not be the case for all areas and this risk will need to be assessed next year when the position should have become clearer.</p> <p>This planning assumption also assumes an increase in income budgets of 2% is achievable – which increases recurring income by approximately £0.9m.</p>
There will be no Service Budget pressures.	There may be continuing risk in relation Children's Services and also the potential impact of the National Living Wage on Adult Social Care contracts, which if not funded from additional Government grant, will increase the forecast deficit.

7.4 Based on these planning assumptions the Council faces a forecast 2022/23 deficit of between **£3.308m** and **£4.210m**, the range illustrates the impact of a potential Council Tax freeze or 2% increase.

7.5 These forecasts consist of two key elements;

- **A “Structural Funding System Deficit”**

This element of the deficit reflects the fact that without an increase in Government grant the forecast increases in business rates and housing growth are not sufficient to fund modest inflation pressures, resulting in a deficit of **£1.330m**. For illustrative purposes there is still a deficit of with a potential 2% Council Tax increase.

- **Deficit deferred from 2021/22 by using reserves**

This accounts for **£2.880m** of the total forecast deficit. This figure could be £2.2m higher if the Government do not provide additional Social Care funding in 2021/22.

7.6 The following table summarises the above position:

	Without Council Tax increase £'m	With illustrative Council Tax increase £'m
Provision for inflation and pay awards (net of inflation on income budgets)	2.410	2.410
Less - Forecast increase in Business Rates income	(0.365)	(0.365)
Less - Forecast Housing Growth	(0.715)	(0.715)
Less - Illustrative 2% Council Tax increase	0	(0.902)
Structural funding system deficit (A)	1.330	0.428
Add - Deficit deferred from 2021/22 by using reserves	4.053	4.053
Less - Service income returns to pre-Covid level	(1.173)	(1.173)
Net Deficit deferred from 2021/22 (B)	2.880	2.880
Forecast 2022/23 Deficit (A + B)	4.210	3.308

8.0 Summary 2021/22 and 2022/23 Budget Position

8.1 The strategy endorsed by Finance and Policy Committee on 13th August is based on using a significant value of one off funding to support the 2021/22 budget and to provide a longer lead time to identify permanent budget cuts.

The approach also recognises that part of the 2021/22 deficit arising from Covid income losses should be temporary.

- 8.2 This approach has previously been adopted by the Council. However, this approach is not without risk and will reduce ongoing financial flexibility and resilience as one off resources will be used up – these resources can only be used once. Therefore, in adopting this strategy it needs to be recognised that a savings plan will need to be developed during 2021/22 to identify significant savings which can be implemented in 2022/23.
- 8.3 The following table shows that to support the 2021/22 it will now be necessary to use one off resources of between **£4.053m** and **£6.253m**. On this basis the table also shows forecast uncommitted one off resources available to support the 2022/23 budget and financial risks of between **£2.175m** and **£4.375m** – the uncommitted resources need to be considered in the context of the forecast 2022/23 budget deficit of between **£3.308m** and **£4.210m**, as achieving cuts of this scale in a single financial year will be challenging.

Actual Balance 31.03.20 £'m		Forecast Balance 31.03.21 with additional 2021/22 Social Care Government Funding £'m	Forecast Balance 31.03.21 without additional 2021/22 Social Care Government Funding £'m
4.513	Budget Support Fund	3.029	3.029
2.692	Strategic One off costs reserve	2.599	2.599
n/a	Release of Capital Funding reserve (not now needed for Covid funding shortfall)	2.800	2.800
n/a	Less Best / Worst care 2021/22 Funding Shortfall	(4.053)	(6.253)
n/a	Forecast uncommitted one of resources available to support 2022/23 budget & financial risks	4.375	2.175

- 8.4 Using reserves to provide a longer lead time to identify budget cuts is an appropriate strategy as the budget remains available to be removed in the following year.
- 8.5 As detailed in the 2020/21 advice on the robustness of using one off resources to freeze Council Tax Members were advised that this has no parallel with use to defer cuts. Not increasing Council Tax by 2% reduces recurring income as Council Tax referendum limits operate on an annual basis. The cumulative impact would be a reduction in resources of approximately **£2.580m**, consisting of:

- A permanent reduction in recurring Council Tax income of **£0.860m**, which cannot be replaced in future years;
- A permanent reduction of reserves of **£0.860m** i.e. the amount which would need to be used in 2021/22;
- A permanent reduction in services of **£0.860m** which is the **additional** amount that would need to be saved in 2022/23 to replace the use of reserves in 2021/22.

9. BUDGET TIMETABLE

- 9.1 The August report indicated that there was significant uncertainty regarding the timing of national funding announcements and the following draft budget timetable was designed to keep Members updated during the remainder of the year. Member briefings will also be scheduled within this timetable.

Committee	Issues to be considered
Finance and Policy Committee September to November 2020	Regular updates will be provide as national funding announcements are made and work on local forecasts is completed.
Finance and Policy Committee December 2020 #	MTFS update to reflect provisional 2020/21 Local Government Finance Settlement announcement and determine budget proposals to be referred to full Council.
Council December 2020 #	Consider detailed budget proposals referred by Finance and Policy Committee.
Finance and Policy Committee January 2020 ##	Approval statutory Council Tax calculations, including precepts set by other bodies, to be referred to full Council.
Council February 2020 ##	Consider statutory Council Tax calculations, including precepts set by other bodies, referred from Finance and Policy Committee

These reports are scheduled in line with the timetable adopted in previous years. However, there is a significant risk around the impact and timing of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement announcement by the Government, which may not be made until very late in December.

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

- 9.2 It is becoming increasingly unlikely that the 2020/21 provisional Local Government Finance Settlement will have been issued in time for the December Finance and Policy Committee. Therefore, final decision regarding the 2021/22 budget will need to be considered in January, as the Finance and

Policy Committee on 18th January 2021 and Council 28th January 2021. The Council Tax decisions will still be made by Council in February 2021.

- 9.3 The late finance settlement reduces the time available to involve individual policy committees in the budget process. In previous years this process has provided the opportunity to inform policy committees of the overall financial position and where appropriate to be consulted on detailed savings proposals. To address this issue for the 2021/22 it is suggested that all Policy Committees are invited to attend the Finance and Policy Committee in January 2021.

10. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

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

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

11. CONCLUSIONS

- 11.1 The environment the Council is operating in continues to change and this is impacting on services and the Council's financial position. The announcement of a second national lockdown impacts across all areas of service, which is placing continued additional demands on staff. It has also required the Council to remobilise elements of the Covid response and to manage a second phase of business grant payments.
- 11.2 The announcement of a fourth tranche of Covid grant funding by the Government in October has provided additional funding and this has reduced financial uncertainty for the Council in the current year. Under the fourth funding round the Government has used a more target funding mechanism, with more deprived areas receiving the highest level of additional funding – although these areas have faced the highest level of Covid infections.
- 11.3 There remains significant uncertainty over the continuing impact of the pandemic and the resulting financial impact on individual councils. For examples the extension of the furloughing scheme will impact on redundancy decisions by companies and in turn the increase in the level of households eligible for Local Council Tax Support.

- 11.4 The announcement of a one year Spending Review means that councils will only receive a one year Government grant settlement and this makes financial planning extremely challenging. Speaking at the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy virtual conference the National Audit Office Comptroller said “the move to a one-year settlement would be a big-blow to finance chiefs”. There is also uncertainty in relation planned major national reforms, including the future funding for social care, both Adult and Children’s services, and business rates.
- 11.5 Against this background the report provides details of the financial position for the next two years. For 2021/22 the forecast have been updated to reflected continuing Children Services pressures and the revised deficit is between **£4.053m** and **£6.253m** – the lower forecast assumes the Government will provide additional funding for Social Care, although this cannot be guaranteed and will not be known until the Finance Settlement is issued in December.
- 11.6 The strategy endorsed in August 2020 to address the 2021/2 deficit from reserves remains appropriate, **whilst recognising this is not a permanent solution and defers a deficit until 2022/23 to provide a longer lead time to identify budget cuts and clarity over recurring national funding.**
- 11.7 For 2022/23 the forecast deficit is between **£3.308m** and **£4.210m**. These forecast include the expenditure deficit deferred from 2021/22 and assume that service income levels will have returned to the pre-Covid level before April 2022.
- 11.8 Once the 2021/22 Local Government Finance Settlement, which will include details of the Government’s proposed Council Tax referendum limits, has been issued the budget forecast for 2021/22 will be updated. This will then enable the financial strategy to be updated, which will also include the statutory robustness advice regarding the proposed budget and level of reserves. This advice will have even greater relevance than in previous years owing to:
- The impact of the pandemic on the Council’s financial position so far and the likelihood that there will remain significant uncertainty regarding the final impact when budget for 2021/22 needs to be set, for example the year end value of the Collection Fund deficit;
 - The increased focus that external auditors will have when considering the 2020/21 Value for Money conclusion – which will be focused on the financial sustainability of individual councils and savings plans they have to balance budgets in the medium term.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 It is recommended that Members:

- i) Note the report;
- ii) Note that a further update will be provided after the Government issue the 2021/22 Provisional Local Government Finance to update the financial forecast and enable Members to determine the budget proposals to be recommended to Council.
- iii) Invite all Policy Committees to the January 2021 Finance and Policy Committee;
- iv) Note that owing to the impact of Covid income from fees and charges is not anticipated to return to the pre-Covid level until the end of 2021/22 and therefore approve the proposal to build a full review of fees and charges into the 2022/23 budget process.

13. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 To update the Finance and Policy Committee on the financial challenges facing the Council and changes since the 13th August report.

14. BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Finance and Policy Committee – Financial Position Update 202/21 to 2023/24 – 13th August 2020

15. CONTACT OFFICER

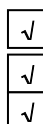
Chris Little
 Director of Resources and Development
 Email: chris.little@hartlepool.gov.uk
 Telephone: 01429 523003

Sign Off:-

Managing Director

Director of Resources and Development

Chief Solicitor



2020/21 Financial Management Information

1. Purpose of Appendix

1.1 To provide details of

- i) Corporate Income Collection Performance;
- ii) 2020/21 Capital Programme Monitoring;
- iii) Local Welfare Support and Discretionary Housing Payments;
- iv) Capital Receipts Target; and
- v) Section 106 Developers Contributions

2. Corporate Income Collection Performance

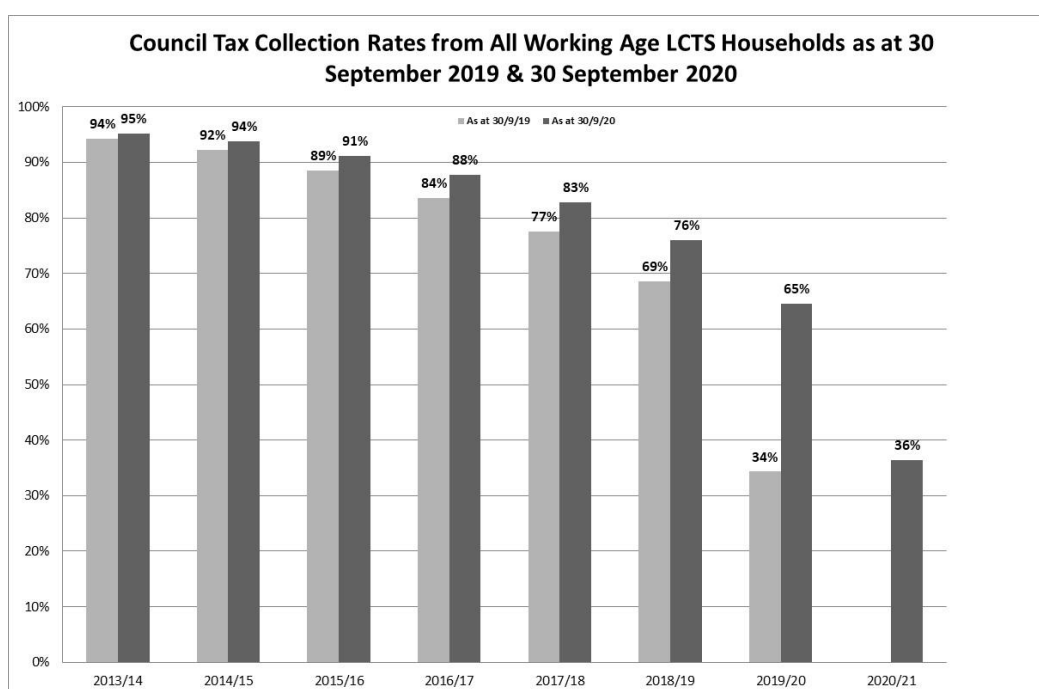
- 2.1 Previous reports advised Members that significant changes were implemented with effect from 1st April 2013 to re-localise Business Rates and implement Local Council Tax Support schemes. As a result of these changes approximately 76% (i.e. £59m) of the net General Fund budget is funded from a combination of Business Rates and Council Tax collected locally.

2.2 Business Rates Income

- 2.3 The re-localisation of Business Rates is a significant additional financial risk for Local Authorities to manage as 50% of any shortfall arising from either non-payment by businesses, or reductions arising from the Valuation Office re-assessing rateable values, falls on individual authorities. A 'safety net' system is in operation, although this only compensates authorities for any shortfalls above the 7.5% of the safety net figure. Prior to 2013/14 any shortfall in Business Rates collected was funded at a national level from the overall Business Rates pool.
- 2.4 Collecting Business Rates has always been an important responsibility, and the Council collected 98.6% in 2019/20 (national average 97.6% for unitary and metropolitan councils). The changes associated with localisation of business rates make this an even more important issue for the Council.
- 2.5 At the 30th September 2020 the Council had collected 51.9% of the 2020/21 liability, down by 3.1% compared to the same period last year. This indicator is sensitive to the timing of payments from companies. It is forecast that by the end of the financial year collection will be lower than in previous years and there will be an increase instalments arrangements continuing into 2021/22.
- #### **2.6 Council Tax**
- 2.7 The overall Council Tax collection rate at 30th September 2020 was 51.5% compared to 54.0% for the same period last year, down by 2.5%, as summarised in the graph below. As detailed in the moan report there will be a Council Tax Collection Fund deficit at the year end.



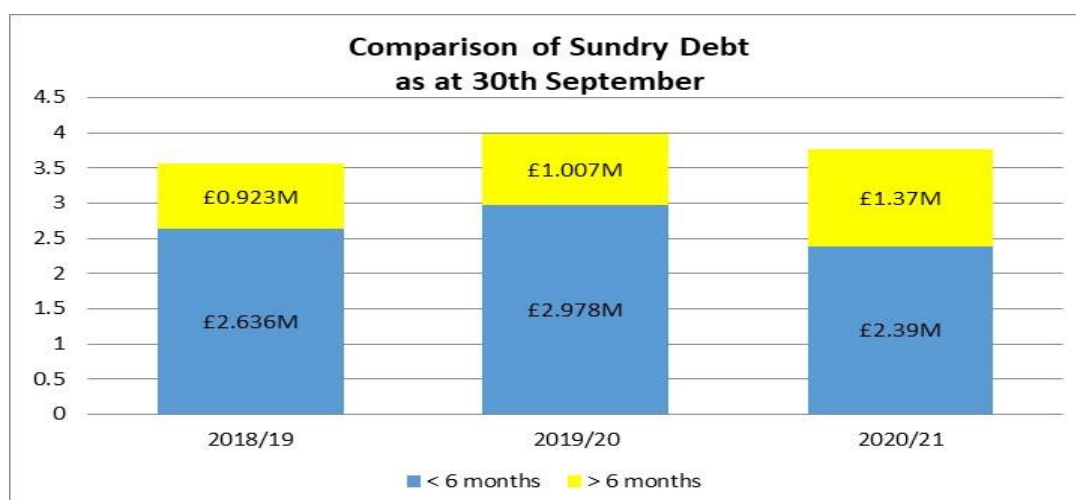
- 2.8 Collection performance is impacted by the time lag in recovering Council Tax by Attachment of Benefit, where the rate of deduction is capped at £3.70 per week and only one deduction can be active at any one time. This particularly affects working age households in receipt of Local Council Tax Support (LCTS).
- 2.9 The Council monitors the levels of collection from LCTS households which have been impacted by a range of national welfare reforms. The following graph shows that collection from these households is positive, albeit there are the forecast time lags in securing collection.



