

# Public Document Pack

**Date of meeting**      **Wednesday, 8th June, 2016**  
**Time**                    **6.00 pm**  
**Venue**                    **Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Merial Street,  
Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG**  
**Contact**                 **Geoff Durham**

## **Cabinet**

### **AGENDA**

#### **PART 1 – OPEN AGENDA**

- 1      Apologies**
- 2      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items included in the agenda.
- 3      MINUTES** **(Pages 3 - 6)**  
To consider the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4      Appropriation of property for Planning purposes: Development sites (i) former St Giles' and St George's School, Barracks Road (ii) Ryecroft** **(Pages 7 - 14)**
- 5      Locality Action Partnerships - Further Development** **(Pages 15 - 58)**
- 6      Newcastle-under-Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-2021** **(Pages 59 - 64)**
- 7      Newcastle-under-Lyme Homelessness Strategy 2016-2021** **(Pages 65 - 70)**
- 8      URGENT BUSINESS**  
To consider any business which is urgent within the meaning of Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 9      DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION**  
To resolve that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the attached report, because it is likely that there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 10     Application to Exhume** **(Pages 71 - 74)**
- 11     ATTENDANCE AT CABINET MEETINGS**

**Councillor attendance at Cabinet meetings:**

- (1) The Chair or spokesperson of the Council's scrutiny committees and the mover of any motion referred to Cabinet shall be entitled to attend any formal public meeting of Cabinet to speak.
- (2) Other persons including non-executive members of the Council may speak at such meetings with the permission of the Chair of the Cabinet.

**Public attendance at Cabinet meetings:**

- (1) If a member of the public wishes to ask a question(s) at a meeting of Cabinet, they should serve two clear days' notice in writing of any such question(s) to the appropriate committee officer.
- (2) The Council Leader as Chair of Cabinet is given the discretion to waive the above deadline and assess the permissibility if the question(s). The Chair's decision will be final.
- (3) The maximum limit is three public questions at any one Cabinet meeting.
- (4) A maximum limit of three minutes is provided for each person to ask an initial question or make an initial statement to the Cabinet.
- (5) Any questions deemed to be repetitious or vexatious will be disallowed at the discretion of the Chair.

**Members:** Councillors Beech, Kearon, Turner (Vice-Chair), Williams, Shenton (Chair) and Rout

**PLEASE NOTE: The Council Chamber and Committee Room 1 are fitted with a loop system. In addition, there is a volume button on the base of the microphones. A portable loop system is available for all other rooms. Should you require this service, please contact Member Services during the afternoon prior to the meeting.**

**Members of the Council: If you identify any personal training/development requirements from any of the items included in this agenda or through issues raised during the meeting, please bring them to the attention of the Democratic Services Officer at the close of the meeting.**

**Meeting Quorums :- 16+= 5 Members; 10-15=4 Members; 5-9=3 Members; 5 or less = 2 Members.**

**FIELD\_TITLE**

Officers will be in attendance prior to the meeting for informal discussions on agenda items.

## CABINET

Wednesday, 16th March, 2016

**Present:-** Councillor Elizabeth Shenton – in the Chair

Councillors Beech, Kearon, Turner, Williams and Rout

### 1. MINUTES

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 February, 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest stated.

### 3. RECYCLING AND WASTE STRATEGY PROCUREMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to Cabinet advising members of the outcome of a number of procurement projects required in preparation for the commencement of the new Recycling and Waste Service in July, 2016.

Tendering processes had taken place for a number of major equipment and infrastructure capital works as outlined in the report.

Members were advised that the treatment of green waste would be provided for the next four years by Veolia ES Ltd, the contract value being £966,000. The treatment and transportation of food waste will be provided for the next four years by Biffa Waste Services Ltd with a contract value of £144,000.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance, IT and Customer, Councillor Turner thanked everyone who had been involved in the process and advised Members that part of the service had now been brought back 'in-house'.

Councillor Turner raised a query regarding which plastics were acceptable for recycling and requested that it be made clearer to everyone which were and were not acceptable.

The Chair also thanked everyone involved, including the Cabinet Panel and the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the outcomes of the procurement processes be noted.
- (ii) That a further report on the progress with the overall Recycling and Waste Service change project be presented at the June 2016 meeting.

### 4. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A report was presented to Cabinet advising Members of potential resource implications of supporting neighbourhood planning. Members' attention was brought to paragraph 2.12, of the report, which outlined the possible benefits of providing

an additional member of staff and paragraph 3.1 which proposed the creation of a Neighbourhood Planning Officer post of the report.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That a temporary part time post at Grade 9 (Current Senior Planning Officer) level be created and recruited to and that continuation of such arrangements at the end of each financial year be dependent upon the continuation of the current grant or other such external funding arrangements.
  - (ii) That in the event that Government funding is not continued then officers' report back on the alternative options for supporting neighbourhood planning, as may be required.

## 5. **THE NORTHERN GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT ZONE INITIATIVE AND HS2**

A report was submitted to Cabinet updating Members on HS2 rail developments that were announced in the Autumn Statement and on progress with the Northern Gateway Development Zone initiative.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the emerging position with regard to the Northern Gateway Development Zone be noted and it be agreed to continue participating in the initiative.
  - (ii) That officers report back to Cabinet with any necessary information with regard to the NGDZ's emerging Growth Strategy.
  - (iii) That it be noted that officers have taken the necessary steps to observe the practical implications of the Government's Safeguarding Directions for Phase Two of High Speed Two and that they provide necessary information to ward councillors in this regard.

## 6. **NEWCASTLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: YEAR FOUR REVIEW AND YEAR FIVE ACTION PLAN.**

A report was submitted to Cabinet reviewing the progress made in taking forward the Borough's Economic Development Strategy and to consider the proposed actions for Year Five which would be the final year of the Action Plan.

Members were advised that the draft action plan would be considered by the Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee on 23 March, 2016. The Cabinet agreed to the overall Action Plan subject to any amendments /recommendations made by the Scrutiny Committee. The Executive Director for Regeneration and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Policy, People and Partnership would be authorised to make any amendments.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the review of the Economic Development Strategy Year Four Action Plan be noted and that the Year Five Action Plan be considered by the Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
  - (ii) That the Executive Director for Regeneration and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Policy People and Partnership be authorised to make any amendments following

the recommendations of the Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**7. GOLD STANDARD FOR HOMELESSNESS**

A report was submitted to Cabinet advising members on the national Gold Standard for Homelessness Services. The Standard helps Councils to learn from each other to deliver the best possible service.

Appended to the report were ten Gold Standard Challenges set out by the Ministerial Working Group on Homelessness.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the Council participates in the Gold Standard Peer Review process and that senior officers of the Council and relevant elected members make themselves available to discuss Newcastle's Housing Advice and Homelessness service when the review process commences.
  - (ii) That officers report back the outcome of the Peer Review process to Cabinet in the context of the Housing and Homelessness Strategies action plans.

**8. CCTV MONITORING PROVISION.**

A report was submitted to the Cabinet outlining the current position regarding the monitoring of the CCTV service in the town centre. Members were requested to make a decision on the forthcoming award of contract in this regard.

- Resolved:**
- (i) That the Executive Director for Regeneration and Development in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Safer Communities be authorised to award the contract for the paid monitoring of the core CCTV service to the company submitting the best tender.
  - (ii) To ask officers to report back, as may be necessary, on the outcome of partner discussions for the volunteer management of the additional CCTV monitoring.

**9. IRRECOVERABLE ITEMS**

A report was submitted to Cabinet asking Members to consider items which had been deemed irrecoverable.

- Resolved:** That the items detailed at Appendix A of the agenda report be considered irrecoverable for the reasons stated and be written off.

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

As this was the final meeting of the Municipal Year, the Chair thanked the Cabinet Members and officers for their support throughout the year.

- Resolved:** That the comment be noted.

**COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH SHENTON**

**Chair**

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE**  
**CABINET**

**Date : 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Report Title:**                   **Appropriation of property for Planning Purposes:  
Development sites at:-  
(i) the former St Giles & St Georges school, Barracks Road and;  
(ii) land at Ryecroft, including the former Sainsbury's and the  
current Civic Offices.**

**Submitted by:**                   **Executive Director Regeneration & Development**

**Portfolio:**                       **Planning and Assets**

**Ward(s) affected:**               **Town**

**Purpose of the Report**

To ensure that these development sites, which were declared as surplus (Council 23/09/2015) are held for planning purposes under S.237 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

**Recommendation**

**That Cabinet authorises all property within the red line boundaries on plan 1 and plan 2 be appropriated, in accordance with section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), from use for commercial purposes to use for planning purposes under S.237 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).**

**Reasons**

The effect of the appropriation(s) will be to make any third party interests that might exist, subject to compensation only and prevent any injunction being sought that could delay the redevelopments from proceeding.

