

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

5 OCTOBER 2023

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

Present:

Councillor: Sue Little (In the Chair)

Councillors: Brian Cowie, Rob Darby, Karen Oliver and Carole Thompson.

Officers: Tony Hanson, Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services
Kieran Bostock, Assistant Director, Place Management
Sylvia Pinkney, Assistant Director, Regulatory Services
Jane Kett, Environmental Health Manager
Gemma Jones, Scrutiny Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Democratic Services Team

10. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Helen Howson and Shane Moore.

11. Declarations of Interest

None

12. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2023

Received.

13. Minutes of the meeting of the Emergency Planning Joint Committee held on 18 July 2023

Received.

14. Local Transport Plan Scheme Update (*Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services)*)

Type of decision

Budget and Policy Framework. Forward Plan Ref No. NRS07/23

Purpose of report

To seek approval for a delivery programme of safety schemes across the Borough for financial year 2023/2024.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services reported that the Committee approved the Local Transport Plan (LTP for 2023/24 at committee on 13th March 2023. That report identified the allocated budget for Local Safety and Safer Routes to School schemes for 2023/24. The report before Committee set out the proposed local safety schemes for 2023/24 following assessment of the schemes proposed and the reported accident figures.

Two Schemes – Jesmond Road / Jesmond Gardens and West View Road (Brus Roundabout / Cleveland Road) were proposed and the two schemes were briefly set out in the report. The Assistant Director stated that the schemes estimates totalled approximately £140,000 and would be funded from the Council's Local Transport Plan. Should any savings be realised during delivery of the two schemes, then a further scheme(s) may be brought forward from the list in Appendix 1 to the report.

Members supported the schemes but requested that future reports setting out similar proposals include some plans / drawing showing the proposals. Members also questioned the consultation following this report, rather than preceding it. The Assistant Director stated that once the budget was set in March, then officers reviewed the list of required/proposed schemes and develop solutions for those that had scored the highest in relation to serious accidents. Once there was a proposal to consult upon and that had been approved by this Committee, then ward councillors and local residents would be consulted.

A Member questioned schemes for safer routes to schools and the Assistant Director stated that proposals for Safer Routes to Schools funding were part of a separate fund and not drawn from the LTP safety schemes budget.

There was no dissent to the following recommendations.

Decision

1. That the continuation of the oversubscribed Local Transport Plan budget and the requirement for prioritisation be noted.
2. The Committee noted that the list proposed was 'live' and further scheme(s) may be deliverable should savings within the 2023/24 programme be identified.

3. That the proposed safety scheme programme for 2023/24 Jesmond Road / Jesmond Gardens and West View Road (Brus Roundabout / Cleveland Road) be approved; and
4. That any changes to the proposed programme be delegated to the Executive Director of Development, Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services, in consultation with the Chair of Neighbourhood Services Committee.

15. Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO's) (*Assistant Director (Regulatory Services)*)

Type of decision

Key Decision – General Exception Applies.

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the renewal for Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) already in place relating to dog control orders and gating orders.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported that the existing PSPO's in Hartlepool were due to expire shortly and it was necessary to renew those Orders. Consultation on the proposed extension of the existing orders had met overriding support from the public with 47 responses from the public having been received.

Members noted the dog control orders limited people to only walking 4 dogs on leads and questioned if this had proved restrictive for professional dog walkers. The Assistant Director stated that the four dog restriction had been in place for the past three years and had been based on the general consensus at the time of how many dogs could be reasonably controlled.

A Member questioned if there was budget allocation for the repair of alley gates in general. The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services stated that there was no specific budget and costs would be met from the general highways budget.

There was no dissent to the following decision.

Decision

That the renewal of all existing Public Space Protection Orders, as detailed in this report, be approved.

16. Gladstone Street, Broad Field Road, Ibbetson Street and Beaconsfield Street Proposed Yellow Lines
(Assistant Director (Neighbourhood Services))

Type of decision

Non-key Decision.

Purpose of report

To seek approval for the implementation of double yellow lines, and report objections, following the advertisement of the Traffic Regulation Order in line with the Council's constitution.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Neighbourhood Services reported that concerns had been raised by Hartlepool Borough Council's Refuse Collection team with regards to access at various junctions around Gladstone Street, Broad Field Road, Ibbetson Street and Beaconsfield Street. Parking within the back streets and on the front street close to their entrance points has led to collections being missed on a number of occasions, leading to complaints from residents.

It was proposed to implement double yellow lines at various junctions in the area where problems had been identified by the Refuse Collection service. These were shown on a plan attached to the report. The proposed restrictions had been kept to a minimum as it was acknowledged that there was a high demand for parking due to the terraced nature of the streets. The restrictions needed to extend into the main street to allow refuse collection vehicles sufficient space to manoeuvre in and out of the back streets.

Members acknowledged there were issues in the area though asked if consideration had been given to using the smaller refuse collection vehicle. The Assistant Director indicated that the capacity of the vehicle was much lower than the main collection wagons and it would therefore need to undertake several more trips and be a very inefficient use of the crew and vehicle.

Decision

That the implementation of double yellow lines at various junctions around Gladstone Street, Broad Field Road, Ibbetson Street and Beaconsfield Street, as reported, be approved.

17. Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2023 24 (*Assistant Director (Regulatory Services)*)

Type of decision

Non-key Decision.

Purpose of report

To approve the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan for 2023/24.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported on the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan for 2023/2024 which complied with statutory guidance requirements. The Plan detailed the Service's priorities for 2023/24 and beyond where appropriate and also highlighted how those priorities will be addressed. The document also showed recent performance and the Assistant Director highlighted that the plan for 2023/2024 was the first return to 'normal' working after the Covid-19 pandemic.

There was no dissent to the following decision.

Decision

That the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan for 2023/24 be approved.

18. Health and Safety Service Plan 2023-24 (*Assistant Director (Regulatory Services)*)

Type of decision

Non-key Decision.

Purpose of report

To approve the Health and Safety Service Plan for 2023-24, which was a requirement under Section 18 of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

Issue(s) for consideration

The Assistant Director, Regulatory Services reported on the Health and Safety Enforcement Service Plan for 2023-2024 which complied with statutory guidance requirements. The Plan detailed the Service's priorities for 2023/24 and beyond where appropriate and also highlighted how those priorities will be addressed. The Service Plan for 2023-24 had been updated to reflect last year's performance and changes in service demand.

There was no dissent to the following decision.

Decision

That the Health and Safety Service Plan for 2023-24 be approved.

19. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The Chair highlighted that the next meeting scheduled for 6 November had been cancelled.

The meeting concluded at 11.30 am

H MARTIN

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL, GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

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