- 2.10 Collection of previous years Council Tax from LCTS households continues to be within the financial planning parameters that underpin the Council's LCTS scheme. However, the number of households eligible for LCTS has increased in the current year and the position will continue to be monitored closely as this will impact on the Collection Fund deficit.

2.11 Sundry Debts

- 2.12 The Council also collects significant Sundry Debts income for the payment of services provided by the Council. In total £16.16m of sundry debts were raised in the first six months of 2020/21. As at 30th September 2020, £13.67m (84.6%) of this amount had been collected.
- 2.13 Procedures for collecting the remaining outstanding debt are in place but recovery operations have been affected by the Covid arrangements. The following graph shows the comparable positions at 30th September for the last three years for long term debt and current debt which has been outstanding for less than six months.



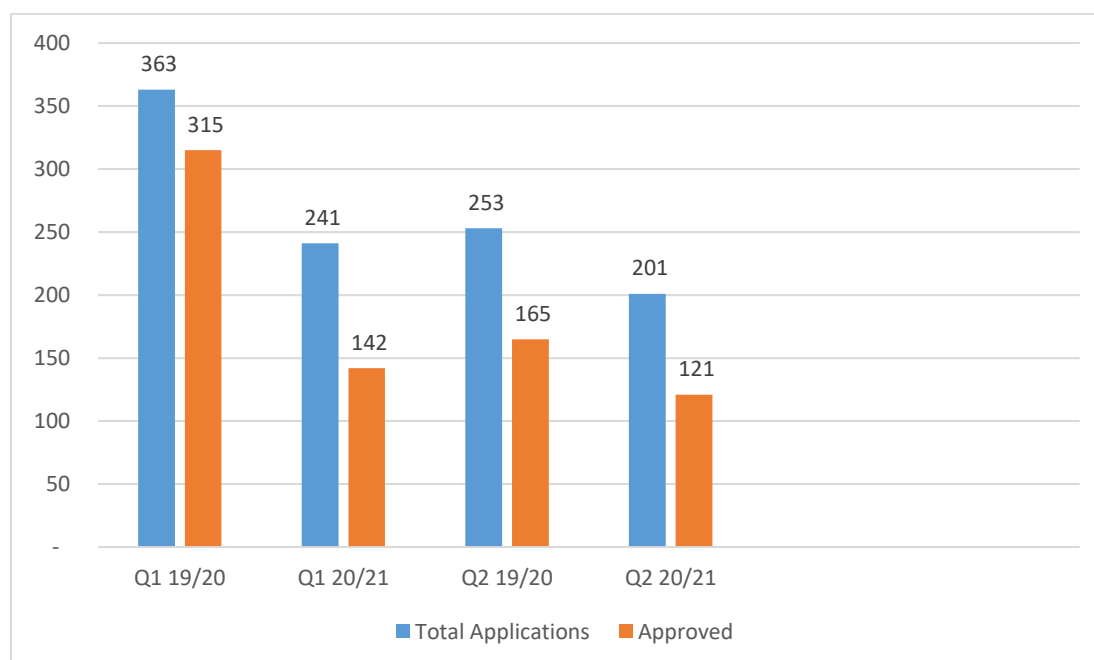
- 2.14 Outstanding debts total £3.76m as at 30th September 2020, of which £2.39m (63.5%) relates to current debts (less than 6 months old).
- 2.15 Included within the current debts (less than 6 months old) is debt where the customer has been invoiced for the whole of 2020/21 but payment is to be received in instalments throughout the year.
- 2.16 Debts greater than 6 months old total £1.37m. Of this amount 98.12% is under recovery action and 1.88% (£25,844) is now considered unrecoverable and will be reported to Members for write off.
- 2.17 The graph shows an increasing trend in the amount of total debt over 6 months old. A major reason for a significant rise in the current year is owing to the temporarily suspension of recovery action in the period from March to September 2020 to support households and businesses. Other reasons are an increase in debt collected in instalments and an increase in the value of the debt raised in the areas of residential and social care. Regular monitoring

with the responsible departments is in place to manage the debt in these areas. A staged return to normal recovery process is in progress but this is dependent on local and national decisions regarding the Covid pandemic and its impact upon both local residents and businesses.

2.18 Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP)

- 2.19 Discretionary Housing Payments are additional short term emergency payments to help with rent or housing costs. In order to be eligible for payments the claimant must be in receipt of Housing Benefit or the housing element of Universal Credit and be able to clearly demonstrate that further financial assistance towards housing costs is required. In most cases 'further financial assistance' means they are unable to meet their housing costs as they have no available income.
- 2.20 The 2020/21 Discretionary Housing Payments budget is £0.440m (£0.361m in 2019/20) and spend as at 30.09.2020 is £0.132m (£0.162m in 2019/20). There has been a reduction in requests for DHP support and this is due to tenants unable to move house during the 'lockdown' period of COVID-19 and therefore reduced demand for support. However house moves are now back underway and the budget is expected to be fully committed by the end of the financial year.
- 2.21 The Table below shows the total number of applications received and the number of those where a DHP has been approved.

DHP – Total number of applications compared to those approved in 2019/20 and 2020/21



2.22 Local Welfare Support (LWS)

2.23 Local Welfare Support is a short term emergency fund to help those who find themselves in a financial crisis. It includes:-

- 'In Crisis' Awards - for those who present to the Council in immediate need
- 'Non-Crisis' Awards - for those not in immediate need but require help with purchasing household goods
- LWS is not intended to support those suffering long term hardship, it is a 'crisis' fund.

2.24 The 2020/21 Local Welfare Support budget is £0.202m (£0.198m in 2019/20) and spend as at 30th September 2020 is £70,000. The budget is expected to be underspent by £25,000 by the end of the financial year.

2.25 During lockdown the LWS service received fewer requests for help. In addition, a significant amount of food support was established during this period and the LWS team was able to make use of the Foodbank and VCS services, reducing demand on the fund. There are a number of reasons why a LWS payment may not be approved including an increase in the number of voluntary and community sector organisations offering and providing services where the Council can 'signpost' claimants to receive the necessary support. This allows the limited budget to be used to target those who cannot receive support elsewhere.

3. 2020/21 Capital Programme Monitoring

3.1 In the current financial year the Council is currently managing over 130 individual capital schemes with a total budget of £41.289m. These capital schemes are funded from a range of sources:-

- Grant - this is funding the Council has secured from external sources and can only be used in accordance with specific grant conditions. This funding also included schemes funded from Section 106 agreements linked to planning applications
- Capital Receipts – funding received by the Council following sale of an asset (e.g. Land or Buildings)
- Contribution from Revenue budget (RCCO) – funding transferred from the Council's revenue budgets to fund capital expenditure
- Borrowing – this is where the Council has taken out a loan to be repaid over the life of the asset it is funding. The loan repayment costs are included in the base budget, or the specific business case for the project.

- 3.2 In a number of cases the capital schemes are funded by more than one of these funding sources as it will have been necessary to match fund or combine funding sources in order to arrive at the required budget.
- 3.3 Funding for all capital budgets reported to Members has been secured and officers are managing these schemes against the available budget. Any changes to these budgets are made in line with the capital virement rules included within the Council's Constitution.
- 3.4 Capital Expenditure for all departments to the 30th September 2020 is summarised in the table below.

Department	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR				
	A	B	C	D	E	F
	2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/19 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C+D) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(E-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000
Adult & Community Based Services	4,027	258	2,336	1,433	4,027	0
Children's & Joint Commissioning Services	7,471	1,330	5,794	347	7,471	0
Neighbourhoods & Regulatory Services	27,042	1,871	5,844	19,327	27,042	0
Resources & Development	1,263	5	741	517	1,263	0
Corporate	1,486	133	1,266	87	1,486	0
Total Capital Expenditure	41,289	3,597	15,982	21,711	41,289	0

- 3.5 Actual expenditure to 30th September 2020 was £3.597m, compared to a 2020/21 budget of £41.289m; £21.711m has been rephased to 2021/22 leaving £15.982m to be spent during the remainder of 2020/21. The rephased amount reflects the expected profile of expenditure to be incurred and resources will be rephased accordingly. The main items included within this are:
- A19, Grade Separated Junction, Elwick Bypass and Hartlepool Western Link - £17.5m
 - Section 106 contributions to be allocated to future schemes - £1.067m
- 3.6 There is a longer lead in time for capital schemes and further large expenditure is forecast to be completed by the end of the financial year.
- 3.7 As part of the continuing development of the Community Hubs the Central Hub has been developed to reflect a more community based facility while still retaining a Library function. The ground floor of the Hub will be used for Community based projects / groups together with providing services to the public, and the first floor will retain the library function. The project is being fully funded by a departmental RCCO and the total cost is £120,000, comprising £85,000 for building alteration work, including creation of new office areas, relocation of the Public Access computer stations and the removal of a store room, and £35,000 for new technology equipment for use by the public.

3.8 Detailed financial information on the capital programme for individual Departments by Committee is provided in **Appendices B to F**.

3.9 Capital Receipts Target

3.10 The Council previously set a capital receipt target to provide funding to offset the removal of HMR (Housing Market Renewal) funding in 2011. Owing to the challenging economic conditions over the last few years these capital receipts have taken significantly longer to achieve than initially anticipated. As at 31 March 2020 the remaining target is £0.732m.

3.11 Officers are progressing a number of land sales expected to be completed in the current financial year, however the remaining target is unlikely to be fully achieved until the completion of the sale of land at Hart now expected to be achieved in 2021/22

3.12 Section 106 Developers Contributions

3.13 The level of contributions for housing and non - housing service areas as at 30th September 2020 is summarised in the following table. A detailed breakdown is included in **Appendix G**.

Section 106 Funding	Affordable Housing Contributions £000	Other Service Areas £000	Total £000
Amount brought forward as at 1st April, 2020	392	1,127	1,519
Amounts Received as at 30 th September, 2020	9	0	9
Expenditure Incurred & Committed in 2020/21	(401)	(60)	(461)
Balance Remaining as at 30th September, 2020	0	1,067	1,067

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Adult & Community Based Services									
7212	Capital Grants to Residential/Nursing Care Homes (iBCF)	156	7	149	0	156	0	RCCO	
7234	Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Adaptations	275	7	8	260	275	0	MIX	
8108	Centre for Independent Living (CIL)	228	81	6	141	228	0	MIX	Spend relates to demolition of Havelock building.
7218	Disabled Facilities Grant	1,164	102	498	564	1,164	0	GRANT	COVID restrictions around access to properties have reduced spend significantly in 20/21.
NEW	Community Hub - Central	120	0	120	0	120	0	RCCO	Creation of office areas, a room for Occupational Therapy (relocating from The CIL) and the relocation of the Public Access computer stations.
7831	Community Hub South - Internal Alterations	30	6	24	0	30	0	RCCO	
8710	Drug & Alcohol Recovery Centre	18	0	18	0	18	0	GRANT	Renovation work is continuing.
8946	Stepping Stones Grant	21	7	14	0	21	0	GRANT	Renovation work is continuing.
8088	Community Hub - Central	41	0	41	0	41	0	RCCO	
8103	Swimming Scheme	35	0	0	35	35	0	RCCO	Amounts set aside for equipment purchase.
7992	Junior Football Pitches	26	0	0	26	26	0	RCCO	Earmarked to be used as match funding on a Sports England scheme if the bid is successful.
8408	Mill House - Equipment Purchase	4	0	0	4	4	0	RCCO	Used to fund Equipment replacement when required.
8689	Brierton Sports Fields	1	0	0	1	1	0	MIX	Scheme completed. The remaining Football Foundation funding has been carried forward from 2017/18.
8016	Summerhill Multi User Route	5	0	0	5	5	0	GRANT	Section 106 Funding remaining to be used in future years in accordance with Agreement.
8409	Sport & Youth Improvements	12	0	0	12	12	0	MIX	To be used as match funding in future grant bid for work required at Carlton.
8896	Brierton Tennis Courts	30	0	0	30	30	0	CAP REC	Awaiting finalisation of the Sports facilities strategy for Brierton.
8634	Brierton 3G Pitch - Football Foundation	6	0	0	6	6	0		
7348	Art Gallery	15	4	0	11	15	0	MIX	Grant funding from 'Tees Valley Museums' - additional WiFi funding, but main project delayed to spring 2022
8957	Stranton Allotments Clearance	148	1	147	0	148	0	MIX	
8997	NIP - Unallocated	265	0	265	0	265	0	UDPB	This is the remaining balance on the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to be allocated to schemes following future approval by Members.
7246	NIP - Rossmere Park	20	4	16	0	20	0	GRANT	Retentions and final account to be settled in 2020/21
7339	NIP - Seaton Park Tennis Courts	34	6	17	11	34	0	MIX	Final costs and retention to be settled. Funds earmarked for future provision.
7344	NIP - Hindpool Close Play Area	36	0	0	36	36	0	UDPB	Scheme depends upon the play strategy report and outcome from a ground investigation report.
7347	NIP - CCTV in Parks	184	13	171	0	184	0	GRANT	Existing schemes are expected to be completed in 2020/21 and also assumed that the remaining funds will be allocated for additional scheme.
7436	NIP - Stranton Cemetery Car Park	50	0	0	50	50	0	UDPB	Business case to be taken, thus scheme not expected to commence until 2020/21
7437	NIP - Play Equipment Replacement	50	0	10	40	50	0	UDPB	Amounts set aside for the replacement of playground equipment.
7438	NIP - Spencer Grove	2	0	2	0	2	0	UDPB	Further works expected in Autumn 2020.
7440	NIP - Central Park	59	0	59	0	59	0	GRANT	Scheme design is currently being reviewed; possibility that will be rephased to 2021/22.
7479	NIP - North Tree Planting	10	0	10	0	10	0	GRANT	Expected to complete in 2020/21
7859	NIP - B'dale/W mere Road Bike barrier	5	0	5	0	5	0	UDPB	Expected to complete in 2020/21
7876	NIP - Brus/Owton Lodge R/Bout L	19	0	19	0	19	0	GRANT	Expected to complete in 2020/21
7877	NIP - Verge Hardening Schemes	37	0	37	0	37	0	GRANT	Expected to complete in 2020/21
8292	NIP - Headland Playground Equipment	6	0	6	0	6	0	UDPB	Approval required from committee to fund from NIP unallocated pot.
8977	NIP - King Oswy Shops Improvements	16	0	16	0	16	0	UDPB	Scheme complete, final cost to reconcile.
8996	NIP - Improvements to Parks	238	17	183	38	238	0	UDPB	Expected to complete in 2020/21, with the exception of King George Scheme which is dependent upon Hindpool Close Play Area Scheme.
9033	NIP - Rocket House Car Park Planters	15	0	15	0	15	0	GRANT	Expected to complete in 2020/21

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Allot	Allotments Improvements	189	2	24	163	189	0	UDPB	
CR	Crematorium Chapel Refurbishment	401	0	401	0	401	0	MIX	
PLAY	Parks & Playgrounds	56	1	55	0	56	0	GRANT	
Total Adult & Community Based Services		4,027	258	2,336	1,433	4,027	0		