**1.     Background**

- 1.1     At its meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 Council authorised that these two sites (identified edged red on plans no.s 1 & 2 herewith) be released for redevelopment; in the case of the former St Giles & St Georges School, for the purpose of constructing a new partnership hub and in the case of the Ryecroft site, a mixed use retail-led redevelopment.
- 1.2     The acquiring organisations' solicitors have since asked for confirmation that the properties are held for planning purposes, owing to them having both concerns that there may possibly be third party interest(s) in the land which, if exercised, could potentially give the third party an opportunity to seek an injunction to preserve a right, (e.g. an easement) the consequence of which would be to delay or prevent development.

1.3 It is usual for local authorities to allocate (i.e. 'hold') property for specific purposes under different statutory powers and the appropriation of property (land and buildings) refers to the process whereby a council alters the purpose for which it is held.

## 2. **Issues**

2.1 If any third party were able to establish that it had a right over property, e.g. an easement, then the consequence of this could be delay, or to even prevent development proceeding.

2.2 Your officers are advised that the possibility of delay and uncertainty over the existence of third party interests being claimed can be resolved if the land is appropriated (using powers under S122 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)) from use for commercial purposes to use for planning purposes, in particular those purposes set out under S.237 of the Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990 (as amended). Any third party beneficiaries of such rights may claim compensation (equal to the loss in value of their property caused by losing the right) but would be unable to seek an injunction to delay or terminate the development.

2.3 Cabinet is advised that Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) provides that a council may appropriate land from one purpose (in this case, commercial) to another (planning) if the land is no longer required for the purpose for which it is held.

2.4 Provided that the land is validly appropriated for planning purposes, then under section 237 of the TCPA 1990 (power to override easements and other rights) the erection, construction or carrying out or maintenance of any building or work on the land is authorised if it is done in accordance with planning permission, despite the fact that it may interfere with certain private rights such as restrictive covenants and easements.

2.5 Appropriations of land are an executive function under the Local Government Act 2000 and so any decision to appropriate land has to be taken by the Cabinet (in the case of this Council).

2.6 If, having appropriated the land for planning purposes, the council transfers that land to another party (i.e. as in the case of the new Hub development), that other party will benefit from being able to override third party rights that may arise during construction work. This is important because it gives them certainty that the work will not be stopped as a result of a third party seeking an injunction from the court. Such an injunction could delay the construction project and give rise to considerable additional financial costs.

2.7 Prior to developing land it is prudent to make enquiries of what rights might exist over it. This involves inspecting the land to see if there are any obvious rights and checking land ownership information. However, some rights may not be apparent from inspection and historic rights may not always be recorded at the Land Registry or Land Charges Registry.

2.8 The council has no record of any third party rights affecting the property and has not, to this date, been made aware that any party might have acquired any rights over the property although this possibility cannot be ruled out. The application of Section 237 of TCPA 1990 (as amended) therefore mitigates the risk of there being unknown interests.

2.9 Appropriation of the property will ensure that any scheme for which planning permission has been granted will not be prevented from proceeding.



### 3. **Options Considered**

- 3.1 To appropriate the property(s) to S.237 TCPA 1990 (as amended) will convert any private rights claimed by a third party into a claim for compensation.
- 3.2 If the property(s) is not appropriated to S.237 TCPA 1990 then if a third party were to make and substantiate a claim for rights over the property, it could have potentially serious and detrimental consequences for its redevelopment, causing either delay or even preventing it from taking place.

### 4. **Proposal and Reasons for Preferred Solution**

- 4.1 Appropriation for planning purposes will facilitate the carrying out of development that is likely to contribute to the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area.

### 5. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 The potential development of these two sites for the purposes described would contribute positively to the corporate priority of “Borough of opportunity”.

### 6. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 6.1 There are no legal or statutory implications arising directly from this report.

### 7. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 7.1 It is considered that this report does not raise issues which require an Equality Impact Assessment.

### 8. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 8.1 If a third party were to prove it had an interest in the property, then the Council is liable to compensate for its loss.

### 9. **Major Risks**

- 9.1 Costs and reputational damage of delay or even prevention of development(s) proceeding if a third party right were substantiated.

### 10. **Key Decision Information**

- 10.1 The content of this report is not considered as such.

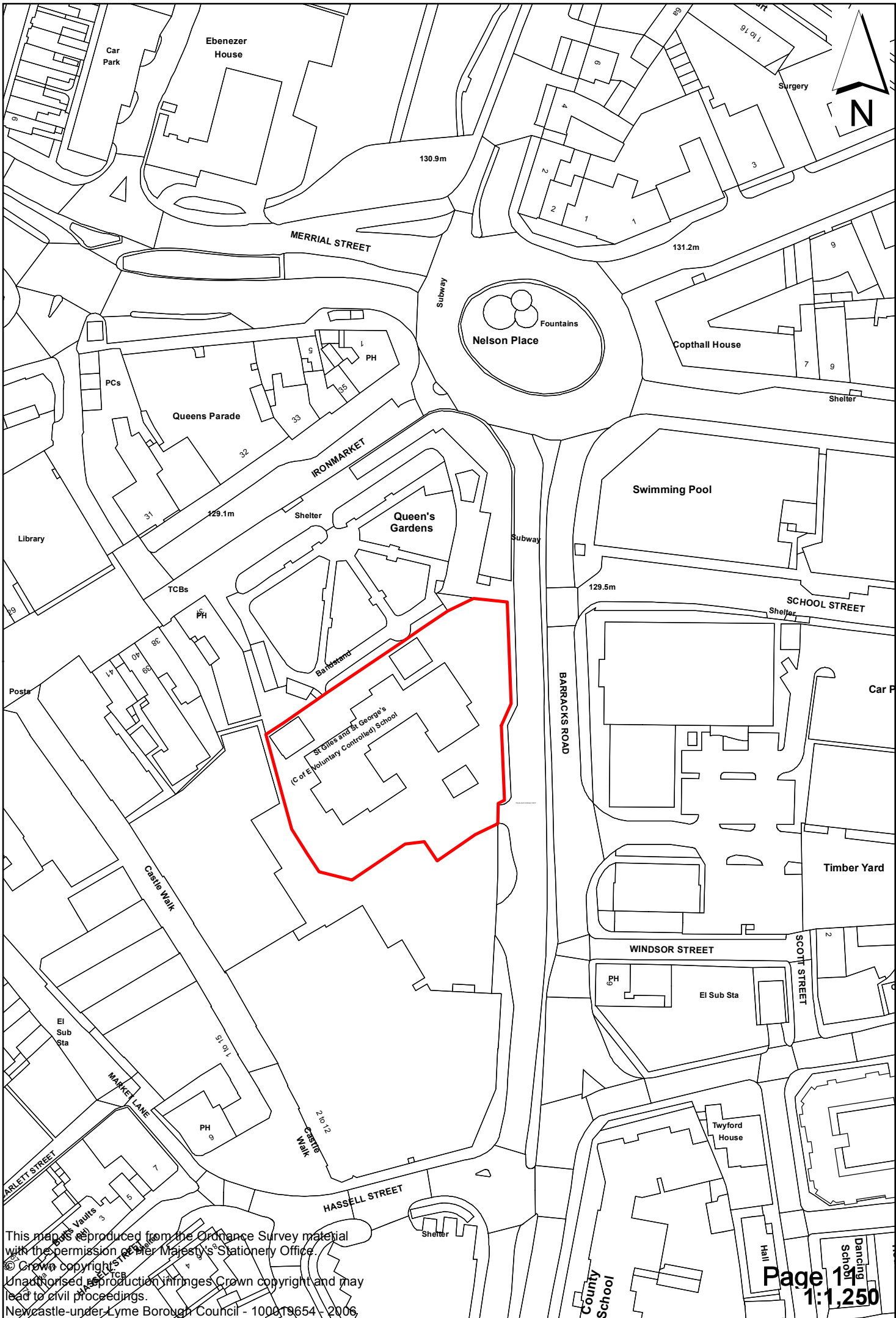
### 11. **Appendices**

- 11.1 Appendix A – plans showing the subject sites.

### 12. **Background papers**

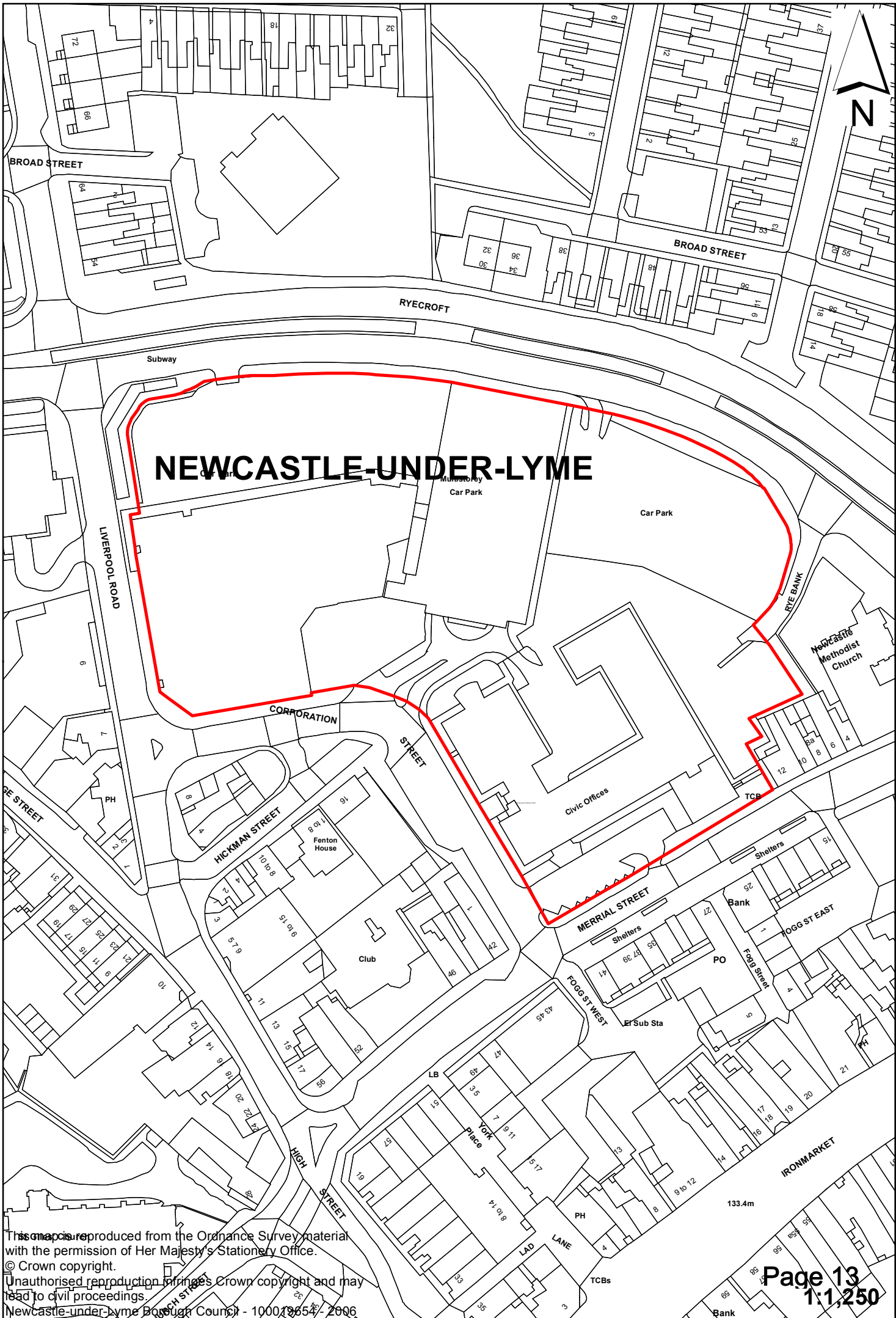
- 12.1 Report to Council entitled ‘Proposed Newcastle-under-Lyme Public Sector Hub dated 23 September 2015.
- 12.2 Report to LPA Committee entitled Former St Giles and St Georges Primary School, Barracks Road dated 05 January 2016.

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# NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

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## NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT TO CABINET PANEL

29<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

**Title:** Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) – further development

**Submitted by:** Sarah Moore – Partnerships Manager

**Portfolios:** Policy, People and Partnerships  
Leisure, Culture and Localism

**Ward(s) affected:** All

#### **Purpose of the Report**

The report presents, following a previous report to Cabinet in March 2015 and subsequent debate at full Council, progress reports from each of the nine Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs), highlighting their achievements and outcomes, both financially and by the delivery of added value initiatives and partnerships, during the last twelve months in relation to the three key strategic themes prioritised by the Borough Council and its partners, namely:

- Health and Well-being
- Economic Development
- Stronger and Safer Communities

To seek Cabinet approval via the Cabinet Panel for the Council's ongoing support to assist in the further development of the LAPs in the nine localities across the Borough.

#### **Recommendations**

The report recommends that Cabinet:

- Acknowledges and endorses the progress reports produced by each of the nine Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs), which highlights their achievements during the last twelve months – Appendix A.
- Continues to support the work of the LAPs in the nine localities across the Borough and assists in enabling them to continue to contribute to the delivery of the Council's Co-operative Strategy through further development
- Encourages Council departments to proactively use the LAPs for consultation purposes, making information packs available to be disseminated to the groups and the wider community
- Provides feedback to the LAPs of the findings of the Cabinet Panel and encourages a dialogue to ascertain shared benefits of partnership working between the Council and the LAPs.

This report also recommends that the LAPs are supported and assisted to;

- proactively engage and continue to encourage new partnerships for the benefits of locality working in the Borough;
- continue to share information, disseminate good practice and raise awareness of activity;
- report further progress and activities back to Cabinet in 12 months time to review achievements and areas for improvement.

**Reasons**

One of the Council's key corporate priorities is becoming a co-operative council. A key element of co-operative working is focused on locality working – recognising diversity of the Borough's different localities and working with these communities in understanding their needs and issues and developing solutions to address these needs and deliver practical solutions. In order to deliver this priority it is necessary to ensure that the Borough's nine Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) are supported to work effectively to facilitate local performance and delivery.

**1. Background**

- 1.1 Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council has committed to, as one of its four corporate priorities, becoming a co-operative council and wants to work with partners towards making Newcastle-under-Lyme a co-operative Borough.
- 1.2 The Co-operative Strategy outlines the community leadership role for the Borough Council, working with other agencies and communities to deliver change and to ensure that people are able to influence issues, priorities and activities in their localities.
- 1.3 The Council has placed locality working at the heart of its priority to work co-operatively, as locality working empowers communities to develop their own approaches to dealing with issues affecting their own localities and enhances partnership working.
- 1.4 In the Borough, the Newcastle Partnership is the local strategic partnership. The Partnership represents the different sectors in the Borough and plays a vital role in bringing together a range of organisations with a shared purpose through co-operative and co-ordinated joint working that will improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing in the Borough.
- 1.5 Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) represent the Newcastle Partnership's established infrastructure for the delivery of locality working and offer communities access to a range of partners to address and deliver against local needs and priorities. In addition, LAPs assist in community engagement and empowerment and play a part in the achievement of improved community cohesion. There are nine LAPs in the Borough, which are made up of a range of partners from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors with an interest in their local area.
- 1.6 Following a report to Cabinet in October 2014, LAPs were challenged to produce progress reports to highlight their activity over the last 12 months contributing to the strategic priorities for the Borough Council and its partners, which are;
  - Health and Well-being
  - Economic Development
  - Stronger and Safer Communities
- 1.7 It was agreed that the progress reports would be reviewed by the Borough Council towards the end of the 2014/15 and a report would be brought back to Cabinet for consideration. It was also agreed that these reports would form the basis for the contribution to the further development of LAPs on the part of the Borough Council and its' partners in the Newcastle Partnership, including the LAPs future role in the administration of grants such as Community Chest.
- 1.8 The overview report and appendices outlined the considerable progress made by the LAPs over the twelve month period, in terms of formalising their constitutional arrangements and partners support, prioritising local needs through action planning,



reporting on funding bid for and achieved and demonstrating a wealth of best practice and learning established in the period for the benefit of the wider community.

1.9 At a meeting of the Council dated 25th February 2015 it was resolved that;

*“3. That the current expenditure (estimated at £35,000+) on servicing the Local Action Partnerships be reviewed in order to:*

*a) investigate if it is giving value for money,*

*and*

*b) explore alternative ways of operating local community partnerships”.*

1.10 A Cabinet Panel was therefore created and tasked with giving further consideration to the delivery of locality working in the Borough and more specifically the role of Locality Action Partnerships and whether;

- the support offered by the Borough Council assists the Council to meet its' objectives of becoming a Co-operative Council;
- the level of support contributed by the Borough Council in terms of Officer and Member time is appropriate;
- the support contributed by the Borough Council in terms of Officer and Member time is cost effective;
- the support could be delivered in an alternative way to achieve the same results.

1.11 The Cabinet Panel met in December 2015 and were given a presentation by the Partnerships Manager on the role of LAPs in the Borough in relation to locality working. The Scrutiny Panel requested and were given copies of previous LAP Progress papers reported to Cabinet. Members of the Panel were keen to establish views from other partners of the role of the LAPs and it was agreed that a LAP Feedback questionnaire would be distributed to obtain views for further consideration and discussion. Members were also keen to obtain an approximate costing to the Council for support given to the LAPs.

## **2. Issues for consideration**

2.1 A LAP Survey was created and distributed to partners, seeking views of LAPs, their function and effectiveness for delivery in the community. The feedback report from this exercise can be found at Appendix B. In summary, there were 15 respondents from a variety of partner organisations and each of the nine LAPs were represented by respondents.

2.2 The support currently offered to LAPs comes from a variety of partners, including but not limited to Parish, Borough and County Councils (both Officers and elected Members), Staffordshire Police, Staffordshire Fire and Rescue, Housing Associations, the voluntary sector and members of the Community.