Key			
RCCO	Revenue Contribution towards Capital	GRANT	Grant Funded
MIX	Combination of Funding Types	CAP REC	Capital Receipt
UCPB	Unsupported Corporate Prudential Borrowing	UDPB	Unsupported Departmental Prudential Borrowing
SCE	Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue)	CORP	Corporate Resources

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Children's and Joint Commissioning Services									
8072 & 8218	Children's Centres General	42	0	42	0	42	0	MIX	
7384	Devolved Schools Capital	253	24	229	0	253	0	GRANT	Includes £120k 2020/21 allocation.
8221	Chancellors 'Little Extras'	115	1	114	0	115	0	GRANT	Funding is allocated to schools.
7586	Purchase of Computer Equipment - CLC Standards Fund	37	0	37	0	37	0	RCCO	
7335	Hart - Emergency Wall	204	38	166	0	204	0	GRANT	On site 6-Jul-20.
7355	CECA IT Infrastructure and Technology	62	5	57	0	62	0	GRANT	
7142	Schools General - Fire Safety Modifications (Conditions)	84	7	77	0	84	0	GRANT	Received approval 20-Jul-20 to expand work scope to cover fire compartmentation survey to determine full extent of work. Contractor appointed. Access dates agreed.
8005	Golden Flatts Primary School - Boundary Wall	16	2	14	0	16	0	GRANT	Main wall rebuilt completed 17th July.
9027	English Martyrs - New Build	155	0	0	155	155	0	GRANT	
9028	High Tunstall New Build	161	0	0	161	161	0	GRANT	
7518	High Tunstall Car Park	366	338	28	0	366	0	GRANT	Scheme ongoing.
7474	High Tunstall 3G Pitch	665	2	663	0	665	0	MIX	Currently out to tender - expecting to appoint in November, work to commence in January and be completed by year end.
7475	High Tunstall Changing Room Facility	272	230	42	0	272	0	MIX	
7476	High Tunstall Re-surface MUGA	118	115	3	0	118	0	UDPB	
7477	High Tunstall Swimming Pool Refurbishment	87	52	35	0	87	0	UDPB	
7478	High Tunstall Grass Pitch	15	0	0	15	15	0	MIX	Re-phased to 2021/22
8906	Brierton Campus Windows	67	0	67	0	67	0	RCCO	
8139	BSF - ICT Infrastructure (General)	44		44	0	44	0	MIX	
7521	Two Year Old FNE Capacity Funding	23	0	23	0	23	0	GRANT	
8788	Universal Free School Meals	20	0	20	0	20	0	GRANT	
7512	Stranton Nursery - School Nurseries Capital Fund	492	394	98	0	492	0	GRANT	Funding received is forwarded to Stranton Academy Trust.
7495	Pupil Referral Unit DHW Boiler Plant Renewal	15	0	21	0	21	6	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7834	Clavering Primary School Gas Main Renewal	80	0	65	0	65	(15)	GRANT	Scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7491	Fens Primary School Electrical Rewire – Phase 1 of 4	70	0	74	0	74	4	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7496	Golden Flatts Primary School Heating pipework /radiator renewal	70	0	60	0	60	(10)	GRANT	Scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7497	Grange Primary School Roofing Works	26	17	5	0	22	(4)	GRANT	Scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7494	Greatham Primary School Electrical Rewire	20	0	0	16	16	(4)	GRANT	Work provisionally planned for Easter half term, scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7587	Hindpool Children's Centre Heating and Boiler Renewal	80	0	62	0	62	(18)	GRANT	Mechanical installation complete 17th July, scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7492	Lynnfield Primary School Electrical Rewire	60	0	65	0	65	5	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7493	Lynnfield Primary School Toilet Refurbishments	46	0	46	0	46	0	GRANT	Electrical element designed & priced. Building element in design. Scheme slipped owing to impact of Covid. Provisional February 2021 half-term start date. Budget sufficient to complete KS2 toilets only & KS1 to be funded 21/22.
7498	Rossmere Primary School Electrical Rewire Phase 3 of 5	55	0	64	0	64	9	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7833	Rift House Primary School DHW Boiler Plant Renewal	8	0	8	0	8	0	GRANT	Scheme complete
7502	Springwell Special School Roofing Works	64	49	18	0	67	3	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7507	Springwell Special School Hydrotherapy Pool & WC/Shower Area	237	8	229	0	237	0	GRANT	Design and costs to be finalised.
7509	Throston Primary School Roofing Works	50	48	4	0	52	2	GRANT	Overspend to be funded from Schools General Conditions unallocated.
7511	Throston Primary School External Re-surfacing	39	0	27	0	27	(12)	GRANT	Provisional start date - October half term, Scheme underspend to be returned to Schools General - Conditions unallocated.
7355	CECA TVCA Grant Unallocated	33		33	0	33	0	GRANT	
9004	Schools General - Conditions unallocated	257		291	0	291	34	GRANT	Net forecast underspend on schemes returned to Unallocated balance.
9004	Schools General - Contingency	65		65	0	65	0	GRANT	

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget		
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
9004	Schools General - Suitability Unallocated (SEMH)	798		798	0	798	0	RCCO	
9004	Schools General - Basic Need	1,899		1,899	0	1,899	0	GRANT	
9004	Schools General - Special Provision unallocated	201		201	0	201	0	GRANT	Feasibility study being carried out.
	Total Children's and Joint Commissioning Services	7,471	1,330	5,794	347	7,471	0		

- Key**

RCCO Revenue Contribution towards Capital

MIX Combination of Funding Types

UCPB Unsupported Corporate Prudential Borrowing

SCE Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue)
- GRANT Grant Funded

CAP REC Capital Receipt

UDPB Unsupported Departmental Prudential Borrowing

CORP Corporate Resources

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Finance & Policy Committee									
8306	Regen & NS - Kitchen Refurbishment	294	4	46	244	294	0	RCCO	Amounts set aside for replacement of major items.
	Finance & Policy Committee Sub Total	294	4	46	244	294	0		
Regeneration Committee									
7220	Private Sector Housing Grants	40	0	15	25	40	0	GRANT	
S106	Developers Contribution Fund	1,067	4	273	790	1,067	0	GRANT	Earmarked expenditure as specified in developer agreements.
	Regeneration Committee Sub Total	1,107	4	288	815	1,107	0		
7272	Wheelie Bin Purchase	114	54	48	12	114	0	UDPB	Annual budget & slippage from 2019/20 for purchase of new and replacement bins.
7434	Way Of St Hilds	1	1	0	0	1	0	GRANT	
7466	DSO Vehicle Purchase	3,115	707	2,108	300	3,115	0	UDPB	At this stage it expected that all of the outstanding 2019/20 vehicle purchases and most of the current years replacement programme will be delivered and can be met from the existing budget. A report detailing progress in relation to individual vehicles will be presented to Neighbourhoods Committee later in the year.
7878	Community Safety CCTV Upgrade	37	0	37	0	37	0	MIX	Budget will be fully spent in 2020/21.
8993	Garage Wash-off Facility	105	7	98	0	105	0	MIX	Work ongoing with completion expected in year.
7333	EDM Seaton Additional Car Parking Facilities	119	14	105	0	119	0	UDPB	Scheme to create 350 new parking spaces approved by Council 25th October, 2018. Civils complete awaiting CCTV. Slipped owing to COVID expected completion in this financial year.
7900	EDM Hartlepool Marina -North Pier	30	0	30	0	30	0	GRANT	Ongoing study for Coastal defence.
7902	EDM Hartlepool Drainage Schemes	36	0	36	0	36	0	GRANT	Continuing on site Flood defence works.
8444	EDM Town Wall Strengthening	41	0	41	0	41	0	GRANT	Legal dispute now resolved. Further work to be carried out in 2020/21
8578	EDM Sth Mgmt. Unit Study - MA13.4	28	0	28	0	28	0	GRANT	Ongoing study that will lead to an options appraisal and committee report.
8958	EDM Elwick By-Pass Growing Places	17,673	9	135	17,529	17,673	0	UDPB	Design work is progressing. The rephased budget reflects the profile of the scheme which will span multiple years.
HIFP	Additional Highway Schemes HIFP	555	14	507	34	555	0	MIX	Anticipated completion 2020/21.
LTP	Local Transport Plan (LTP) Schemes	3,714	1,038	2,283	393	3,714	0	GRANT	Consists of various Highways & Traffic schemes.
TVCA	TVCA Cycleways and Footpath Upgrades	73	19	54	0	73	0	GRANT	Drainage issues at Brenda Road caused unexpected delays. Any balances will be returned to TVCA in line with the terms of the funding agreement.
	Neighbourhoods Committee Sub Total	25,641	1,863	5,510	18,268	25,641	0		
	Neighbourhoods & Regulatory Services Total	27,042	1,871	5,844	19,327	27,042	0		

Key

RCCO	Revenue Contribution towards Capital	GRANT	Grant Funded
MIX	Combination of Funding Types	CAP REC	Capital Receipt
UCPB	Unsupported Corporate Prudential Borrowing	UDPB	Unsupported Departmental Prudential Borrowing
SCE	Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue)	CORP	Corporate Resources

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITUR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Finance & Policy Committee									
7260	City Challenge Clawback	9	0	0	9	9	0	RCCO	
7623	Corporate IT Projects	12	0	0	12	12	0	MIX	
	Point to Point Encryption	20	0	0	20	20	0	MIX	
	Corporate Projects	89	0	0	89	89	0	MIX	
Finance & Policy Committee Sub Total		130	0	0	130	130	0		
Regeneration Committee									
8534	Church Street Townscape Heritage Conservation (HLF)	958	1	570	387	958	0	MIX	The amount of rephased budget will depend on progress in determining grant applications with property owners. The post Covid-19 economic downturn may have a challenging impact on the take-up of grants.
7357	15 Church Street Renovation	175	4	171	0	175	0	MIX	Renovation works expected to commence later in the year.
Regeneration Committee Sub Total		1,133	5	741	387	1,133	0		
Resources & Development Total		1,263	5	741	517	1,263	0		

Key			
RCCO	Revenue Contribution towards Capital	GRANT	Grant Funded
MIX	Combination of Funding Types	CAP REC	Capital Receipt
UCPB	Unsupported Corporate Prudential Borrowing	UDPB	Unsupported Departmental Prudential Borrowing
SCE	Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue)	CORP	Corporate Resources

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT PERIOD ENDING 30th September 2020

Project Code	Scheme Title	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE IN CURRENT YEAR					Type of Financing	2020/21 COMMENTS
		A	B	C	D	E	F		
		2020/21 Budget £'000	2020/21 Actual as at 30/09/20 £'000	2020/21 Expenditure Remaining £'000	Expenditure Rephased into 2021/22 £'000	(B+C) 2020/21 Total Expenditure £'000	(D-A) 2020/21 Variance from Budget £'000		
Finance & Policy Committee									
7033	Borough Hall - External Masonry/Window Mullions	2	0	2	0	2	0	MIX	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7035	Town Hall Replace Boilers	75	0	75	0	75	0	Mix	
7036	Uncommitted CCF	47	0	47	0	47	0	MIX	
7041	Corporate Planned Maintenance Unallocated	92	0	92	0	92	0	RCCO	
7065	Fire Risk Assessments	100	0	100	0	100	0	MIX	
7072	Seaton Library DDA toilet	37	0	0	37	37	0	UDPB	Scheme on hold.
7075	Mill House - Replace Dosing System	7	1	6	0	7	0	UDPB	
7200	Civic Centre Capital Maintenance Project	74	0	24	50	74	0	UDPB	
7233	Civic Centre - Replace Main Lifts	63	59	4	0	63	0	MIX	
7336	Borough Hall - Upgrade Fixtures and Fittings	8	0	8	0	8	0	MIX	
7410	Aneurin Bevan House - Lighting Upgrade	8	0	8	0	8	0	UDPB	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7415	Aneurin Bevan House - Boiler Plant	63	14	49	0	63	0	CAP REC	
7417	Seaton Carew Library - Fire Alarms	7	1	6	0	7	0	CAP REC	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7473	Victory Square - Conservation Work	22	16	6	0	22	0	CAP REC	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7503	Carnegie - Boiler Replacement	5	0	5	0	5	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7503	CETL - Boiler Repalcement	1	0	1	0	1	0		Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7591	Mill House - Feasibility	165	0	165	0	165	0	CAP REC	
7617	Borough Hall - Lighting and Wiring	40	0	40	0	40	0	MIX	
7845	Owton Manor Community Centre - Flat Coverings & Insulation	213	0	213	0	213	0	MIX	
7866	Mill House - Roof Repair	1	0	1	0	1	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
7889	Borough Hall - Renew Roof	34	0	34	0	34	0	MIX	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
8061	CETL Roof Replacement	9	0	9	0	9	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
8064	Exmoor Grove - Distribution Board	11	0	11	0	11	0	RCCO	
8386	Tofts Farm Depot - Lighting Upgrade	3	0	3	0	3	0	UDPB	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
8685	Grayfields - Boiler Plant Renewal	1	0	1	0	1	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
8867	Borough Hall - Structural Works External Wall	27	27	0	0	27	0	MIX	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
8970	Historic Quay Delapadation Work	111	0	111	0	111	0	CAP REC	
9029	Tofts Farm - Security Upgrade	13	11	2	0	13	0	RCCO	
9030	Tofts Farm Dept-TFD-Fire Alarm	4	4	0	0	4	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
9034	Carlton - Construction of a Fire Escape	42	0	42	0	42	0	RCCO	
9035	Civic Centre Shunt/Primary pump	13	0	13	0	13	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
9036	Civic Centre Lifts Over speed	10	0	10	0	10	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
9038	Carlton - Emergency Lighting	2	0	2	0	2	0	RCCO	Scheme Complete. Final Account to be agreed.
NEW	Borough Hall - Major Refurb Works	112	0	112	0	112	0	RCCO	
NEW	Utilities per SS	64	0	64	0	64	0	RCCO	
	Finance & Policy Committee Total	1,486	133	1,266	87	1,486	0		

Key

RCCO Revenue Contribution towards Capital
MIX Combination of Funding Types
UCPB Unsupported Corporate Prudential Borrowing
SCE Supported Capital Expenditure (Revenue)

GRANT Grant Funded
CAP REC Capital Receipt
UDPB Unsupported Departmental Prudential Borrowing
CORP Corporate Resources

	Affordable Housing Contributions ****	Cycleway	Bus Stop	Green Infrastructure	Maintenance	Play	Off Site Recreational **	Public Art	Security Monitoring	Sports	Ecological Mitigation *****	Traffic Calming	Education	Restoration - Security Bond ***	Other Service Areas Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance Remaining (A+B-C) 1st April, 2020 *	392	40	15	175	35	125	60	5	0	118	71	15	368	100	1,127
<u>Amounts Received in Year 2020/21 (B)</u> NIL contributions received in Q1 - COVID delays J Homes - Musgrave Garden Lane	9														0
Total income	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total - revised Balance	401	40	15	175	35	125	60	5	0	118	71	15	368	100	1,127
<u>Forecast Expenditure in 2020/21 (C)</u> Council Housing Ward Jackson Park Coastal Footpath Tree Planting Grayfields sports facilities Seaton Tennis Courts Foggy Furze - tyre swing Summerhill Headland Sports Hall	401			2 14 14		2				11 10 1					4 14 14 11 10 2 4 1
Total Expenditure	401	0	0	30	0	8	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	60
Forecast Balance Remaining (A+B-C) 31st March, 2021 *	0	40	15	145	35	117	60	5	0	95	71	15	368	100	1,067

*Balances relate to amounts received and earmarked for purposes specified in developer agreements, but not yet transferred to a budget/scheme. However further expenditure is in the process of being planned and committed.