2.3 The Borough Council's Partnership Team provide administrative support to the LAPs, via the LAP Co-ordinator. The LAP Co-ordinator is also responsible for the administration of the Borough Council's Community Chest grant funding scheme. Additional support is given to the LAPs by the Partnerships Team and also by a number of other Officers on an ad hoc basis to support with community initiatives. The financial cost to the Borough Council in respect of Officer time in supporting the LAPs is therefore estimated to be £44,593.

2.4 The LAPs offer a variety of benefits to partners because they are able to offer the opportunity for partners to assist in the delivery in key services in the Borough. For

example, Officers are able to use the LAPs as mechanisms for consultation which brings efficiencies for staff time and resources by attending one multi agency forum rather than a number of meetings.

- 2.5 The Council does not contribute any budgets for LAPs, they rely on partners goodwill and achieving external funding for activities, projects and community initiatives.

### **3. Summary of LAPs Progress**

- 3.1 Each of the nine LAPs produced a progress report as requested by the Borough Council, see Appendix A, outlining activities and progress made over the last 12 months.

- 3.2 The key achievements for the LAPs during 2015 can be summarised as;

- All LAPs have had an AGM and confirmed the Chair/Vice Chair and signatory positions/arrangements.
- All of the nine LAPs are now fully constituted with bank accounts.
- £46,692.32 external funding has been brought into the Borough by the LAPs.
- All of the nine LAPs have refreshed their Action Plans, into a consistent format, with actions identified following consultation.
- Two of the LAPs have been administering the Community Chest grants on behalf of the Borough Council via a sub group, in the absence of an alternative Locally Based Body.
- The total number of attendees at LAP meetings during 2015 was 475. These attendances consist of a variety of partners from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors.

- 3.3 It was reported that the following challenges have been encountered;

- Difficulties engaging with the wider community in a number of areas.
- Lack of engagement in a number of areas from health partners.
- Closure of community services/facilities e.g. youth clubs and children centres.
- Misunderstanding or lack of understanding of what LAPs do / unrealistic expectations.
- Limited funding opportunities for some activities.
- Responding to key issues and hotspots.

- 3.4 The LAPs reported the following regarding partnership participation;

- 3.4.1 Strengths identified included;

- Many LAPs reported that they continued to receive support and involvement from key partners such as the Borough Council, County Council, Police, Aspire and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue.
- LAPs reported that they continued to receive and provide support and involvement from Resident Associations, Schools, Councillors, local churches, local businesses.
- LAPs reported improved relationships with and Town and Parish Councils.

- 3.4.2.1 Areas for improvement highlighted;

- Some LAPs reported the need to better engage with local businesses, schools, Councillors, community groups, town and parish councils, doctors surgeries and other health professionals.
- The majority of LAPs reported the need to further improve relationships in the localities with health and other partners, although some progress had been made particularly with dementia projects and older people.

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- The majority of LAPs agreed that more promotion of LAPs was required in their communities to raise the profile of their work.

3.5 It is clear that partnership participation varies in each of the nine localities and there are lessons learned which can be shared between the LAPs to enhance existing partnerships. Further support for the LAPs is required to nurture existing relationships and to instigate new contacts to assist in partnership working e.g. health providers, schools and faith groups but positive progress has been made in a number of localities over the last 12 months.

3.6 The following activities were reported as having have been delivered by the LAPs during 2015;

Name of LAP	Health and Wellbeing	Economic Development	Stronger and Safer
Audley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skate Boarding Equipment at Wereton Road Community Park</li> <li>• Coffee mornings for older people</li> <li>• Fundraising for disabled residents</li> <li>• Annual Christmas Dinner event.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detached Youth workers to village hotspot locations.</li> <li>• Community Safety awareness and inputs in high school</li> <li>• Targeted ASB operations in Audley village</li> <li>• Community litter group</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
Betley, Keele and Madeley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International women's day event.</li> <li>• Annual dog show event and community fun day.</li> <li>• Dementia friendly village project.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upcycle project</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues</li> <li>• Litter picking group.</li> <li>• Initiating activities for young people to prevent ASB using Joint Operations Group (JOG) and community funding.</li> <li>• Home safety devices for vulnerable residents.</li> </ul>
Butt Lane and Talke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden Project</li> <li>• Dementia Project.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clough Hall Skate Park</li> <li>• Ski Slope Parking</li> <li>• Development of Text not delivered project</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
East Newcastle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gating project</li> <li>• Dementia Project</li> <li>• Promotion of CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) charity.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gating Project</li> <li>• Community Fun Day</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
Greater Chesterton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking on a budget</li> <li>• Fairy Jobmother</li> <li>• Fuel Poverty Advice Sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community tool hire</li> <li>• Money Advice Sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Litter picks</li> <li>• Estate walkabouts</li> <li>• Buzz in Fridays project</li> <li>• Community Safety</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range of volunteers' training</li> <li>• Community Newsletter</li> <li>• Community Health event</li> <li>• Love Parks event</li> <li>• Sports Day Chesterton Park</li> <li>• Neighbourhood advice surgeries</li> <li>• Respect group established to plan and co-ordinate range of community events and activities with team of community volunteers.</li> <li>• Handball programme</li> <li>• Christmas event and lantern procession.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fairy Jobmother</li> <li>• Fuel Poverty Advice Sessions</li> <li>• Cooking on a budget</li> <li>• Sponsorship to local community groups via Community Chest and other partners</li> <li>• Credit Union project</li> </ul>	<p>equipment in response to crime hotspots e.g. purse bells, wheelie bin locks and window and door locks for reassurance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halloween disco</li> <li>• Easter eggstraganza</li> <li>• Roman Project</li> <li>• WWI Memorial renovation.</li> <li>• Administration of the Community Chest on behalf of NBC.</li> <li>• Crime sub group establish to respond to Community Safety issues and hotspots in the Community</li> <li>• Responding to community environmental issues</li> <li>• Providing feedback to planning consultations.</li> </ul>
Kidsgrove		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership working with Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birchenwood Barriers</li> <li>• Trubshaw Court disturbances – signs put up (Aspire)</li> <li>• Community Speedwatch (Newchapel RA)</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
Newcastle Rural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Youth Project/Youth bus.</li> <li>• Support for Loggerheads befrienders.</li> <li>• Chit Chat project started for isolated older people</li> <li>• Improved bus timetable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leader programme commenced to link with Rural Deal</li> <li>• Support for community library provision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road safety campaign</li> <li>• Litter reduction projects</li> <li>• Recycling reward scheme.</li> <li>• Information point opened at Loggerheads Community Fire Station</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
Newcastle South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Removal of graffiti</li> <li>• British Sign Language course</li> <li>• Purchase of 'a' boards for displays of community information.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community speed watch project</li> <li>• Range of road safety initiatives with local schools using external funding.</li> <li>• Establishment of new youth group.</li> <li>• Rogue traders project.</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
Partnership of Western Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer fun day</li> <li>• Upcycling project</li> <li>• Cooking on a budget</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loan shark educational programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversionary activities for young people.</li> <li>• Restorative Justice</li> </ul>

	<p>project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation and planning for Ilkley Place Play area refurbishment.</li> <li>• Intergenerational activities with NULC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling project</li> </ul>	<p>Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estate walkabouts</li> <li>• Responding to local community safety and environmental issues.</li> </ul>
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3.6.1 Like the previous year it is clear that the LAPs have had most success with activities focussed around the themes of Health and Wellbeing and Stronger and Safer Communities, which may be attributable to the availability of funding and volunteers to assist in these areas. Another reason may be because of the availability of information through partners, media and formal statistics. A range of small grants are readily available to use to respond to well-being and community safety initiatives and the LAPs are able to influence the inputs and contributions of partners in responding to these community needs.

3.6.2 The challenge of the lack of access to funding for economic development may improve over the coming year due to opportunities with funding being pursued by partners in relation to the financial inclusion agenda, which may present opportunities for the LAPs to explore for the benefit of their residents, particularly for those some of the Borough deprived wards or those in a more rural location with access difficulties. Some of the LAPs are already able to demonstrate success in the delivery of projects which contribute to supporting communities from a financial inclusion perspective e.g. Fairy Jobmother, jobs clubs, credit union outreach, cooking on a budgets projects and there is room for further development in the community.

3.6.3 Although the LAPs have begun to seek and obtain funding to deliver activities in their own right, it is evident that more work can be done. However, in order to access external funding support will be needed to enhance the skills of existing LAP members and to attract new members who are able to contribute effectively. The LAPs need to be encouraged to continue to focus on responding to local needs while becoming more ambitious with obtaining and influencing additional resources at a local level. This will need further support from a range of partners to increase LAPs awareness and confidence for continued improvement and will invariably require Officer input.

3.6.4 It is important to recognise that the LAPs have and continue to evolve and develop at different paces, this is largely attributable to differences in community leadership, partners involvement, appetite and involvement of the community and how local needs are being presented and considered. All of the LAPs have refreshed their action plans for 2016 and beyond, which have been created in a consistent format so that areas of similarity can be brought together for further joint working if appropriate.

3.6.5 Members of LAPs need to be further encouraged to contribute directly to the delivery of practical solutions if further progress can be delivered without further financial investment to support future growth. This may be particularly challenging when many partners are restructuring their resources and future commitment may not be as available because of other workloads and commitments.

**4. Options considered, Proposal and Reason for Preferred Solution**

4.1 This report presents to the Cabinet Panel, the nine LAP progress reports produced by the LAP Chairs to demonstrate their contributions made to partnership working on the key strategic issues of health and well-being; economic development; and developing stronger and safer communities in the Borough.

- 4.2 This report gives two options;
- 4.2.1 Option A – that the Cabinet Panel acknowledges and endorses the progress reports produced by each of the nine Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs), highlighting their achievements during the last twelve months and continues to support the work of the LAPs across the Borough to assist in enabling them to continue to contribute to the delivery of the Council’s Co-operative Strategy (recommended).
- 4.2.2 Option B – that the Cabinet Panel does not endorse the reports and withdraws support for LAPs to continue to develop and deliver in their respective localities. This is not recommended because the Council would not have a mechanism to deliver the Co-operative Council objectives through locality working with communities. This report recommends that a further commitment is made by Cabinet to continue to support the ongoing development of the LAPs, which will enhance consistency for residents and partnership working in the Borough.
- 4.3 This report recommends that the LAPs are supported and assisted to;
- proactively engage and continue to encourage new partnerships for the benefits of locality working in the Borough;
  - continue to share information, disseminate good practice and raise awareness of activity;
  - report further progress and activities back to Cabinet in 12 months time to review achievements and areas for improvement.

**5. Outcomes Linked to Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 The recommendations above contribute to all of the Council’s Corporate Priorities namely; Healthy and Active Communities, a Cleaner, Safer and Sustainable Borough, a Borough of Opportunity and Delivering a Co-operative Council.

**6. Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 6.1 There are no specific legal or statutory implications for consideration within this report.

**7. Equality Impact Assessment**

- 7.1 There are no adverse equality issues identified as arising from this report.

**8. Financial and Resource Implications**

- 8.1 There are no additional specific financial implications or commitments required for the implementation of these recommendations.
- 8.2 There are resource implications for Borough Council Officers and Members as part of their substantive duties who will continue to provide support to contribute to the development of the Locality Action Partnerships in relation to these recommendations. These implications include officer time in both the Partnerships Team and also in other departments across the Borough Council.

**9. Major Risks**

- 9.1 In the event of an adverse decision the Council may be unable to deliver the Corporate Priorities effectively without a mechanism to support the further development of locality working in the Borough.

**10. Key Decision Information**

10.1 This report can be considered key in the following ways: -

- It results in the Borough Council committing existing resources for the function to which the decision relates and;
- It is significant because it affects more than two or more electoral wards in the Borough.

**11. Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

11.1 Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) – further development – March 2015 and accompanying Appendix LAP Progress Report 2015. These papers were previously circulated to members of the Scrutiny Panel, following the first meeting in December 2015.

**12. List of Appendices**

- 12.1 Appendix A – Progress Reports for ;
- Audley LAP
  - Butt Lane and Talke LAP
  - Betley, Keele and Madeley LAP
  - East Newcastle LAP
  - Greater Chesterton LAP
  - Kidsgrove LAP
  - Newcastle Rural LAP
  - Newcastle South LAP
  - Partnership of Western Communities LAP

12.2 Appendix B – Locality Action Partnerships Survey Feedback Report 2015/16.

**13. Background Papers**

13.1 None

<b>Implications included</b>	<b>Head of Service agreed report, signed &amp; dated</b>	<b>Financial Implications signed &amp; dated</b>	<b>Legal &amp; risk implications signed &amp; dated</b>
<b>Financial</b>			
<b>Legal</b>			
<b>Risk</b>			
<b>Director Sign Off</b>			

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## Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) Progress Report - 2015

**Name of LAP:** Greater Audley Locality Action Partnership (LAP).

**Area(s) Covered:** Alsagers Bank; Audley; Bignall End; Halmerend; Miles Green; Scott Hay; and Wood Lane.

**Chair:** Jane Lancaster.

**Vice Chair:** Cllr. A. Beech

**Summary of Key Achievements:** Robust partnership relationships have always been crucial to the achievements of the Greater Audley Locality Action Partnership (LAP). The strong partnership arrangements with Audley Parish Council, Audley Rotary Club and local schools, particularly, Sir Thomas Boughy High School, has been fundamental in the delivery of major projects. The close working relationship with major service providers to the area, Aspire Housing, Staffordshire Police and the Fire & Rescue Service has enhanced these projects, many hosted by Sir Thomas Boughy High School. All these partners have brought professionalism to the projects and their contributions are immeasurable, both individually and collectively. This partnership working has been further enhanced with projects with Children of Audley Association, Audley Health Centre and Audley Patients Participation Group, and the existing group of partners.

Some projects have continued into this year, notably concerns in relation to changes to the delivery of Library and Children's Services, and the regular monthly litter pick, which takes place on the first Friday of each month. The work of the LAP has been recognised by Audley Parish Council who have presented the LAP with the Capewell Naylor Trophy in acknowledgement of its work in the Community.

Cllr Proctor, Leader of Audley Parish Council, and Committee Member of the LAP, represented both organisations, when addressing pupils of Sir Thomas Boughy High School on the subject of vandalism, particularly in relation to damage in play areas. Many pupils expressed their dissatisfaction to the vandalism, at the event, and no pupils from the school were linked to the incidents. On this subject, the Joint Operation Group approved funding for Detached Youth Workers to be deployed in the area to combat the vandalism.

In a joint project with Audley Parish Council and the Children of Audley Residents Association, the LAP was successful in achieving funding of £15,000 to install a Half-Pipe and Skateboarding Ramps at the Wereton Road Community Park. The funding was awarded by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the equipment has been installed, and is well used.

LAP representation is also present on a Working Group with CARA, and officers from Newcastle Borough and Staffordshire County Councils to achieve funding of £55,000 to further enhance Wereton Road Country Park with a BMX Track.

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Lonely residents have been identified, from the area, and regularly attend Sir Thomas Boughey High School for Coffee Mornings, where they are served and entertained by the pupils. The school also staged the Harp of Gold Fund Raising Event in June, 2015, where money was raised to support disabled ex-pupils.

Also in June, 2015, all local schools, the LAP, the Parish Council, and Audley Rotary joined forces to stage litter-picks throughout the Audley area, the project was a great success, with in excess of 100 people participating.

The final event, for the calendar year, was the Annual Christmas Dinner for the vulnerable and elderly of the area, and funding for the event was provided by the Bishop Perrins School in London. The event was hosted by Sir Thomas Boughey High School, and the pupils cooked and served the meal, and provided the musical entertainment afterwards. A Christmas gift was given to all residents present, and with any food left, a hot meal was given to any resident who wanted to take one away with them.

### **Challenges Encountered.**

The major problem that has been encountered during the past year has been the level of anti-social behaviour. The Police, Detached Youth Workers, and the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team have worked tirelessly to resolve this issue, and the LAP has contributed where possible, looking for funding etc. The LAP worked with the Children of Audley Association and the Parish Council to provide diversionary activities to deter anti-social behaviour. In a survey delivered at Sir Thomas Boughey High School the pupils stated that their first preference would be the installation of skate boarding facilities. The LAP were successful in securing £15,000 of funding to provide skate board ramps and a half-pipe from the Proceeds of Crime Fund, provided by the police and Crime Commissioner. The equipment has been installed and is fully operational.

Another project to deter anti-social behaviour was provided by the Parish Council and guided by the Newcastle Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Team, to provide a 'safe' area where young people could gather without fear of being moved on by the Police, and away from the public. This area has now been provided and it is hoped this may result in a reduction of the levels of anti-social behaviour.

Although the LAP was successful in finding funding of £15,000 for the skate board project, attracting funding has become increasingly difficult, as was shown when the LAP was unsuccessful in a bid to provide funding for equipment to maintain closed churchyards in the area.

### **Strengths**

One of the major strengths of Audley LAP is the very strong working relationships with Audley Parish Council, Audley Rotary Club, Sir Thomas Boughey High School, Audley Medical Centre, Patient's Participation Panel, Police, and Church Groups. These relationships are a great asset in delivering projects and this has been shown in the many inter-generational projects with Sir Thomas Boughey, and the current Dementia Awareness Project with all the partners.

### **Weaknesses**

There is strong representation from Audley Village, at the LAP, and although Halmerend is represented by Cllr Frankish, other districts e.g. Scott Hay and Miles Green remain unrepresented. LAP members are frequently reminded that if they know or meet residents

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from unrepresented districts to encourage them to join the LAP, and articles supporting this initiative have also been placed in the local magazine, Audley Community News.

### **Activities/Project Delivery**

Health & Wellbeing;

- Skate Boarding Equipment
- Litter Picks
- Coffee Mornings
- Christmas Dinner

Safer and Stronger;

- Skate Boarding Equipment

### **Planned Activities for 2016**

- Dementia Project
- Recycling Project

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**Name of LAP:** Betley, Keele & Madeley Locality Action Partnership.