** To be used in vicinity of the Britmag site including but not limited to Central Park.

*** Held as security in case of any remedial action required during the operational life of the Wind Turbine.

**** All affordable housing contributions are earmarked for additional HRA houses.

***** This includes £27k for 'Dog Control orders' however if the mesaures are not needed then the funds are repayabale.

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Managing Director

Subject: COVID-19 RECOVERY AND RENEWAL PLAN AND
COUNCIL PLAN 2020-23 UPDATE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

- 1.1 Budget and Policy Framework (Council Plan) and for information update on a previous Key Decision (COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan).

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Elected Members on the progress made so far in delivering the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan as agreed by Finance and Policy Committee on 13th August 2020. The report also outlines a proposal to undertake further work to develop the new Council Plan before taking it forward to Council for adoption before the end of the 2020/21 municipal year.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, work was underway to prepare a new Council Plan to cover the period 2020/21 to 2022/23. Following widespread consultation with the public, elected members, employees and partners, Finance and Policy agreed the vision and strategic priorities at their meeting on 9th March 2020. This was then due to go forward to Council for final approval on the 19th March 2020. Unfortunately, this meeting of Council could not take place and the decision was deferred as the Council focussed on its COVID-19 response.
- 3.2 The COVID-19 pandemic has been like no other emergency that the Council has faced and its effects are and will continue to be far reaching and long lasting. During the summer we were able to begin considering how we might begin to recover from the pandemic and its impact on our community and economy. The COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan, as agreed by Finance and Policy Committee on 13th August 2020, was based on extensive

consultation undertaken over the summer and on what was already identified through the preparation of the Council Plan. However, it is now clear that we must again focus on responding to the pandemic as we tackle the second wave of the pandemic over the coming months.

4. COVID-19 RECOVERY AND RENEWAL PLAN UPDATE

- 4.1 In spite of the challenges that the Council continues to face in relation to the ongoing pandemic progress has been made in the delivery of the Recovery and Renewal Plan and a summary of the position at the end of October 2020 is included as appendix 1.
- 4.2 Whilst progress in some areas will inevitably slow down as we focus our efforts on responding to the second wave of the pandemic we will endeavour to continue to deliver on the Plan and will report our progress to Finance and Policy Committee regularly.

5. COUNCIL PLAN 2020-23 PROPOSAL

- 5.1 Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of the meeting of Full Council in March we do not have an adopted Council Plan in place. Whilst we could take forward the Council Plan as agreed by Finance and Policy Committee to Council for adoption we recognise that the challenges that we face as a Borough have changed from what we were facing earlier in the year when the proposed Council Plan 2020-23 was prepared. It is therefore proposed that the Corporate Management Team takes time over the next few months to review the proposed Council Plan 2020-23 and updates it to reflect the impact of the pandemic on the Borough. The intention is to bring the Council Plan to Finance and Policy Committee for agreement before taking on to Council for adoption before the end of the current municipal year.

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 COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan and the forthcoming Council Plan.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

9. CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan and the Council Plan have informed by extensive consultation including a 4 week consultation exercise in September 2019, a further 5 week consultation starting in January 2020 and a wide ranging consultation over the summer of 2020. This consultation has included Elected Members through Members Seminars on 27th November 2019, 29th January 2020 and 14th July 2020 and through reports to individual Policy Committees in January and February 2020.

10. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 10.1 The COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan and the Council Plan continue to work to reduce child and family poverty within Hartlepool and a Child and Family Poverty Impact Assessment is included as appendix 2.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 The COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan and the Council Plan are directed towards meeting the needs of the diverse communities in Hartlepool and building an inclusive Borough. The Council Plan will include the Council's updated Equality Objectives as required through the Public Sector Equality Duty and these will be highlighted when the Council Plan is brought back to the Committee for agreement.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 No implications.

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 No implications.

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14.1 Finance and Policy Committee is recommended to:
- Note the progress made at the end of October 2020 on the delivery of the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan;
 - Note the intention to bring regular progress reports on the delivery of the COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan to Finance and Policy Committee;
 - Agree the proposal to review the proposed Council Plan 2020-23 and update it to reflect the impact of the pandemic on the Borough and the proposed timescales for adoption of the Council Plan.

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 Council plan 2020-23 report to Finance and Policy Committee March 9th 2020.

CEX Business Report – COVID-19 Update and Next Steps to Extraordinary Council 10th June 2020.

COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan report to Finance and Policy Committee 20th August 2020.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

17.1 Denise McGuckin
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Sign Off:-

Managing Director

Director of Development and Resources

Chief Solicitor



Recovery Plan 2020/21 – Progress Update October 2020

Organisational change and resilience	
Priority	Progress update
Restart council services within COVID-19 secure premises and operating procedures.	<p>Adult social care services were maintained during the pandemic so were not required to restart. HBC day service for adults with disabilities was operational throughout COVID, supporting a smaller number of people with complex needs. Where commissioned services, such as day services for older people, have not been able to restart support is being provided in alternative ways.</p> <p>The majority of Preventative and Community Based Services facilities and services did not operate throughout COVID however additional services were established and delivered to respond to the pandemic (including the Support Hub and Distribution Centre and Community Street Ambassadors). Planning for reopening ensured that services reopened safely and effectively considering models of delivery, management of capacity, accessibility of services, risk management, evolution of outreach / digital opportunities and encouraging return custom.</p> <p>Outdoor spaces were capitalised on and services were taken to communities to build trust and confidence to re-engage with services after such a long period of closure and support the management of public anxieties.</p> <p>All services with the exception of events, large performance venues and some branch libraries reopened prior to the second national lockdown and there is ongoing review of the offer available across each service and facility in line with government guidelines.</p> <p>Parks, open spaces, cemeteries, the crematorium and allotments all remained open and operational throughout COVID and there was increased use of these spaces for the benefit of wellbeing (mental, physical and social). To support the ongoing demand on these spaces, place based plans are being developed to ensure demands from communities can be met and the safety and maintenance of these environments remains a priority.</p>

Schools have reopened to all pupils from September 2020. For Children's Social Care, Youth Offending Service, Early Help and the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme, all statutory services are now being delivered in accordance with statutory guidance and regulations. We have retained some blended ways of working to ensure the workforce are supported to stay safe in their working practices.

Education services are operating fully to support schools in the care and education of pupils.

Children's Centres and Youth Services are delivering direct 1:1 support for children, young people and families, however physical group work has not recommenced as this is not in keeping with the current local restrictions. Group work has moved to online means and engagement is good.

In the early days of the pandemic, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory prioritised all services in line with Government guidance, which meant that services either continued operating as normal, were reduced to emergency responses only, or temporarily ceased. This prioritisation exercise enabled us to maintain those critical core functions, such as residual and recycling collections, delivering key services to schools such as catering and transport, maintaining fleet, planning and business compliance visits. However, in some cases employees were redeployed from their existing teams into those aforementioned service areas, as well as others within the Council, in order to deliver our critical functions, while also supporting our most vulnerable residents during the early days of the crisis.

Service provision, available resources and Government guidance were continually monitored, and gradually we increased the service offer back to the level of normality that would be expected. However the 'new' normal looks very much different, with new operating procedures introduced to improve service delivery, such as at the Household waste Recycling Centre.

As lockdown restrictions were gradually released, and businesses started to reopen, the services continue to look at ways in which we can support businesses through the provision of advice, guidance leaflets, temporary signage, and introduce measures to promote safer green and urban spaces for example by increasing the widths of footpaths, introducing temporary cycle ways and promoting social distancing requirements.

<p>Improve infrastructure and support for those working from home.</p>	<p>Within 1 week of the first national lockdown, approximately 1/3 of the workforce were enabled to work from home and were provided with the necessary IT equipment and applications to undertake their jobs. Advice around health and safety and wellbeing was also provided. MS Teams is being rolled out to those individuals who require access to engage with external partners. Improvements to bandwidth and IT equipment continues to be a priority.</p> <p>We are currently working to realise the art of the possible in relation to new and more effective ways of working enhancing digital technologies. We continue to operate a blended model of home and office as whilst working from home does work well for some, it does not for all. Not all staff have the facilities or home environment that is conducive.</p> <p>IT is generally available and in place but the transformation to put new working practices in place effectively, and to ensure workforce productivity is more critical.</p>
<p>Develop an agile, resilient and healthy workforce.</p>	<p>Outreach services have been available to all staff throughout COVID via digital online fitness classes, support to those who were shielding through the support hub if they were unable to access support elsewhere and opportunities for redeployment where staff would have otherwise been unable to fulfil their role. This was critical for the health of the workforce and the feedback from staff has been extremely positive. Many staff have developed skills, stayed connected and supported vulnerable residents, and report feeling valued by the community and the organisation.</p> <p>Preventative & Community Based Services worked with North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust on an application to become an Active Hospital pilot site. The application was successful and North Tees & Hartlepool is one of only three locations nationally to have been awarded this status. The programme focuses on developing the wellbeing and engagement in physical activity of the workforce and HBC will be engaging with ways to promote activity and associated health benefits within the workforce as well as further encouraging the population of Hartlepool to become more active at whatever level they choose.</p> <p>Guidance around positive wellbeing and support offered by the Educational Psychology Service and Mental Wellbeing 1st Supporters was circulated to staff and placed on a dedicated section of the</p>

	intranet under the 'Well Workforce' tile. Specific guidance for staff working in their normal work location and also working from home has been developed and is available.
Progress an office accommodation strategy to create more efficient, carbon-neutral, accessible and flexible workspace.	Work on-going to confirm interim arrangements to facilitate return to work in light of COVID-19 restrictions. Broader strategic work programmed to align accommodation strategy with the Council's approach to climate change, sustainability and net zero requirements as part of policy development.

Health and social care	
Priority	Progress update
Build a resilient and community-based health and social care system.	<p>Work has been underway for some time with strategic health partners to strengthen arrangements and develop a more resilient and responsive health and adult social care system with a stronger emphasis on community-based support.</p> <p>The Community Integrated Intermediate Care (CIIC) service has been strengthened during the response to the pandemic bringing together Rapid Response Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Community Physiotherapy, bed-based rehabilitation services, reablement, home care support and social work to provide holistic care to people being discharged from hospital.</p> <p>The award winning Integrated Single Point of Access is also being developed further through work with Primary Care Networks to provide a more cohesive service for frail older people and work is underway to plan for implementation of the Great North Care Record in 2021 which will enhance the model further by improving access to information and communication between primary care, secondary care and adult social care.</p>

<p>Review and strengthen arrangements for managing the safe discharge of patients into the community.</p>	<p>In response to the significant challenges that have arisen since the introduction of the Hospital Discharge Service: Policy and Operating Model in August 2020, HBC officers have collaborated with health colleagues to strengthen arrangements for managing the safe discharge of patients into the community, in line with the 'Home First' principle.</p> <p>All relevant staff have been trained to understand the key requirements of this legislative framework which include using a strengths based approach to undertake an assessment of need, maximising independence, and working in an integrated, timely and personalised way, and there has been positive engagement with independent care providers to ensure they have the flexibility and resources to meet demand.</p> <p>This has been challenging as the impacts of the pandemic have resulted in reduced bed based capacity to support hospital discharges and additional pressure on home care provision.</p> <p>HBC and strategic partners meet regularly to consider how best to respond to these challenges but there are particular challenges regarding hospital discharge arrangements for people who have tested positive for COVID19. All partners across the Tees Valley are working collaboratively to explore potential solutions (including hospital based settings such as the Holdforth Unit, Community Hospitals and NHS community beds) to meet the 'Designated Settings' requirements introduced in October 2020.</p>
<p>Develop new community-based approaches to tackling social isolation and access to support for the elderly and vulnerable adults.</p>	<p>The Support Hub has been maintained following the end of 'shielding' arrangements and is building on the Community Led Support model that was already in place.</p> <p>A Community Lens audit has taken place to better understand how much staff know about their local communities and the support being provided through the VCS and partners.</p> <p>Additional funding has been provided to extend capacity within the Befriending Service.</p> <p>Project 65 has been maintained and well publicised through social media.</p> <p>Online activities have been offered including Zoom bingo, virtual book clubs and VE Day celebrations.</p>

<p>Help people protect themselves from the virus by living healthy lives.</p>	<p>As part of the delivery of the Support Hub work has been done with individuals to develop person centred plans using a strength based discussion considering what people can do to support themselves. This includes discussion about health and wellbeing and encourages practical lifestyle changes to enhance improvements to wellbeing, specifically considering managing the risk linked to COVID.</p> <p>Wider outreach support and advice has been provided to the community to ensure people stay active, stay well and stay connected.</p> <p>Sport and physical activity services have provided digital and outreach programmes including adapted activity programmes accessible to the whole community. Other outreach and digital services have been offered linked to mindfulness, social activities and advice on eating well.</p>
<p>Increase community based access to treatment services and remote consultations.</p>	<p>This is an action for NHS partners (CCG and FTs). Initial discussions have taken place regarding potential for online consultation facilities to be available in Community Hubs for people without internet access, and this is something HBC could support, but this has not progressed beyond an informal conversation as yet.</p>
<p>Improve community access to mental health services, advice and support.</p>	<p>HBC has been asked to support a Community Model developed by TEWV NHS FT as part of the North Cumbria and North East bid to the Community Transformation Fund. This is expected to bring significant additional investment into Hartlepool over the next three years. The model is focused on prevention, closer working with primary care and an enhanced community offer that will include community hubs, and aligns with the existing commitment to Community Led Support.</p>

Business, economy, jobs and skills	
Priority	Progress update
Protect and support Hartlepool businesses to re-start and adapt to operating digitally within COVID19 secure guidelines.	<p>Point of contact for businesses enquiring about Government funding and assisted over 200 business enquiries up until the end of May 2020.</p> <p>Started weekly email to our business contacts advising on latest updates from HBC and Government.</p> <p>Reopened the BIS and HEC with Covid-19 secure measures in place so businesses could start accessing the Centres and trading again.</p> <p>Paid out £17.495m Business Support Grants to 1,559 Hartlepool Businesses.</p> <p>Paid out £0.854m Discretionary Support Grants to 91 Hartlepool Businesses.</p> <p>Put processes in place to pay Local Restrictions Support Grants from November 2020.</p>
Establish a jobs and skills taskforce to develop new skill pathways into growth sectors, maximise apprenticeships and provide joined up support to those experiencing complex barriers to entering employment.	<p>A virtual careers service has been launched alongside the Support Hub to ensure connectivity of services and ease of access for vulnerable populations and extensions have been secured for the Routes to Work and Youth Employment Initiatives.</p> <p>The Adult Education curriculum has been reviewed to consider the changing needs of people coming out of COVID and work will be undertaken to identify key unemployed populations and the support they will need from services.</p> <p>A Hartlepool Youth Hub has been developed in partnership with a number of employment and advice services. An application has been submitted to Job Centre Plus to fund a full time careers advisor to work in partnership with the JCP Work Coach to maximise opportunities to support young people into work.</p>

	<p>A review of the Volunteer Hartlepool Scheme is underway to provide wider access to those most in need of support to employment, using volunteering as an opportunity to gain confidence, skills and overcome barriers before progressing to a formal route of employment.</p>
<p>Re-animate the Borough's culture, heritage and tourism sector.</p>	<p>Cultural Services have been successful in securing an Arts Council Recovery Grant of £115,000 to support the reconfiguration and development of the Borough Hall and the performance programme to be able to operate in a COVID safe way.</p> <p>Physical events have been postponed to prioritise safety and ensure compliance with government guidelines, however the programme was reviewed to ensure services remain active within the community. This has included 'Solidarity in The Darkness' to replace the firework display and plans for future events including the Christmas Lights Switch On to be delivered in a safe and virtual format.</p> <p>Work has been undertaken to scope capital development opportunities for the Borough Hall, Town Hall Theatre and Art Gallery once funding is available. This will allow programmes to be 'spade ready' when there is the opportunity to progress. To further develop this work and support the recovery of the sector a brief is being developed in partnership with TVCA Destination Planning to develop a Culture and Heritage Outcome Pathway. This will ensure priorities for the recovery of culture and heritage, models of operation, business planning, partnership engagement and creating a visitor destination are clear, enabling the sector to mobilise effectively within available resources.</p> <p>An officer has been appointed to the Town's Heritage Fund Programme to continue development of this programme and ensure wider connectivity for the benefit of the economy, business, environment and heritage / cultural community.</p>
<p>Establish a task force to maximise opportunities to use public sector purchasing power to build the local economy.</p>	<p>Work with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) around the local wealth building agenda has slowed but a session for procurement leads across the public sector is to be arranged.</p>