**Area(s) Covered:** Balterley, Betley, Keele, Madeley, Madeley Heath.

**Chair:** Ann Spilsbury.

**Vice Chair:** Judy Lewis.

### **Summary of Key Achievements.**

The Upcycle Project, where young people can service and repair bicycles has continued and is now overseen by PCSO Colin Hodgkinson, and the Speed Watch Project is also still operational.

The LAP was approached by Madeley High School to provide advice and guest speakers to support their event to promote International Women's Day. Guest speakers were provided by the Newcastle Partnerships Team to inform on oppressive relationships between young people, and C.S.E. The event was a great success and a wealth of knowledge and advice was available on the day.

Following reports of suspicious individuals being spotted around the sheltered housing complex, Knights Croft, in Keele. The LAP through the Community Safety Team at Newcastle Council provided home safety equipment to the tenants and arranged for the Fire and Rescue Service to fit the devices free of charge.

On 5th June, 2015, to celebrate Communities Day, the LAP co-ordinated, with Madeley Parish Council, The Meadows School and Madeley Residents Association to deliver a litter pick in Madeley. Over 50 people attended the litter pick, and were divided into groups so that greater coverage of the village could be achieved.

Another issue which developed over the year was parking in Highway Lane, Keele, as some residents felt that an emergency vehicle e.g. Fire Engine, would not be able to access the Lane should an emergency occur. The LAP arranged with the Fire & Rescue Service to take a fire engine to the area to test accessibility. The fire engine just managed to squeeze through the gap and the LAP is in consultation with Keele University to try to find a solution to the problem.

On Saturday 12th September, 2015, the LAP joined forces with Madeley Residents Association to deliver the annual Fun Day and Fun Dog Show. The event included a fairground, Zorb Balls, and approximately 20 stalls to entertain residents, and the event was very well attended. The Fun Dog Show attracted approximately 100 entrants and prizes were awarded over a range of categories.

Suspicious visitors were also spotted in the vicinity of the sheltered housing scheme in Furnace Lane, Madeley, again the LAP worked with the Community Safety Team at Newcastle Council, and the Fire & Rescue Service to provide home safety devices for residents.

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At Halloween the LAP liaised with the Community Safety Team to obtain funding through the Joint Operations Group (JOG) to provide funding to arrange 2 discos at the Madeley Centre. Friday evening saw a disco for young people, and on Saturday evening a disco for families was provided, where residents could bring their own alcohol, which made a cheap evening out during times of austerity. The finance provide by the JOG allowed residents to enter both events free of charge, and the staff at the Madeley Centre decorated the building very appropriately. Tickets for both events were booked up, well in advance, and the Centre was full for both events.

One of the issues in the Action Plan was to develop a positive relationship between the LAP and the Surgery in Madeley. This issue has been resolved and a strong working relationship has been established between the two, so much so, that a joint project has been planned for 2016 to make the area as dementia friendly as possible.

### **Challenges Encountered**

A challenge that occurred over the course of the year, was the closure of the children's centre in Madeley. Many LAP members felt that a valuable resource would be lost to the area and the LAP wrote to Staffordshire County Council expressing their displeasure.

Problems were encountered when suspicious visitors were reported in the vicinity of 2 sheltered housing complexes, one in Keele and the other in Madeley. The LAP reacted to the problem and home safety equipment was installed through the projects described above.

Another issue reported was the theft of items of metal, and this was highlighted when an attempt was made to steal a set of metal railings at Keele University. The LAP provided the Police and residents with a list of scrap metal dealers, in the area, as they were all members of the national Scrap Metal Scheme set up to prevent stolen goods being handled, the Police were then able to visit local scrap metal dealers to warn that they may be approached to buy certain items.

### **Strengths**

One of the major strengths of the LAP is its willingness to work alongside other active groups in the area. This has been highlighted with the litter-pick on Communities Day, in partnership with Madeley Parish Council, Madeley Residents Association and the Meadows School. Also the very successful Fun Day & Fun Dog Show was delivered in a joint working arrangement with the Police, the LAP and Madeley Residents Association. Another example is the current Dementia Awareness Project, where the LAP has worked with staff at the Madeley Surgery, and have addressed a meeting of Madeley Parish Council, with a view to all working together to achieve the necessary outcomes.

### **Weaknesses**

A strength, can also, in some circumstances, contain elements of weakness, and with so many active groups in the area this can be the case. Many of these groups do not have the resources to advertise their events and consequently others are unaware of events and projects.

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### **Activities/Project Delivery**

#### Health & Wellbeing;

- International Women's Day
- Safety of Elderly Residents
- Communities Day – Litter pick
- Parking issues
- Fun Day & Dog Show

#### Safer and Stronger;

- Halloween Discos
- Parking Issues
- Safety of Elderly Residents
- Upcycle project
- International Women's Day

### **Planned Activities for 2016**

- Recycling project
- Dementia Project
- Inconsiderate Parking – The Meadows School
- Develop positive relationships with the surgeries at Keele and Betley.

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**Name of LAP:** Butt Lane & Talke LAP.

**Area(s) covered:** Wards of Butt Lane and Talke.

**Chair:** Cllr. Kyle Robinson.

**Vice Chair:** Cllr. David Allport.

**Summary of key achievements:**

- £12,415.00 external funding secured.
- License for Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden sorted out.
- Funding for “Text Not Delivered” project secured.
- Noise insulation at Clough Hall Skate Park installed.

**Challenges encountered;**

- Difficulty in getting wider community involvement.
- Lack of engagement from and with health.

**Partnership participation;**

Strengths

- Participation of and contribution from key agencies – Borough Council, County Council, Police, Fire & Rescue, Aspire.
- Participation of and contribution from community groups - Clough Hall Residents Association and Butt Lane Community Centre.
- Support from and involvement of Freeport.
- Links established with Staffs CYP and Maryhill Children’s Centre.

Weaknesses

- Community involvement could be wider.

Areas for improvement

- Involvement of more community groups.
- Involvement of more local businesses.
- Greater awareness of LAP in the area.

**Activities / Project Delivery**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden.
- Presentation on Dementia.

Stronger and Safer;

- Clough Hall Skate Park – noise abatement.
- Ski Slope – parking.
- Development of “Text Not Delivered” project.

**External funding achieved**

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- £1,000.00 JOG funding – Clough Hall Skate Park noise abatement.
- £2,500.00 Staffordshire Local Community Fund funding - Clough Hall Skate Park noise abatement.
- £8,915.00 PCC Proceeds of Crime funding – Text Not Delivered.

**External funding applied for**

- £1,000.00 Staffordshire Local Community Fund funding – Text Not Delivered.

**Planned activities for 2016**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Dementia Friends project.
- Reginald Mitchell Peace Garden.
- Food poverty – linking in with commissioned projects.
- Development of projects with Maryhill Children’s Centre to improve take up of services.

Economic Development;

- Credit Union project.

Stronger and Safer;

- Implementation of “Text Not Delivered” project.
- Portable Speed monitoring equipment.
- Input into consultation on Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) areas that will replace Alcohol Prohibition Zones.



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**Name of LAP:** East Newcastle LAP (ENLAP).

**Area(s) covered:** Wards of Bradwell, Porthill, Wolstanton & May Bank.

**Chair:** Paul Davies.

**Vice Chair:** Cllr. Sandra Hambleton.

**Summary of key achievements;**

- £2,276.32 funding.
- Gating project, Wolstanton – completed.
- Support for Bradwell Fun Day.
- Dementia Project started.

**Challenges encountered;**

- Lack of awareness of LAP.
- Unrealistic expectations/misunderstanding of what LAP can or should do.
- Funding opportunities limited.

**Partnership participation;**

**Strengths**

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, County Council.
- Involvement of Wolstanton Residents' Association.
- Involvement of Wolstanton High School.
- Involvement of Councillors from all four Borough Wards.
- Link established with M&S Wolstanton.

**Weaknesses**

- Lack of involvement from health.
- Local business involvement limited.
- No primary school involvement.
- Involvement of community groups and local residents limited.

**Areas for improvement**

- More involvement from those sectors/groups under-represented.

**Activities / Project Delivery**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Gating project.
- Dementia Project.

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- Promotion of CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) charity.

Stronger and Safer;

- Gating project.
- Bradwell Fun Day.

**External funding achieved;**

- £1,004.00 for Gating Project.
- £1,276.32 for Bradwell Fun Day.

**Planned activities for 2016;**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Healthy eating/tackling childhood obesity project.
- Further development of Dementia Project.
- Community Bench, Morris Square.

Stronger and Safer;

- Support for Bradwell Lodge Event, July 2016.
- Gating project clean-up, Spring 2016.
- Possible Impact Day(s), Spring 2016.
- Community Speedwatch.

**Name of LAP:** Greater Chesterton Locality Action Partnership (GCLAP)

**Area(s) Covered:** Chesterton and Holditch Wards

**Chair:** Lilian Barker M.B.E.

**Vice Chair:** Pat Stanier

### **Summary of Key Achievements**

- The Greater Chesterton Locality Action Partnership (GCLAP) have continued with the Neighbourhood Plan that was created following consultation with major partners, stakeholders and the community. The Action Plan has been used to initiate projects and events to benefit the whole community.
- Four sub-groups have been established and are co-ordinated by GCLAP to facilitate actions on the plan and report back.
  - Crime Sub-Group - PCSO Lead
  - Funding Sub-Group - LAP Chair Lead
  - Community Sub-Group - Respect Chesterton Group
  - Planning Sub-Group - LAP Chair Lead
- The Crime Sub-group examines all issues relating to Crime, Anti-Social Behaviour, security and Personal Safety. The group is led by PCSOs and the group meets regularly. Subjects covered, to date, include mobile CCTV, CCTV, Personal Safety Equipment, Crime Prevention, Safety equipment for external use and control of anti-social behaviour.
- The Funding Sub-Group examines potential funding streams to finance projects that will address the issues that are affecting our community and the issues that the Community identified in the consultation exercises. The group has successfully piloted the Community Chest for the Chesterton area and have awarded funding to community groups. Examples of projects have included: the promotion of Chesterton Surgery PPG; craft resources for Brownies; Halloween Disco; Café in the Park; Play Group; Christmas Lantern Procession and Carol Service; and Christmas Fayre.
- The Respect Chesterton Community Group forms the operational arm of GCLAP and delivers community events. It is made up of volunteers, who give up their time to make these events a success, and to raise funds for future projects.
- The Planning Sub-Group meets as and when planning development applications are proposed which may adversely affect some or all of the residents of the area. This is not a permanent sub-group but responds to planning issues on behalf of the Community.
- The GCLAP is fully constituted with a bank account

### **Community Projects**

- Community Litter Pick
- Estate walkabout with partners and residents
- Christmas Lantern Procession and Carol Service
- Christmas Fayre

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- Community health Event
- Love Parks Event
- Halloween Disco
- Easter Eggstravaganza
- Roman Project
- Outreach Surgeries – set up with partners at the One Stop Shop (OSS) for the Community to seek advice e.g. C.A.B., Aspire Money advice, Beat the Cold, Fuel Poverty Training and advice. Approach Dementia Advice. Potteries Gold –Benefits advice and training.
- Community Safety Day.

### **Diversionsary Activities**

- Buzz in Fridays Project

### **Educational Projects**

- Cooking on a Budget
- Fairy Job Mother
- Money Advice Team from Aspire hold advice sessions at Salvation Army

### **Volunteers Training**

- Respect Chesterton Group (VAST)
- Money Advice Team gave training to volunteers at OSS
- Potteries Gold delivered advice on benefit changes
- Beat the Cold training given to 8x volunteers on fuel switching and recognising meters and charges.

### **Newsletter**

Worked with Aspire to produce newsletters which have enabled GCLAP and the Community to write articles and receive information as to what is happening locally. Articles have highlighted individual achievements/successes and welcomed new members into the Community e.g. Head Teacher, Vicar.

### **Challenges Encountered**

- Closure of Youth services and the impact on the levels of anti-social behaviour
- Anti-social behaviour issues relating to young people, and working with partners to create diversionsary activities to address these issues.
- Crime trends. At times, in the past, it appeared that the local police team struggled to cope with crime trends. Communication with the police inspector has improved procedures and regular updates can be given to the Community.
- Access to the High School. The High School is now represented on GCLAP.

### **Partnership participation**

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- Strong association with all major partners – Newcastle Borough Council, Aspire, SSOTP, Elite, Police, FARS, etc. Networking amongst the partners is outstanding, as was recently shown at the Health Event.
- Community Capacity is growing and there is good attendance at GCLAP and Respect meetings, and some volunteers who regularly attend Respect have received training to develop their skills.
- Challenges. The previous year's challenges of working with Chesterton High School have been overcome. Engagement with some elected members remains sporadic. E.g. completion of pro-forma if absent from Lap meetings. The current challenges relate to periodic anti-social behaviour and the scarcity of funding to deliver projects. The challenge of anti-social behaviour has been met with close partnership working between CCLAP, the Police, and Newcastle Borough council's Lead for anti-social behaviour, and measures have been put in place to deter re-offending. Although the scarcity of funding is an issue for most community groups, GCLAP has fared quite well as over £8450.00 was raised for projects during the past twelve months.

### **Activities/Project Delivery**

#### Health & Wellbeing;

- Fairy Job Mother
- Cooking on a Budget
- Fuel Poverty Advice and training

#### Economic Development;

- Money advice Sessions
- Fairy Job Mother
- Sponsorship to local community groups via Community Chest and other partners
- Cooking on a Budget
- Community Tool Hire

#### Stronger and Safer;

- Buzz in Fridays Project – ASB Lead
- WW1 Memorial Renovation
- Safety gadgets
- Health Event
- Halloween Disco
- Community Tool Hire

### **External Funding achieved**

- The Funding Sub Group has realised funding to the total of £8450.00, which has and will make a difference to the residents of the area.
- Community Chest, as administered by GCLAP Funding Sub Group, has awarded six community groups a total of £3676 to finance local projects. £294 remains in the fund which will be allocated before the end of March 2016.
- External sponsorship has secured £1000, some of which was achieved as match funding for projects included in the lists above. Community Groups have benefitted from amongst others the Realise Foundation, Elite and County Councillor.

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### **APPENDIX A – LOCALITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP PROGRESS REPORT 2015**

**Community Chest – Groups supported**

- Chesterton Surgery Patient Participation group
- Time Out and Toast (Mother and Toddler Group)
- Café in the Park
- 3rd Chesterton Brownies (Equipment)
- Chesterton Vision Centre (Halloween Event)
- Chesterton Community Forum (Christmas Project)

**Potential Activities for 2016**

- Continued GCLAP partnership working to achieve actions on the Neighbourhood Plan
- Easter Event
- Continue with educational projects and to apply for external funding to support them.
- Encourage volunteer training – up skilling individuals
- Lantern Procession and Carol Service
- Christmas Fayre.

**Name of LAP:** Kidsgrove LAP.

**Area(s) covered:** Borough Council Wards of Kidsgrove, Newchapel & Ravenscliffe.

**Chair:** Cllr. Terry Turner.

**Vice Chair:** Cllr. Reg Bailey.

**Summary of key achievements;**

- Birchenwood Barriers completed.
- Support for Galley Centre.

**Challenges encountered;**

- Lack of awareness of LAP.
- Difficulty in getting wider community involvement.
- Lack of engagement from and with health.
- Lack of Elected Member involvement.

**Partnership participation;**

**Strengths**

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, F&RS.
- Some community involvement.
- Local business involvement.

**Weaknesses**

- Lack of involvement from health.
- Limited knowledge and understanding of LAP in the wider community.
- Poor promotion.

**Areas for improvement**

- Improve promotion of LAP.
- Health involvement.
- Joint working with Kidsgrove Town Centre Partnership (KTCP).

**Activities / Project Delivery**

Stronger and Safer;

- Birchenwood Barriers.
- Trubshaw Court disturbances – signs put up (Aspire).
- Community Speedwatch (Newchapel RA).

**External funding achieved**

None.

**Planned activities for 2016**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Resolution to Tesco Pathway issue.

Economic Development;

- Partnership working with KTCP – Brindley Anniversary?

Stronger and Safer;

- CCTV improvements funded and implemented.
- New Kidsgrove Residents' Association.
- Cadet Firefighters Scheme.
- Community Clean Up.
- ASB project(s).



**Name of LAP:** Newcastle Rural Locality Action Partnership (NRLAP).

**Area(s) covered:** The Parishes of Chapel & Hill Chorlton, Loggerheads, Maer & Aston and Whitmore.

**Chair:** Cllr. David Loades.

**Vice Chair:** Elena Sudlow, Clerk, Maer & Aston Parish Council.

**Summary of key achievements;**

- Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus - funding received and project commenced.
- Support for Loggerheads Befrienders.
- Information about the Leader Programme supplied.
- Increased membership and involvement.
- Constitution agreed.
- Bank Account agreed and opened.
- "Chit Chat" programme – support for isolated older people - started.

**Challenges encountered;**

- Planning issues predominance.
- Attracting membership and involvement of independent community representatives.
- Identification of health & well-being issues.
- Loneliness.
- Public Transport issues.
- Local School (lack of) participation.

**Partnership participation;**

**Strengths**

- Involvement of public sector – Police, Borough Council, County Council, Fire & Rescue.
- Involvement of all four Parish Councils.
- Involvement of some key community groups.

**Weaknesses**

- Lack of independent community/resident representatives.
- Local business involvement limited.
- Lack of clarity as to respective roles of LAP and Parish Councils.

**Areas for improvement**

- Better involvement of unrepresented groups.
- Clearer direction needed.
- Involvement of health agencies.
- Timed Agendas for meetings.