Attract inward investment to grow new jobs.	<p>Delivery of the LARCH (Local Access Redcar & Cleveland and Hartlepool) programme, as part of the Local Access Scheme, is a joint funded programme established by Access Foundation and Big Society Capital that aims to support the development of stronger, more resilient and sustainable social economics in disadvantaged places. The approach is to provide better access to advice, learning and flexible capital to support the early generation and establishment of enterprise models and social enterprises in specific geographical areas and help enable collaboration between charities, social enterprises, investors and other key stakeholders.</p> <p>Continue to implement the Economic Growth Strategy and identify strategic projects/partnerships to grow new jobs.</p>
Attract investment into creating a connected and vibrant town centre.	<p>Support the funding application for Town Deal and develop the Town Centre Masterplan to identify investment projects to enhance connectivity and vibrancy of the town centre.</p>

Community wellbeing and financial inclusion	
Priority	Progress update
Establish a partnership and community-based approach to addressing the root causes and impact of food, fuel and digital poverty and to facilitate routes to work.	<p>A network of key partners across public and voluntary sector organisations has been developed to ensure a collaborate approach to some of the most significant challenges in Hartlepool including poverty and collaborative work is underway with VCS partners to identify town wide priorities and potential use of the Community Pot to tackle hardship linked to COVID19.</p> <p>The Bread and Butter Thing have been commissioned to provide access to food, welfare products and other essentials through a subsidised membership scheme. This will support some of the working 'poor' to ensure they can access low cost food and essentials.</p> <p>Work is underway with Hartlepower to promote and roll out community broadband as a means to support the most vulnerable individuals to access improved connectivity. This will then be further developed working with Project 65 to ensure people have access to technology and the skills to be able to utilise technology. Priority access has been given to the People's Network within Community Hubs for those who are benefit claimants and job seekers. This will continue and expansion of this model will continue to be considered as part of recovery plans.</p> <p>Employment, careers and digital services have evolved to deliver a blended model of service to ensure accessibility for as many people as possible.</p> <p>Work has commenced on preparing refreshed child and family poverty strategy and community engagement work is planned to better understand the lived experience of the people of Hartlepool in terms of poverty, hardship, housing and employment needs. Once this intelligence is available, this will inform the establishment of partnership and co-production of the strategy.</p>

<p>Re-purpose our approach to providing financial advice and access to hardship support to meet changing and growing demand.</p>	<p>Financial advice and guidance (delivered through a contract with West View Advice and Resource Centre) continues to provide a critical service to those in need of financial support and those experiencing hardship. The service operates via phone and the model of delivery is regularly reviewed to ensure it can best meet demand from those who need support.</p> <p>The additionality of the contract to support Welfare Services to manage 'frequent attendees' is proving successful and is supporting people to better manage their finances on a longer term basis.</p> <p>Work has commenced on preparing refreshed child and family poverty strategy and community engagement work is planned to better understand the lived experience of the people of Hartlepool in terms of poverty, hardship, housing and employment needs. Once this intelligence is available, this will inform the establishment of partnership and co-production of the strategy.</p>
<p>Mark the way our communities and public services responded during the COVID-19 crisis by gathering the stories of how Hartlepool came together.</p>	<p>Let the Story Be Told has engaged all corners of the community and has resulted in pictures, poems and stories being submitted, as well as promoting discussions. This information is being captured and an application has been made to the Arts Council to develop a screen play telling the story of Hartlepool residents throughout COVID.</p> <p>A relaunch of the programme is planned to continue to capture people's experiences through lockdown measures easing, a return to some 'normality' and then enter further restrictions and a second national lockdown. This will be done as part of the Community Heroes Awards to capture the stories of those who have stepped up throughout this crisis and understand what it has meant to them.</p>
<p>Develop a co-ordinated approach to the provision of supported and independent accommodation for those at risk of rough sleeping and homelessness that provide integrated mental</p>	<p>Successful bid to MHCLG for funding to develop and deliver a Tenancy First / Housing Support model to tackle cycles of homelessness for the most vulnerable individuals.</p> <p>Service restructure proposed to strengthen support provided for those most at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping which increases capacity to support individuals and deliver care coordination approach to meet their range of needs.</p> <p>Review of common allocations policy commenced.</p>

health, substance misuse and employment support.	Proposal developed for consideration at CMT regarding developing Landlord Accreditation Scheme and private housing strategy.
Increase the availability of quality affordable social housing that meets diverse needs by building more council houses and working partnership with Hartlepool based social housing providers.	On-going. Continue to utilise opportunities to secure affordable housing via S106 provisions and identify through the existing HRA development programme.

Education and vulnerable children	
Priority	Progress update
Support the re-opening of schools through the provision of health and safety advice and the development of a recovery curriculum, catch up programme and 'blended learning'.	School's re-opened for all pupils in September 2020. High level of support has been provided to schools by the LA in relation to health and safety, HR, PR and school improvement. Regular meetings are in place with collegiate approach across the local area to share work and developments, particularly around remote learning and catch up curriculum. Local authority and all schools are working well as a partnership leading to consistent approaches to supporting staff and pupils in all schools across Hartlepool.
Implement a new model between the local authority, schools and health to support children in their early years.	Recommendations from the Early Years Peer Review are awaiting implementation. Progress on this priority has been challenging due to impact of COVID on workforce and ways provisions are configured.
Strengthen transition between schools at all stages to support children and young people emotionally and academically.	Significant amount of transition planning and development took place during the summer term to support schools to provide a good transitions for pupils despite challenges of Ofsted. HBC is trialling a transition support tool for pupils transitioning between primary and secondary schools in the town and this has received very positive feedback. Effectiveness of tool is being evaluated and further refined for the next cohort of pupils.
Refocus, re-organise and improve arrangements for children's social care delivery to protect children from harm and safely reduce numbers of children in care by	Priority in children's social care is the safeguarding and protection of children and continuing to respond to the high levels of demand, need and complexity we are currently seeing in children referred for support. Following pause during lockdown, Community Support Team has been reviewed and further developed to trial new ways of multi disciplinary working to tackle the root causes of demand. The effectiveness of this approach will be evaluated and if successful, form the basis for the future development and delivery of services.

addressing the drivers of demand.	
Improve the multi-agency arrangements and education provision for meeting the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people.	<p>HBC are working with other LAs in Tees and TEWV to develop a Whole Pathway Commissioning model for meeting emotional and mental health needs of children and young people.</p> <p>Resource pack has been provided to school outlining tools and interventions to support pupils that can be used to promote better emotional and mental health.</p> <p>Mental Health trailblazer programme delivered through schools and provider commissioned to deliver additional support to those schools not involved in trial.</p>
Co-ordinate a new out-of-school and holiday programme for children and young people.	<p>Work was conducted across Tees in advance of the school summer holidays to explore what was being done to support children and young people across the holiday period as lockdown measures eased. This work was extremely positive and engaged with emergency services, HBC Children's Services, community services and wider partners including the VCS to share learning, digital capacity and interpret guidance.</p> <p>A local coordination group was developed and an outreach programme was delivered over the summer to support children and young people with a specific focus on those at risk of involvement in anti-social behaviour. This also included some work to support the most vulnerable young people who could be at risk of radicalisation and involvement in organised crime.</p> <p>An outreach programme was also developed across Preventative & Community Based Services to provide opportunities for children and families and this included the Mobile Community Hub, Outreach Teams and Sports Coaches visiting communities and open spaces to engage residents.</p> <p>No progress on this to date by C&JCS. Support continues to be provided by Youth Service within restrictions of COVID.</p>

Environment and Infrastructure	
Priority	Progress update
Introduce a team of street ambassadors to promote and advise people on maintaining physical distancing in key areas.	Community Street Ambassadors have been in place since July 2020. Feedback from members of the public has been very positive. Funding was announced for LAs in October to fund COVID Marshalls / Ambassadors for a further four months.
Develop a climate change strategy and action plan.	CMT report to be drafted that outlines action plan for development of climate change strategy and identification of strategic approach to meeting net zero requirements.
Create safer streets, cycle ways and footpaths.	<p>An expression of interest has been submitted to British Cycling's 'Places to Ride' programme to develop infrastructure and assets to further encourage cycling in Hartlepool. An invitation has been received to progress to stage 2 and consideration is been given to how this can be developed and what can be achieved through the investment.</p> <p>Work is progressing to establish a cycle corridor alongside the A689, with a section along Belle Vue Way, linking up with the cycle way along Brenda Road, recently completed.</p> <p>Further road safety measures outside of schools and shops have been implemented.</p> <p>Seaton Front – Removal of on-street parking bays to provide wider footpaths, and enable social distancing for people to pass each other and queues.</p> <p>Schools – Widening of footways as required to facilitate waiting areas for parents and also the safe use of School Crossing Patrol sites. Installation and maintenance of traffic management and signage.</p> <p>York Road (Park Rd – Victoria Rd) –restricted to 'Bus & Cycle Only' between the hours of 10am and 4pm. To facilitate an active travel corridor during the busiest shopping hours, create a more attractive environment for cyclists/ pedestrians, and allow for easier social distancing.</p>

	The above measures have been funded through the emergency Active Travel Fund.
Improve connectivity by investing in our transport and local road network.	<p>We have undertaken a number of major road improvements throughout the town with the reconstruction / resurfacing of various sections of the A689 and A179. In addition a number of old concrete roads, such as Truro Drive have been reconstructed to improve the longevity of the road and reduce road noise to those in adjacent properties.</p> <p>A programme of resurfacing of footways has been undertaken throughout the town, with further footpath improvements works scheduled for 2020/21 with a particular focus on the villages.</p> <p>Works have been completed along Stockton Street, which has including improvements to vehicle access and egress of the multi storey car park and the provision of a dedicated right turn lane into the multi storey car park for southbound traffic.</p> <p>A number of road improvements schemes have been brought forward to this year with the awarding of an additional £1m of funding from central Government.</p>
Invest in the physical environment and public realm in our neighbourhoods to strengthen the retail offer and improve opportunities for leisure and play.	<p>Planning permission has been granted for the redevelopment / restoration of the Headland Bandstand area. Works on this area are expected to commence in the Spring to avoid disturbing wildlife which nest over winter in this area.</p> <p>Completion of work to improve some play areas has been delayed due to COVID and providers being unable to supply or install equipment. The programme of work is being revisited and a revised schedule will be produced.</p> <p>Other projects covered within this action include the Borough Hall, the Waterfront Leisure Facility, the Neighbourhood Investment Programme and parks and open spaces</p>
Build the capacity of the integrated community safety team to tackle anti-social behaviour and enable people to feel safe	A new community safety plan has been developed and is expected to be presented to the Safer Hartlepool Partnership (SHP) board in December. The plan has categorised Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) as one of its three highest priority areas for the SHP with resources of the SHP and Community Safety Team being targeted toward Anti-Social Behaviour. A new suite of Performance Indicators have

on our streets, public spaces and neighbourhoods.	been proposed and will be discussed at the SHP board in December to enable the effective monitor of ASB.
Strengthen our approach to enforcement action on litter, dog fouling and illegal car parking.	<p>A coordinated approach across the Council and other partners is being developed which will target identified areas of concern in relation of environmental crimes, based on scale of problems. New working practices will be introduced within the existing civil enforcement team, allowing for more planned activities to take place in relation to environmental enforcement.</p> <p>Further investment is being made in technology to assist in identify environmental crime and identify offenders, including the use of trackers, smart water and mobile CCTV.</p>

Finance	
Priority	Progress update
Develop and deliver a recovery budget for the Council and ensure the capital programme is delivered on time and on budget.	Financial position update report submitted to Finance and Policy Committee on 13.08.20 and outlined strategy for managing financial impact of Covid and revised 2021/22 budget deficit. Further update to be reported to Finance and Policy Committee 30.11.20 and final budget proposals to be considered by Finance and Policy Committee and Council early in January/February 2021. Detailed Governance and Delivery arrangements developed to manage capital programme to ensure it is delivered on time and on budget.

Communication	
Priority	Progress update
Work with partners to deliver a shared communication strategy which provides effective and timely public information through a diverse range of channels and reaches those with specific communication needs.	A significant programme of communications activity has been undertaken using a range of communication tools and techniques such as audience Q&A sessions, resident's leaflets and Managing Director/Leader of the Council video briefings. Hartlepool has been identified as an area of Good Practice by central Government and has been invited to share practice and learning.

1. Is this decision a Budget & Policy Framework or Key Decision? YES If YES please answer question 2 below				
2. Will there be an impact of the decision requested in respect of Child and Family Poverty? YES If YES please complete the matrix below				
GROUP	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Young working people aged 18 - 21	X			Many of the priorities identified in the Recovery Plan will target those most vulnerable to poverty.
Those who are disabled or suffer from illness / mental illness	X			
Those with low educational attainment	X			
Those who are unemployed	X			
Those who are underemployed	X			
Children born into families in poverty	X			
Those who find difficulty in managing their finances	X			
Lone parents	X			
Those from minority ethnic backgrounds	X			

Poverty is measured in different ways. Will the policy / decision have an impact on child and family poverty and in what way?				
Poverty Measure (examples of poverty measures appended overleaf)	POSITIVE IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	REASON & EVIDENCE
Children in Low Income Families (%)	X			The COVID-19 Recovery and Renewal Plan is directed towards addressing the impact of poverty and tackling root causes. The Community Fund will help build community capacity to address the root causes and impact of poverty.
Children in Working Households (%)	X			
Local business economy (%)	X			The Business Support Fund will focus on supporting businesses to adapt to the changing economic environment and to re-animating key sectors including culture, tourism and the visitor economy.
Overall employment rate (%)	X			
Overall impact of Policy / Decision				
POSITIVE IMPACT		X	ADJUST / CHANGE POLICY / SERVICE	
NO IMPACT / NO CHANGE			STOP / REMOVE POLICY / SERVICE	
ADVERSE IMPACT BUT CONTINUE				

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Director of Resources and Development

Subject: COUNCIL TAX BASE AND SECTION 106 POLICY

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Budget and Policy Framework.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To provide information requested at Finance and Policy Committee on 13th August 2020 in relation to the Council Tax base and Section 106 policy.

3. COUNCIL TAX BASE

- 3.1 The Council Tax base is set annually by Finance and Policy Committee. This is a complex statutory calculation which in overall terms converts the number of properties in the eight property bands (A to H) into band D equivalents, after reflect statutory discounts (e.g. the 25% Single Person Discount) and the level of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. The 2020/21 Council Tax base is 24,882 as detailed in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.2 As reported to Finance and Policy Committee on 13th August 2020 it is anticipated that the actual tax base for 2020/21 will be lower than forecast owing to the economic impact of Covid-19 and an increase in households eligible for Local Council Tax Support (LCTS). At the end of September the number of households eligible for LCTS had increased by 8%.
- 3.3 A further increase is expected when the furloughing schemes ends. This will result in a Collection Fund deficit for 2020/21 as households becoming eligible for LCTS will move from paying 100% of Council Tax to 12%. Additionally, only 47 property completions have been allocated a Council Tax band by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) so far this year. This indicates a slowdown in building and potential backlog within in the VOA.
- 3.4 It is anticipated that the LCTS position will not recover during 2021/22 and for planning purposes the Medium Term Financial Strategy set out measures to manage a forecast Collection Fund deficit of £3m (i.e. 2020/21 deficit of £2m and 2021/22 deficit of £1m).

3.5 Council Tax base 2004/05 to 2020/21

- 3.6 A review of changes in the Council Tax base over the period 2004/05 to 2020/21 has been completed. This analysis is based on the pre-Covid forecast for 2020/21 and shows that since 2013/14 average annual growth has increased owing to impact of housing growth and a reduction in Local Council Tax Support households. As summarised in the table below average growth since 2013/14 was significantly higher than in the previous eight years:

Increase in Band D Council Tax base
2004/05 to 2020/21 (forecast)

	Annual Average Growth
2004/05 to 2012/13 (pre Local Council Tax Support scheme)	141
2013/14 to 2020/21 (post Local Council Tax Support scheme)	398
Average annual growth 2004/05 to 2020/21	287

- 3.7 Since 2013/14 the increase in the Council Tax base reflects two factors:

- The impact of housebuilding;
- The impact of a reduction in LCTS claimants.

- 3.8 These changes are summarised in the table below:

Breakdown of increase in Band D
Council Tax base 2013/14 to 2020/21

	Band D Change	Percentage
Reduction in Local Council Tax Support households	1,154	36%
Housing Growth	2,026	64%
Total	3,180	100%

- 3.9 Over the period 2004/05 to 2020/21 there was a reduction in the proportion of houses in Council Tax Bands A to C and an increase in houses in Bands E to H. This change reflects the financial benefits of attracting more 'executive' housing developments to the town. In financial terms the increase in Band E to H properties over this period provides additional recurring Council Tax income in 2020/21 of £2.465m. Without this additional income the Council would have faced even higher budget deficits.

Change in Council Tax Base 2004/05 to 2020/21

Property Band	2004/05	2020/21
A to C	81.6%	77.4%
D	9.1%	9.9%
E to H	9.3%	12.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

3.10 Comparison of Tax base changes

3.11 A comparison of changes in the Council Tax base across the five Tees Valley authorities over the period 2014/15 to 2020/21 shows that Hartlepool has achieved the highest growth of **13.6%**. This compares to an average for the other four authorities of **11.2%** (average of 11.5% if Hartlepool is included).

3.12 In 2020/21 the higher than average increase in the Council Tax base equates to additional recurring Council Tax income of £920,000 – which has helped protect services.

3.13 Review of achievement of Tax Base forecasts

3.14 Once the forecast Council Tax base has been set the planning assumptions are monitored during the year to provide an early indication of any potential changes in the forecasts. However, owing to the number of potential variables which can change during the year (i.e. actual level of LCTS households, actual house building activity and changes in eligibility for discounts) the key monitoring is completed annually when the Collection Fund balance is calculated.

3.15 The Collection Fund balance calculation is an annual statutory calculation and results in either:

- **A Collection Fund deficit** – this would arise if the actual Council Tax base was less than forecast owing to lower actual housing growth than forecast, a higher level of LCTS eligible households, a higher level households eligible for discounts, or a combination of these factors;
- **A Collection Fund surplus** - this would arise if the actual Council Tax base was higher than forecast owing to higher actual housing growth than forecast, a lower level of LCTS eligible households, a lower level households eligible for discounts, or a combination of these factors.

3.16 As summarised in the following table the Collection Fund balances have been very small and compare favourably with other councils. This demonstrates the initial estimates were robust.

Collection Fund Deficit / (surplus) as percentage
of total annual Council Income 2017/18 to 2019/20

	Hartlepool	Average for 3 Tees Valley Councils
2019/20	0.33%	1.13%
2018/19	0.09%	1.31%
2017/18	0.32%	0.59%

4. SECTION 106 CONTRIBUTIONS

- 4.1 Planning obligations, also known as section 106 contributions, are obligations entered into to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal. Councils receive section 106 contributions from developers to address the impacts arising from a development, and in particular, to meet the infrastructure costs which are necessary to enable sustainable development to take place. These can include contributions towards the provision of affordable homes, to address highway impacts, educational requirements, play, sports and recreation provision, for community facilities and any environmental impacts. At the same time the commencement and phasing of development is often conditional on the infrastructure being delivered in a timely manner, for example the completion of a highway improvement might be required by the occupation of a specified number of dwellings. While these contributions are paid by developers, the costs are reflected in the overall financial business case for the development and are ultimately reflected in the house price.
- 4.2 The level of section 106 contribution is a factor in the financial viability of individual developments, alongside the price of land, construction and fitting out costs. The other factor is the market selling price for new properties.
- 4.3 The following table summarises the value of section 106 contributions achieved over the last five years. The table highlights that **71%** (£3.189m) relates to affordable housing and these resources have played a key role in supporting the growth of the HRA. At 31 March 2020 £2.797m of the housing section 106 contributions had been spent and there was a balance of £392,000 committed for other projects.

Summary of Section 106 Contributions 2015/16 to 2019/20

	2015/16 £'000	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000	2018/19 £'000	2019/20 £'000	Total £'000
Affordable Housing	240	288	249	2,045	367	3,189
All Other	281	124	133	390	396	1,324
						4,513

- 4.4 If the Council removed the requirement for section 106 contributions to potentially increase the number of housing completions, it would not be possible to use the resulting increase in Council Tax income to offset the loss of section 106 contributions for affordable housing. This position reflects the statutory ring fence of the HRA, which means that whilst section 106 contributions can be secured for affordable housing, increases in Council Tax income cannot be used to subsidise the HRA, including capital investment in the HRA.
- 4.5 The cost of providing the required infrastructure would still need to be met, in a timely way, to allow the housing to be delivered in a sustainable manner. Any uncertainty in respect to funding may actually delay development as the financial responsibility would fall to the Council to meet the required infrastructure without the means to physically pay for it, which would therefore make the development unsustainable.
- 4.6 Developers work closely with the Council to establish what level of contribution is required to ensure the development is sustainable. The existing process of negotiation represents a successful approach for developer's and the council, as demonstrated by the growth in new housing in recent years. This approach is consistent with existing national planning policy which already provides a mechanism for facilitating growth, through the presumption in favour of development, which considers viability and the impact for section 106 on deliverability.
- 4.7 It is recognised that the continued delivery of housing growth is vital to the financial sustainability of the council and positive conversations remain ongoing with land owners and many different developers who wish to build new homes in Hartlepool.
- 4.8 Each development has its own specific requirements and we cannot compare sites with each other. It may however be beneficial to undertake a review of Hartlepool's section 106 contributions to clarify whether the existing s106 asks are seen as barrier to development. Comparator data will be collated for the Tees Valley and wider North East region. Members should note that some section 106 contributions have to be based on evidence of need and therefore any flexibility in some areas may be limited.

5. PROPOSED NATIONAL CHANGES TO SECTION 106 ARRANGEMENTS

- 5.1 The Government has recently consulted on changes to the current system of securing developer contributions towards infrastructure, including proposals for a consolidated infrastructure levy, which would be based on a flat rate, value based charge, set nationally, at either a single rate, or at area specific rates.
- 5.2 Once the outcome of his consultation is known, and more details are provided on the proposals and any possible change in legislation, then a further report will be presented to the relevant Committees for information.

6. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 There is not a legal requirements to secure section 106 contributions. However, as set out in the previous paragraphs these arrangements have played a critical role in funding infrastructure costs associated with new housing developments and funding affordable housing.

7. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 As the report is for information there are no issues in relation to the following considerations:
- Consultation Requirements
 - Risk Implications
 - Child and Family Poverty Considerations
 - Staff Consideration
 - Asset Management Considerations
 - Equality and Diversity Considerations

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The report advises Members that over the period 2014/15 to 2020/21 Hartlepool has achieved growth in the Council Tax base of 13.6%. This compares to an average for the other four Tees Valley councils of 11.2%. For all councils this growth reflects housing growth and reductions in the number of households eligible for LCTS.
- 8.2 The Council has also achieved section 106 contributions and **71%** (£3.189m) relates to affordable housing contributions which have played a key role in supporting the growth of the HRA.
- 8.3 Contributions have also helped to deliver the necessary infrastructure throughout the Borough, for example highways improvements.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 It is recommended that Members note the report.

10. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To provide information requested by Members.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

12. CONTACT OFFICER

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Sign Off:-

Managing Director



Director of Resources and Development



Chief Solicitor



Appendix 1

[illegible]

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Acting Director of Public Health

Subject: RE-PROCUREMENT OF TEES INTEGRATED SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key decision. Not in Forward Plan – general exception

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To seek approval for Hartlepool to be part of a re-procurement of a Tees integrated sexual health service with a view to commence the new service on 1st August 2021.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 There is a statutory duty incumbent on Local Authorities, Clinical Commissioning Groups and NHS England and NHS Improvement to commission or provide sexual and reproductive health services¹.

3.2 In August 2016, sexual health services were re-commissioned to deliver integrated services across Teesside for 5 years with an option to extend for 2 x 24month periods. Virgin Care Services Ltd. was the successful bidder. The incumbent provider has rejected the offer of a 12 month extension resulting in the collaborative commissioners moving to procure a new service.

3.3 In Tees, open access sexual health services are commissioned by six different commissioning bodies (Hartlepool Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group (formerly South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group and Hartlepool and Stockton

¹ Commissioning responsibilities: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/making-it-work-a-guide-to-whole-system-commissioning-for-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-hiv> Public Health England 2015

Clinical Commissioning Group) and NHS England. Services are seamless to patients. Figure 1 below shows the different sexual health commissioning responsibilities.

Sexual Health Commissioning Responsibilities from 1st April 2013

Local authorities	CCGs	NHS England
<p>Comprehensive sexual health services. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contraception, including implants and intra-uterine contraception devices and all prescribing costs, but excluding contraception provided as an additional service under the GP contract Sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing and treatment, chlamydia screening as part of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme (NCSP) and HIV testing Sexual health aspects of psychosexual counselling Sexual health specialist services including young people's sexual health, outreach, HIV prevention and sexual health promotion, services in schools, colleges and pharmacies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most abortion services Sterilisation Vasectomy Non-sexual health elements of psychosexual health services Gynaecology, including any use of contraception of non-contraceptive purposes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contraception provided as an additional service under the GP contract HIV treatment and care including drug costs for PEPSE and PREP Promotion of opportunistic testing and treatment for STIs and patient-requested testing by GPs Sexual health elements of prison health services Sexual Assault Referral Centres Cervical screening Specialist fetal medicine services

Figure 1: commissioning responsibilities for sexual health services. (DH Commissioning for sexual health services and interventions)

- 3.4 Sexual Health Teesside (SHT) delivers levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 sexual health services ranging from condom distribution (level 1), provision of contraception (level 2), screening & treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (level 3) to vasectomy services (level 4). Services are delivered from a range of hub and spoke clinics, outreach facilities and subcontractors include GPs, Pharmacies, Brook, Terence Higgins Trust (THT), Marie Stopes International and Acculabs.
- 3.5 Recent changes in public health outcome performance and COVID-19 has driven the need to change the service model. In order to achieve this the Tees Sexual Health Needs Assessment has been refreshed alongside the collation of views sought from stakeholders. A service performance review and a recent piece of research to understand market appetite has developed a revised service specification.

4 CHANGES TO THE MODEL

- 4.1 The model, developed by sexual health leads across the collaborative partners continues to follow the evidence base for commissioning integrated sexual health services but also:
- refreshes the approach to young people's treatment and testing to improve key outcomes including chlamydia detection rates, and the access of young people to service provision;
 - maintains and increases a focus on narrowing the inequalities associated with poor sexual health outcomes for local populations;
 - establishes mechanisms to involve local populations in the design and development of sexual health provision, although satisfaction rates for sexual health services are high when they are utilised, there is no established process to understand the barriers facing groups who do not access services;
 - requires the provider to ensure that access to service and information is flexible with a greater offer of operating times and ways of seeking and receiving support (for example, digital offers, telephone and online booking and consultation and home testing);
 - requires the provider to use our refreshed needs assessment and proactively reach out to people in the community, especially those that are in vulnerable groups of young people & adults and those that face barriers to access;
 - requires the provider to focus upon working with vulnerable groups of young people and adults and to evidence that better outcomes are being achieved;
 - is clear in the requirement for a provider to build greater collaboration with existing organisations and services such as the VCSE, Social Care and Primary Care workforce;
 - requires the provider to use as much of community assets as possible, reaching into communities and using innovative places and methods of offering support.

5. SEXUAL HEALTH OUTCOMES

- 5.1 Please see **Appendix B**.

6. PROPOSALS

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Hartlepool Borough Council along with collaborative commissioning partners Stockton Borough Council, Middlesbrough Borough Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, NHS England and NHS Improvement North East and Yorkshire and NHS Tees Valley Clinical Commissioning Group will commission the following:
- 6.2 A centralised genitourinary medicine (GUM) and complicated STI testing and treatment within each Tees local authority area, with capacity for all levels of

contraception provision; Community based, online and digital access to contraception and sexual health provision along a single care pathway, with capacity for levels 1, 2 and 3 STI and contraception provision.

- 6.3 The majority of (Contraception and Genito Urinary Medicine) reproductive and sexual health needs met in a single consultation.
- 6.4 A single reproductive and sexual health patient pathway and clinical governance bringing together all elements of provision (digital, GUM, Contraception), to allow for an equitable offer of advice, testing and treatment across providers, system partners and geographies.
- 6.5 That all staff are trained with dual contraception and GUM (Sexual Health) competencies.
- 6.6 A data reporting system able to meet all national and local reporting requirements in a timely manner which meets the coding and reporting requirements for CTAD, SRHAD2 and GUMCAD2.
- 6.7 Collaborative pathways between sexual health service provision and the broader system (including but not limited to maternity, primary care, abortion providers, sexual assault referral centre, secondary care, drug and alcohol services, domestic violence, FGM, CSE) which identify joint priorities and build capacity within these services for prevention, early identification of need and engagement with sexual health support.
- 6.8 The Service will provide Community cervical screening (funded by NHS England and NHS Improvement North East and Yorkshire).
- 6.9 The Service will provide Mirena IUD's insertion including follow up attendances, psychosexual counselling and vasectomies (funded by NHS Tees Valley CCG).

7 TIMESCALE FOR PROCUREMENT

- 7.1 The time line refers to the procurement of the core, clinical and integrated sexual health service. The prevention service will be procured later in the year but will commence at the same time.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS / MODEL / TIMELINE - Signed off • RECOVERY PLAN - Sign off • TUPE information received from provider / reviewed by SH leads • COSTS - Signed off following receipt of TUPE information • PROCUREMENT - Advertised via ProContract (Bidding Opens)
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JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EVALUATION – Evaluation of bids occurs • EVALUATION - Award Recommendation presented to SPONSOR • STANDSTILL COMMENCES (10 Days) - Bidders Informed • STANDSTILL CLOSES • CONTRACT AWARDED • MOBILISATION - Commences
1st AUGUST 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEESSIDE INTEGRATED SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE COMMENCES

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The key risks identified for the service review and re-procurement of sexual health services across Teesside are held in a central risk register. The following are a list of key risks for the reporting period July – September 2020:

- Procurement strategy not agreed by all parties
- Lack of market interest which may require negotiation with the incumbent provider
- Re-procuring in a short timescale

8.2 There is a risk that if Hartlepool does not engage with the Tees commissioning process that Hartlepool will not be able to fulfil its duties in relation to sexual health. The funding that Hartlepool contribute to the Tees integrated service is not enough to commission a sexual health service in isolation and this is a service areas where the councils need to collaborate to benefit from economies of scale.

9. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Sexual health services will be required to be funded through the ring fenced Public Health Grant. The cost to Hartlepool is the same as previous years.

9.2 **Appendix A** Not for Publication information sets out the budget information

This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, (para 3) information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

9.3 It needs to be noted that the funding allocated to the integrated service (as above) would not be enough to cover a solely commissioned Hartlepool service. The economies of scale that this integrated commissioned service offers allows Hartlepool residents to access the full range of provision set out

in section 4.1. This would not be the case if we commissioned this service independently.

10. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 The legal processes, procurement processes and documentation used for the re-procurement will be that of the lead authority, Stockton Borough Council, and all commission partners agree to this.

11. CONSULTATION

- 11.1 Ongoing consultation takes place with service users as part of the contract monitoring process. The current provider has been consulted throughout this process.

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

- 12.1 This service is available for all those needing it therefore there is no specific child/ family poverty implications.

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

- 13.1 This service is available for all those needing it therefore there is no specific equality/diversity implications.

14. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 14.1 There are no staffing implications and any TUPE requirements will be dealt with via the current and potential provider.

15. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 15.1 There are not asset management implications as the provider will be expected to identify suitable premises.

16. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 16.1 For committee to approve Hartlepool to be part of a re-procurement of a Tees integrated sexual health service with a view to commence the new service on 1st August 2021.

17. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17.1 The council has a statutory duty to provide significant elements of this service. The council would not be able to provide such a comprehensive service if the council commissioned this service independently. A Tees Integrated Service is the most effective way to provide the service to ensure that it is seamless to service users and is value for money.

18. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 18.1 None.

19. CONTACT OFFICERS

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Sign Off:-

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

Sexual Health Outcomes

Syphilis diagnostic rate

Hartlepool's has increased year on year across the last three reporting periods, though it has remained statistically similar to the England rate throughout. Hartlepool's rate moved from 8.6 per 100,000 in 2017, to 12.9 in 2018 and 17.1 in 2019. Across the same period the England rate increased from 12.2 per 100,000 in 2017, to 12.5 in 2018 and 13.8 in 2019. Hartlepool's rate in 2019 was the 4th largest in the north east and the 32nd largest in England.

Gonorrhoea diagnostic rate

Hartlepool's gonorrhoea diagnostic rate has been better than the national average for the last 3 years' worth of data. In 2017 Hartlepool's rate was 56 per 1,000 compared with a national rate of 78 per 1,000. Since then the national rate has continued to increase, first to 98 per 1,000 in 2018 and then 123 per 1,000 in 2019. At the same time the Hartlepool rate fell to 51 per 1,000 in 2018 and remained at that rate for 2019. In 2019 Hartlepool had the 2nd lowest rate in the north East and the 31st lowest in England.

Chlamydia detection & screening

In two of the most recent 3 years worth of data, Hartlepool succeeded in attaining a chlamydia detection rate above, 2,300 per 100,000, which is the current goal for chlamydia detection. In 2017 Hartlepool's level was 2,902 per 100,000 and in 2018 it was 2,647 per 100,000. Both of these were not only above the 2,300 target but were above the national average of 1,929 in 2017 and 1,999 in 2018. However in 2019, the decline in numbers seen in the 2018 rate continued to a level where the 2,300 target was not met, and Hartlepool's rate was 2,137 per 100,000. Hartlepool's rate in 2019 was the 2nd best in the north east.

Hartlepool's chlamydia screening rates for 15-24 year olds has remained very stable over the last 3 years, moving only 1%, from 20.6% in 2017 to 19.6% in 2019. The rate across all 3 years was similar to the England average. The England rate was even more stable than Hartlepool's, moving only 0.8% across the period. Hartlepool's rate in 2019 was the 4th best in the north east.

New STI diagnoses (excluding chlamydia)

Hartlepool has seen levels of new STI diagnoses, excluding chlamydia, which are below the England average for each of the last 3 years. Hartlepool's levels of 569, 573 and 537 per 100,000 in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively are well below the England average of 798, 845 and 900 across the same time period. Hartlepool's rate in 2019 was the 3rd best rate in the north east and the 22nd best rate in England.

HIV

Hartlepool's HIV testing coverage has remained worse than the England average throughout the last 3 years. Hartlepool's rate of 56.8% in 2017 and 54.8% in 2018 and 2019 compare with England rates of 65.4%, 64.4% and 64.8%. Hartlepool's 2019 rate was the 2nd worst in the north east and the 28th worst in England. This has affected the late diagnosis rate in Hartlepool, where, in 2017-19, two thirds of HIV diagnosis was a late diagnosis. This was preceded by figures of 62.5% in 2015-17 and 60.0% in 2016-18 in Hartlepool, while at the same time the England rates were 41.3% in 2015-17, 43.1% in 2016-18 and 2017-19. Hartlepool's 2017-19 figure is the worst in the north east and the 5th worst in England. However the prevalence of HIV in those aged 15-59 and the new HIV diagnoses in those aged 15+ are both at very low levels in Hartlepool. Hartlepool's HIV diagnoses prevalence, while increasing, has remained below 1 per 1,000 across the three year period. In 2017 it was 0.6 per 1,000 and increased up to 0.81 in 2018 and 0.88 in 2019. At the same time the rate in England started almost four times the size of the Hartlepool rate at 2.35 per 1,000 and ended slightly more than 2.7 times larger at 2.39 per 1,000. Hartlepool's 2019 rate was the 5th best in the north east and the 22nd best in England. For new diagnoses of HIV, Hartlepool rates even better in 2019, with the 2nd best rate in the north east and the 4th best in England. Hartlepool's rate fell from 5.2 per 100,000 in 2017 to 1.3 per 100,000 in 2019. At the same time the England rate fell from 9.3 to 8.1 per 100,000.

HPV Vaccine

There has been a marked decline in the rate of those getting the HPV vaccine in Hartlepool across the last three reporting periods. In 2016/17 Hartlepool had a vaccination rate of 85%, which, while not at the target of 90%, was comparable with the England rate of 87.2%. However by 2018/19 Hartlepool's rate had fallen to 78.9%, while the England rate had increased up to 88%. This is the largest gap between the Hartlepool and England rates. Hartlepool's 2018/19 rate is the 2nd worst in the north east and the 8th worst in England.

Abortions

Repeat abortions in the under 25s have seen little consistency in their rates across the last three reporting periods in Hartlepool, which is in marked contrast to the national picture. Hartlepool's level of repeat abortions in the under 25s in 2017 was 22.8%, which, while slightly lower, was statistically similar to the England level of 26.7%. In fact Hartlepool, even with its fluctuating figures remains statistically similar to England across the three reporting periods. In 2018 Hartlepool's figure jumped up to 31.4% while England only saw a small increase to 26.8%. In 2019 Hartlepool's figure dropped back down to 24.6%, while England again increased slightly, up to 27.7%. Hartlepool's 2019 figure was the 6th best in the north east and 45th best in England. In contrast to Hartlepool's fluctuating figure on repeat abortions, the figures for abortions under 10 weeks have remained relatively stable. Again Hartlepool was statistically similar to the England rate through the three reporting periods. Hartlepool's figure for abortions under 10 weeks moved from 80.2% in 2017, to 79% in 2018 and back up to 80% in 2019. At the same time the England figure was 76.6%, 80.3% and 82.5%. Hartlepool's 2019 figure was the 5th best in the north east, but the 39th worst in England.

Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC)

Hartlepool still has relatively low usage levels of LARC, excluding injections. In 2016 the England average for prescribed LARC, excluding injections was 46.4 per 1,000. This was almost five times the Hartlepool rate of 9.6 per 1,000. By 2018 the gap between Hartlepool and England had fallen to just under four times the size, with England at 49.5 per 1,000 and Hartlepool at 12.6 per 1,000. Hartlepool's prescribed LARC usage in 2018 was the 3rd lowest in both the north east and England, in fact the 5 lowest rates in England were all taken by authorities from the north east in 2018.

Under 18 Conceptions

Hartlepool continues to have relatively high levels of under 18 conceptions. From 2016 to 2018 Hartlepool's rate increased from 34.9 per 1,000 to 38 per 1,000. At the same time the England rate decreased from 18.8 per 1,000 to 16.7 per 1,000. Hartlepool's rate in 2018 was the 2nd highest in both the north east and England. The percentage of under 18 conceptions leading to an abortion has remained considerably lower for Hartlepool across the last three reporting periods. In 2016 Hartlepool's rate was 32.8%, compared to 51.8% for England. Both rate increased up to 36.8% for Hartlepool and 53.0% for England in 2018. Hartlepool's rate in 2018 was the 2nd lowest rate in the north east and the 7th lowest in England.

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30 November 2020



Report of: Director of Resources and Development

Subject: HME/NMRN/HMS TRINCOMALEE REVIEW

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Key Decision - Special Urgency Notice Applies

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1 To seek approval to amend the existing agreements with the National Museum of the Royal Navy (NMRN).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Members will recall that a report on this matter was presented to Committee on 20 January 2015 and 16th May 2016, wherein Members agreed to the Council contributing a subsidy following the transfer of Hartlepool Maritime Experience to the NMRN. The subsidy was to be paid on a sliding scale for the first five years following transfer as set out in **Confidential Appendix 1. This appendix contain exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).**

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 It is proposed to

- a) Extend the period in which the NMRN can exercise the existing break clause in the lease; and
- b) Extend the payment of a subsidy for a further 12 months

5. LEGAL AND FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 On the 30th January 2015, Finance and Policy Committee approved the transfer of the site to NMRN Hartlepool subject to Committee agreeing the dilapidation costs. This included the transfer of all existing budgets along with additional subsidy phased over a five year period.
- 5.2 As a consequence of COVID-19 the operation of the site has been adversely impacted and its viability questioned. Without continued support over this period there is a likelihood that NMRN would seek to exercise their break clause and terminate their tenancy.
- 5.3 The extension of the break clause and of the subsidy will afford the NMRN with the support and time necessary to put in place a suitable recovery plan to ensure the long term viability of the site.
- 5.4 The existing legal agreements will require amendment to reflect the decision of committee.

6 CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 6.1 There are no child and family poverty implications relating to this report.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 There are no equality and diversity considerations relating to this report.

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

- 8.1 There are no Section 17 considerations relating to this report.

9. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 9.1 In the event that the site were to revert to the Council it would be required to ensure that it was staffed appropriately and consultation would be required with existing employees regarding transfer.

10. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 10.1 Without provision of the proposed support the asset will revert to the Council along with the associated costs.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 It is recommended that approval is given to agree the extended subsidy on the basis of the terms set out in Confidential Appendix 4. These appendices contain exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 11.2 That approval is given to vary the terms of the existing lease and extend the availability period of the break clause from 03 June 2021 to a revised date of 03 June 2022.

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 12.1 Report to Finance and Policy Committee Review of HME/NMRN/HMS Trincomalee Review, 30th January 2015.
- 12.2 Report to Finance and Policy Committee Review of HME/NMRN/HMS Trincomalee Review, 16 May 2016

13. CONTACT OFFICER

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FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30 November 2020



Report of: Director of Adult and Community Based Services

Subject: ALLOCATION OF THE COMMUNITY POT

1. TYPE OF DECISION / APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Non-key decision.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To seek agreement from the Finance and Policy Committee regarding the criteria and allocation process for the Community Pot.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A report to Finance and Policy Committee on 29 June 2020 regarding A Sustainable Solution to Food Poverty identified that COVID19 had highlighted, and in some cases exacerbated, a range of issues associated with hardship which went beyond food poverty. Examples of areas where poverty was being experienced included fuel, clothing and digital inclusion. It was proposed that the Council could help to address these issues by commissioning further Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) support using time limited resources.
- 3.2 The Finance and Policy Committee subsequently made a decision on 13 August 2020 to create a Community Pot to support the COVID19 recovery. The Community Pot was created utilising the balance of New Burdens funding, an element of the Family Poverty Reserve, an underspend on ward Member budgets and the uncommitted balance of the Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for food and essential supplies giving a total of £225k.
- 3.3 The Committee approved the following recommendations in relation to the use of the Community Pot: -
- earmarked £25,000 to support a programme of activities for Young People and delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation

with the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee to approve the use of this fund;

- noted that proposal for allocating the remaining £200,000 would be made by Finance and Policy Committee.

3.4 Sailing North East, the company operating the Black Diamond, were not eligible for the Government's business support grants which were only payable to businesses operating from premises with a rateable value. These grants were designed support business with meet fixed costs. Sailing North East therefore approach the Council for alternative financial support, as they faced the same financial challenges as other businesses in relation to meeting fixed costs and managing reductions in income.

3.5 The Finance and Policy Committee decision delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of Finance and Policy Committee to approve the use of the funding to support activities for young people. In line with this delegation the decision was made to award £10,000 to provide sail training for vulnerable young people on the Black Diamond through the company Sailing North East. This arrangement will provide valuable experiences for young people, ongoing publicity opportunities if the bid to host the Tall Ship in 2023 is successful and support for a local organisation during a difficult economic period. £10,000 will pre-purchase approximately 34 days at sea for five young people per day, providing opportunities for 170 young people in total. The cost per day is approximately £60 per young person. Further details are provided in Appendix 1.

3.6 The remaining £15,000 will be used to supplement the existing Sport England funded 'Family Fund' project which is delivering a range of activities that encourage low income families to engage in physical activity and play with the additional funding enabling the existing project to reach more families with an enhanced programme.

4. PROPOSED CRITERIA FOR THE COMMUNITY POT

4.1 It is proposed that any project funded from the £200k Community Pot for VCS activity will be required to meet the following criteria:

- Evidence of need based on community engagement.
- Delivery of interventions that will address hardship arising from COVID19 that is impacting on communities in Hartlepool.
- Provides 'additionality' rather than duplicating similar projects or replacing core funding for an ongoing scheme.
- Clear impact and outcomes.
- Delivery through a collaborative approach across the VCS.
- Clear exit strategy demonstrating the longer term impact of one off resources.

- 4.2 There has been lots of positive engagement with a wide range of VCS partners in recent months in relation to recovery planning and opportunities for collaboration, so the emphasis on collaborative approaches within the funding criteria provides a real opportunity to progress this agenda and create a longer term partnership.

5. PROPOSED PROCESS FOR ALLOCATING FUNDING

- 5.1 A brief application form has been developed (attached as Appendix 2) which will be circulated to VCS organisations early in December, subject to the criteria outlined above being approved.
- 5.2 Organisations will be able to apply for funding of £20k to £200k. The lower limit is proposed to ensure that the funding available is sufficient to have an impact and to avoid the administration of the funding becoming a disproportionate burden. The higher limit is proposed to allow VCS organisations to work collaboratively on ambitious projects that will potentially have a greater impact; any bids over £50k will need to provide evidence of collaboration between two or more VCS organisations and a single award of £200k would only be made if there was evidence of a sustainable VCS partnership working on town wide priorities.
- 5.3 Applications will be invited with a closing date in early January following the Community Pot being launched and information will be provided to VCS organisations (in writing and through a virtual meeting if required) to outline the aims of the Community Pot and the Council's commitment to work in collaboration with the VCS to support COVID19 recovery.
- 5.4 Applications will be considered by a panel of officers and partners including the Council's Director of Adult and Community Based Services, Director of Children and Joint Commissioning Services and Acting Director of Public Health along with representatives from Hartlepool representing the VCS. Recommendations will then be brought back to the next available meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration and approval.

6. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are risks associated with allocating one off funding in that it can build expectations and generate longer term demand. This will be managed through the allocation process for the Community Pot which makes clear that this is a one off resource to support sustainable solutions.

7. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The Community Pot has been created as outlined in section 3.2 from one off funding sources. On this basis there are no ongoing financial considerations associated with the creation and distribution of the Community Pot. The

Community Pot of £225k is linked to COVID19 recovery and will be available in 2020/21 only.

8. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The allocation of funding from the Community Pot will be done in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. Any organisation accepting funding from the Community Pot will sign an agreement regarding the proper use of the funding and will commit to provide information regarding the outcomes achieved.

9. CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The proposed criteria and process for allocation of the Community Pot have been discussed with representatives of the VCS. The Council's commitment to work with the VCS and support the sector to work collaboratively was welcomed and supported.

10. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

- 10.1 The aim of the Community Pot to tackle the social and economic impacts of COVID19 supports the Council's commitment to tackle child and family poverty.

11. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 11.1 The allocation of the Community Pot will take into consideration the needs of individuals and families experiencing hardship due to age, disability or other protected characteristics.

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

- 12.1 There are no staffing considerations associated with this report.

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 13.1 There are no asset management considerations associated with this report.

14. RECOMMENDATION

- 14.1 It is recommended that the Finance and Policy Committee approve the proposed criteria and allocation process for the Community Pot and receive further reports regarding the successful projects and outcomes achieved in due course.

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 15.1 The Finance and Policy Committee has made a commitment to create the Community Pot and approval is required to ensure that the funding can be allocated to support local communities through the COVID19 recovery.

16. CONTACT OFFICER

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Tel: 01429 284 383
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Our Ref: NW/BlackDiamond
Your Ref:

Contact Officer/Email: Mr Neil Wilson
neil.wilson@hartlepool.gov.uk

17 September 2020

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Sailing North East
Hartlepool Marina
Slake Terrace
HARTLEPOOL
TS24 0RU

Dear Sirs,

FUNDING AGREEMENT TERMS

I write to formally confirm the terms of the agreement for the provision of Sail Training for vulnerable young people on board the Black Diamond.

By entering into this agreement Sailing North East ("the Company") confirms that:

- Upon receipt of a one off payment of £10,000 it will provide approximately 34 days at sea, on board the Black Diamond for around five young people per day i.e. approximately 170 young people in total;
- The daily charge is £60 per person per day and this includes food and drink on board, accommodation, use of all waterproofs/safety equipment, sailing training instruction, use of equipment and any harbour fees;
- it will endeavour to fulfil these charter obligations within 18 months, although this may be extended into 2022 in the event of unavoidable circumstances such as poor weather conditions and measures necessary to address COVID-19; and
- It is, and will remain coded (licensed) through Marine Engineers Certifying Authority Limited (MECAL) of Plymouth and fulfils their stringent requirements as laid down by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) for Safety of Commercial Sailing Vessels at Sea.

Kindly confirm by return your agreement to the above terms so that arrangements can be made for payment.

Yours faithfully

NEIL WILSON
ASSISTANT CHIEF SOLICITOR

**HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL
COMMUNITY POT - REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

1. CONTACT DETAILS	
Lead Organisation	
Name of Lead Contact Person	
Telephone No. (Lead Contact Person)	
Email (Lead Contact Person)	
Date	

2. DELIVERY PARTNERS <i>(please list below ALL Delivery Partners – add additional rows if needed)</i>

3. PROPOSAL AND FUNDING		
Amount of funding requested (Total £)		
What will this pay for? <i>(Please provide a summary of the proposal in the space below)</i>		
	<i>Please give details of the activities you will deliver and the cost per activity (add additional activities if needed)</i>	Cost (£)
Activity 1.		
Activity 2.		
Activity 3.		
Activity 4.		
TOTAL COST		

4. MEETING THE FUNDING CRITERIA – why should this application be supported?

Please identify how the proposal will meet the following criteria:

- *Evidence of need based on community engagement.*
- *Delivery of interventions that will address hardship arising from COVID19 that is impacting on communities in Hartlepool.*
- *Provides 'additionality' rather than duplicating similar projects or replacing core funding for an ongoing scheme.*
- *Delivery through a collaborative approach across the VCS.*

5. OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES – what benefits will the funding deliver/support?

Please use the space below to identify outputs/outcomes to be achieved. What does successful delivery look like including any performance measures?

6. SUSTAINABILITY / EXIT STRATEGY *(Please provide information on how this project will deliver benefits beyond the lifetime of the funds)***7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Please confirm that you will work with Hartlepool Borough Council as required, to monitor and report on the delivery of the activity this funding will support, the impact of the activity and the outcomes it delivers.

YES

NO

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30 November 2020



Report of: Chief Solicitor

Subject: CORPORATE PROCUREMENT QUARTERLY
REPORT ON CONTRACTS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

- 1.1 For information only in accordance with the Council's Contract procedure Rules within the Constitution.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To satisfy the requirements of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules with regard to the Finance and Policy Committee:
- Receiving and examining quarterly reports on the outcome of contract letting procedures including those where the lowest/highest price is not payable/receivable.
 - Receiving and examining reports on any exemptions granted in respect of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.

3. BACKGROUND

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

Section of Contract Procedure Rules		Information to be reported
Introduction	Para 8 iii & Para 8 vi	Outcome of contract letting procedures

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

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

4. INFORMATION FOR REVIEW

4.1 Tender information

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

4.2 Exemption information

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

4.3 Commercial / Confidential information

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

This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, Appendix C.

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

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

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 No consultation required. Report for information only.

9. CHILD AND FAMILY POVERTY

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

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

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

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

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

12. STAFF CONSIDERATIONS

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

13. ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

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

14. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

15. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1 There are no background papers.

17. CONTACT OFFICER

- 17.1 Hayley Martin
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TS24 8AY
Email Hayley.martin@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523002

Sign Off:-

Chief Executive

☒
☒

Director of Resources and Development

Chief Solicitor



Tender Information

Date of Contract Award	Contract Name and Reference Number	Description of Goods / Services being procured	Duration of Contract (optional extensions in brackets)	Department / Service area procuring the goods / services	Details of Companies invited including location	Details of Bids received	Basis of award decision if not lowest/highest price payable / receivable	Outcome of contract letting procedures	Previous Provider / Location
17 07 20	DFG 5308 DN 479775	3 local companies invited to quote to build a ground floor extension for a residential property	N/A	C&A	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool North East Site Services Limited, Middlesbrough Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool North East Site Services Limited, Middlesbrough Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	100% Price	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool	N/A
27 07 20	A689 Wynyard Roundabout Signalisation DN487873	Companies on HBC SLC for Highways were invited to submit a price for the the construction of a new shared footway/cycle route linking the Wynd to the Meadows with controlled crossings on the A689.	14 weeks	R&N	BAM Ritchies, Glasgow ESH Construction Ltd, Bowburn Durham Hall Construction Services Ltd, Rushyford, Durham Rainton Construction Services Ltd Durham Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd, Hartlepool	Hall Construction Services Ltd, Rushyford, Durham Rainton Construction Services Ltd Durham Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd, Hartlepool	100% Price	Rainton Construction Services Ltd Durham	N/A

31 07 20	Car Park re-surfacing at Throston Primary School DN 487373	3 companies invited to tender for the resurfacing of the school car park with some additional provisional footpath items which will be cost dependent	4 weeks	R&N	Cleveland Land Services, Guisborough Dawson Landscapes Ltd Hartlepool Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd, Hartlepool	Cleveland Land Services, Guisborough Dawson Landscapes Ltd Hartlepool Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd, Hartlepool	100% Price and subject passing Selection Questionnaire	Seymour Civil Engineering Contractors Ltd, Hartlepool	N/A
17 09 20	Food Membership Scheme DN 489828	The aim of the service is to provide a community-led membership scheme to provide access to low cost, nutritious food.	12 months	C&A	The Bread and Butter Company, Manchester	The Bread and Butter Company, Manchester	100% Quality	The Bread and Butter Company, Manchester	N/A
21 09 20	DFG 5379 DN 490015	3 local companies invited to quote to build a ground floor extension for a residential property	N/A	C&A	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool North East Site Services Limited, Middlesbrough Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	100% Price	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool	N/A
06 10 20	70 Seater Coach DN 500615	Direct award using TPPL Framework Bath and north East Somerset Council – Lot 7	N/A	R&N	Alexander Dennis Limited (Plaxton Limited) Scarborough	Alexander Dennis Limited (Plaxton Limited) Scarborough	100% Price	Alexander Dennis Limited (Plaxton Limited) Scarborough	N/A
07 10 20	Trade Refuse Collection Vehicle DN 500908	28 companies invited using the NEPO HGV Specialist Vehicle	N/A	R&N	Various Suppliers	Farid Hillend Engineering Limited, Dunfermline	50% Quality 50% Price	Farid Hillend Engineering Limited, Dunfermline	N/A

		Framework NEPO 224							
22 10 20	DFG 5416 DN 501934	3 local companies invited to quote to build a ground floor extension for a residential property	N/A	C&A	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool North East Site Services Limited, Middlesbrough Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	HES Group UK Limited, Hartlepool Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	100% Price	Paul Proudlock, Hartlepool	N/A
30 10 20	Kubota Tractors DN 505387	Direct award using the NEPO Grounds Maintenance & Plant Equipment Framework including Handheld Tools – Reference Number 2018/S 168-382442	N/A	R&N	Lloyds Limited, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	Lloyds Limited, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	100% Price	Lloyds Limited, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	N/A

Procurements Exempted from Council Contract Procedure Rules

Exemption Information

Dept.	Service Unit	Company Name	Company based at	Duration	Description	Approval
R&N	Transport & Infrastructure	Groundwater Dynamics Ltd	Cubbington, Leamington Spa	20.07.2020 – 31.12.2020	Phase 2 drainage solutions at Stranton Cemetery GWD are the sole provider of this patented solution.	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 23.07.20
R&N	Building, Design & Construction	Ventro Ltd	Plymouth	August 2020 – September 2020 subject to access	Detailed surveys by an accredited company to identify the extent of work required and the associated cost to 5 Primary Schools following Fire Risk Assessments. Due to the restrictions of Covid-19 and the urgency of the work.	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 23.07.20
Adult & Community Based Services	Preventative & Community Based Services	Alliance Leisure (TA6)	Bridgewater, Somerset	27.07.2020 – 30.11.2020	The delivery of bespoke Covid-19 remobilisation campaign support materials and assets and the production of 'welcome back' customer videos for leisure and community services and facilities	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 27.07.20
R&N	Building, Design & Construction	A19 Pools & Spas	Peterlee	August 2020 – September 2020	Replacement of the existing spa pool at Springwell Special School with a bespoke pool to improve access and flexibility	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 01 08 20
R&N	Building, Design & Construction	Guy Rawlinson Landscape Architecture (GRLA)	Wolsingham. County Durham	August 2020 – April 2021	To continue to provide the primary advice to the Local Planning Authority as a statutory consultee until the post can be filled	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 12 08 20
Adult & Community	Joint Commissioning	Brain in Hand	Exeter	01.09.2020 – 31.08.2020	12 Month Pilot to explore the use of digital technology as a means to reducing anxiety and stress for adults.	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris

Based Services						Little & Hayley Martin on 24.08.20
Public Health	Joint Commissioning	Baltimore Consulting	Bristol	05.10.202 – 05.01.2021	Due to the current situation with increasing COVID cases there is a requirement for additional public health analyst capacity	Request Approved by Sally Robinson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 07 10 20
Adult & Community Based Services	Community & Preventative Based Services	Tesco Mobile	TBC	TBC	Purchase of Sim Cards to provide connectivity to vulnerable adults in the community who can no longer attend day services due to restrictions on gathering s as a result of Covid-19	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 12 10 20

Extension Information

Dept.	Service Unit	Company Name	Company based at	Duration	Description	Approval
R&N	Engineering, Design & Management	Tarmac Birtley Contracting	Birtley, Chester-le-Street	20.06.2020 – 19.06.21	Extension of existing HBC Framework for the Provision of Highway Resurfacing Work with Cold Planning and Ancillary Works	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 21 07 20
R&N	Hartlepool Community Safety Team	Belle Vue Community Sports & Youth Centre	Hartlepool	13.07.20 – 31.03.21	Extension of existing contract for Targeted Youth Outreach Service. Due to Covid-19 lockdown not possible for tender process to occur	Request Approved by Tony Hanson, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 06 08 20
Adults & Community Based Services	Joint Commissioning Services	Hospital of God	Hartlepool	01.09.20 – 31.08.21	Extension of existing contract for Dementia Advisory Service. Due to Covid-19 not appropriate to re-tender.	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 24 08 20
Adults & Community Based Services	Joint Commissioning Services	Penderels Trust Ltd	Coventry	21.10.2020 – 20.10.2021	Extension of existing contract for a Direct Payment Support Service for a further 12 months due to Covid-19	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 24 08 20
Adults & Community Based Services	Joint Commissioning Services	Incontrol-able CIC	Hartlepool	01.10.2020 – 30.09.2023	Extension of existing contract for Advocacy under Article 19 of the Procurement Directive 2004/18/EC	Request Approved by Jill Harrison, Chris Little & Hayley Martin on 16 09 20

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

30th November 2020



Report of: Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services

Subject: DRY RECYCLING CONTRACT: EXAMINATION OF FUTURE OPTIONS

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

1.1 Paper for information.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

2.1. Committee is being asked to note the requirement to tender for the dry recyclable contract.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1. The Council's current kerbside collection method is co-mingled glass, paper, cardboard, plastic, metals all in one bin, which is an extremely safe and cost effective collection method.

3.2. The contract for sorting, processing and sale to end markets of the Council's kerbside collected dry recyclable materials is currently with Palm Recycling Limited.

3.3. This contract was initially for three years, with an additional two one year extensions and we are currently in the first of those, which expires at the end of March 2021, as we agreed an extension in December 2019 for this with Palm Recycling Limited.

3.4. Discussions have taken place with Palm Recycling Limited to extend the contract into its final year, however due to the implications of Covid and their move to a new business model in dealing with recyclable materials, it is unlikely that an agreement will be reached.

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1. It is proposed that a new dry recycling contract for the 'sorting, processing and sale of the Council's dry recycling materials' be procured based on the co-mingled arrangements currently in place, which will require a new tender process to be carried out.
- 4.2. A copy of the draft tender documents can be found in Confidential **Appendix 1. This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, para 3) information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).**

5. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The existing contractor has indicated that the possibility of mutually agreeing one further and final 12 month extension period to the existing co-mingled contractual agreement is not likely. This stance is influenced by the higher processing costs they are now incurring and lower market returns for poorer quality comingled input materials.
- 5.2. The Council need to commence a procurement process to appoint a new contractor to sort, process and sell the Council's dry recycling materials to ensure that the new contract arrangements are in place for when the existing contract ends, as failure to secure this new partner will leave the Council with no means to dispose of it collected recyclable materials.

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1. Owing to the low resale value of the recycled co-mingled material, it is anticipated that costs will increase through this tender process, compared with the existing contract arrangements.
- 6.2. The outcome of the tender process and the appointment of the new contractor will be reported to Finance and Policy committee in line with the Constitution.

7. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 Based on the negotiations with the existing contractor, it is anticipated that the contract will not be extended past 31st March 2021.
- 7.2 Regardless of this, the current contract is unable to go beyond 31st March 2022 due to the contract expiry on this date.

8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consultation	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 Considerations	No relevant Issues
Staff Considerations	No relevant Issues
Asset Management Considerations	No relevant Issues

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 It is recommended that committee notes the requirement for a new dry recycling contract for the 'sorting, processing and sale of the Council's dry recycling materials' which will be undertaken under a co-mingled arrangement.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 The 'sorting, processing and sale to end markets contract for dry recycling materials' is currently in the first (of two possible one year extensions) which is due to expire on 31st March 2021. Therefore a new contract needs to be established to maintain service delivery.

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 11.1 None.

12. CONTACT OFFICERS

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Sign Off:-

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