**Activities / Project Delivery**

Health and Wellbeing;

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- Support for Loggerheads Befrienders.
- Improved bus timetable information.

Economic Development;

- Leader Programme information disseminated – link in with Rural Deal.

Stronger and Safer;

- Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus.

**External funding achieved;**

- £1,500.00

**Planned activities for 2015/16**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Work with schools in respect of disadvantaged children & families and mental health.
- Partnership working with Ashley Surgery.
- Further development of Rural Youth Project/Youth Bus.
- Support for isolated older people – dementia project.
- Further develop positive links with Ashley Surgery.
- Domestic Violence/abuse workshops.
- Publically identified bus routes.

Economic Development;

- Development of projects through the Leader Programme/Rural Deal.
- Support for community group(s) to run Loggerheads Library.
- Monitoring of HS2 impact.

Stronger and Safer;

- Road Safety campaign (January/February 2016).
- Link in with Loggerheads library development.
- Litter reduction projects.
- Recycling Reward scheme.
- LAP Information & promotion point in Loggerheads Community Fire Station.

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**Name of LAP:** Newcastle South Locality Action Partnership.

**Area(s) Covered:** Clayton, Poolfields, Seabridge, Thistleberry, Town Centre and Westlands.

**Chair:** Sandra Hicks.

**Vice Chair:** George Harvey.

### **Summary of Key Achievements and Challenges Encountered.**

Following on from last year when the LAP became fully constituted and opened its own bank account, it achieved its first funding award in January 2015. £1000 was granted by the Staffordshire Local Community Fund to provide equipment and training to establish a Speed Watch Group in the Clayton, Westlands and Thistleberry areas.

Another issue that has developed into a major concern for the LAP, Police, Schools, Parents, and Residents is the safety of schoolchildren when arriving at, or leaving school. The children are often put in danger due to inconsiderate parking in the vicinity of the schools, which often forces the children to walk on the road as cars are parked on the pavement.

Discussions with Langdale Primary School resulted in safety work being implemented at both the Earls Drive and Langdale Road entrances. Funding was achieved through Staffordshire's Local Community Fund and the projects cost £798 and £1656 respectively. A series of pedestrian guard rails were strategically placed in the Earls Drive entrance of the school, to ensure that children could not run out onto the road, as a number of incidents had almost resulted in collisions with vehicles. The second project was to erect guard rails to prevent parking near the Langdale Road entrance, as the parking not only put the lives of the children in danger but also blocked the driveways of residents.

A series of meetings were held between Seabridge Primary School Staff, the LAP, and Staffordshire Police due to concerns about the safety of children due to inconsiderate parking. With the assistance of the LAP, the school successfully achieved £800 in funding through the Community Chest to purchase 'A' boards with hard hitting messages such as "Inconsiderate Parking could endanger a child's life." The 'A' boards, both deliver a hard hitting message and can be strategically placed to prevent vehicles parking in a way that could endanger a child's life.

Another concern for the LAP was that Staffordshire County Council had removed the posts of Youth Workers, and the impact that would have on anti-social behaviour in the area. PCSO Gemma Price and Kevin Byrne, Partnership Officer, met with a Youth Worker at the 'Churches in the Westlands,' with a view to establishing a Youth Club. The negotiations were very successful and Blazes Youth Club was guided through a funding application with the Community Chest Fund, by the LAP. The Youth Club were awarded funding of £800 and equipment has been purchased to allow it to become operational.

As a result of other work with the charity Deafvibe, the LAP was approached to partner the charity to deliver a British Sign Language course at Newcastle Community High School and Friarswood School, following requests by pupils. Deafvibe and the LAP worked together to achieve funding of £797 to deliver the course, which commenced in November 2015.

Other projects commissioned but not delivered by the LAP were implemented during the year, including a Domestic Abuse Programme, by the charity Arch, as a result of

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Clayton/Westlands being identified as hotspot areas for Domestic Violence. A second project was the removal of graffiti on electricity/phone units which was co-ordinated by the Police

and delivered by Streetscene. Another project was delivered during 'Rogue Traders Week' where PCSO Gemma Price and Partnerships Officer, Kevin Byrne, visited the homes of vulnerable and elderly residents to give advice on how to deal with rogue traders, should they visit their property.

The final project for the LAP, during the past 12 months, followed requests by Town Centre residents who wished to form a Speed Watch Group. The LAP applied for funding of £1000 to the Staffordshire Local Community Fund and were informed in December, 2015, that the application was successful.

### **Strengths**

Many of the wards within the LAP area are well represented by Councillors, and there are good links with many of the local schools. The LAP and the Police work closely together and many joint projects have been undertaken to address concerns raised by residents and local organisations.

### **Weaknesses**

Areas, such as Poolfields and Thistleberry are not represented at the LAP, either by residents or Councillors, and as a result their concerns may go unrecognised and they may lose out in terms of projects and activities. LAP members are frequently reminded that if they know or meet residents from unrepresented districts to encourage them to contact the LAP Chair with a view to joining the LAP.

### **Activities/Project Delivery**

Health & Well Being;

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Clayton/Westlands/Seabridge.
- Pedestrian Guard rails – Langdale Primary School (Earls Drive entrance).
- Guard Rail – Langdale Primary School (Langdale Road entrance).
- Purchase of 'A' boards – Seabridge Primary School.
- Establishment of Blazes Youth Club – Churches in the Westlands.
- BSL Course – Newcastle Community High School & Friarswood – Deafvibe.
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Town Centre.
- Removal of Graffiti.

Safer and Stronger;

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Clayton/Westlands/Seabridge.
- Pedestrian Guard Rails – Langdale Primary School (Earls Drive entrance).
- Guard Rails – Langdale Primary School (Langdale Road entrance).
- Purchase of 'A' boards – Seabridge Primary School.
- Establishment of Blazes Youth Club – Churches in the Westlands.
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Town Centre.
- Rogue Traders Programme – Visiting vulnerable and elderly residents.

Economic Development;

- Rogue Traders Programme – Visiting vulnerable and elderly residents.

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### **Funding Achieved**

- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Staffordshire Local Community Fund - £1000
- Erection of Pedestrian Guard Rails - Staffordshire Local Community Fund £798
- Erection of Guard Rails (Langdale Road) – Staffordshire Local Community Fund £1656
- Purchase of 'A' boards (Seabridge Primary) – Community Chest Fund £800
- British Sign Language Course (NCHS & Friarswood) – Community Chest Fund £797
- Establishment of Speed Watch Group – Staffordshire Local Community Fund £1000

Total - **£6051**

### **Planned Activities for 2016**

- Continued LAP partnership working to achieve actions on the Action Plan.
- To work with Police and Staffordshire County Council to consider the possibility of making Kingsbridge Avenue one way.
- Recycling project.

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**Name of LAP:** Partnership of Western Communities Locality Action Partnership.

**Area(s) Covered:** Cross Heath; Knutton; Parksite; and Silverdale.

**Chair:** Gareth Snell.

**Vice Chair:** Sylvia Butler.

### **Summary of Key Achievements**

Following an episode of anti-social behaviour, last year, a multi-agency approach to provide diversionary activities and a restorative justice programme brought the situation under control. This has been supported by subsequent anti-social behaviour statistics.

The Partnership of Western Communities Locality Action Partnership (LAP) have adopted a Neighbourhood Plan that was created following consultation with major partners, stakeholders, and the community.

There has been two sub-groups set up which are co-ordinated by the LAP and these groups will assist with the actions listed on the plan.

- Ilkley Place Sub Group - LAP Chair Lead
- Community Chest Sub Group - LAP Chair Lead

A sub-group, co-ordinated by the LAP, has been set up to progress the refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area. The group is led by the LAP Chair, Gareth Snell, and initial plans for the refurbishment were drawn, but following discussions with funding providers the funding application was deferred, and will be re-submitted in March 2016. Further consultation work with local residents will take place before the application is re-submitted.

The Community Chest Sub Group has been established to pilot the administration of the Community Chest in the LAP area and has successfully awarded grants to local community groups.

### **Community Projects**

The following projects and activities have been taken from the Neighbourhood Plan.

- Loan Shark Educational Programme - Silverdale Primary.
- Art Project along the Mineral Line.
- Summer Fun Day.
- Upcycling Old Furniture - St Luke's Primary.
- Cooking on a Budget - St Luke's Primary and Silverdale Primary.
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area.
- Provision of Baby Changing Table.

### **Challenges Encountered**

The outbreak of anti-social behaviour was a surprise to all who live or work in the area and all agencies worked together to produce a seamless initiative to counter the problem. Agencies who came together to produce this approach were: Police; FARS; Aspire Housing; sanctuary Housing; Youth Service; Newcastle Council's Partnership and Community Safety Teams; County, Borough and Parish Councillors, and Residents.

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An application for funding of £15,000 to refurbish Ilkley Place Play Area was initially prepared to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proceeds of Crime Fund, but was not submitted as consultation had not been completed in time. The fund reopens in March 2016

and the LAP plans to submit the application following more extensive consultation with local stakeholders and residents.

Another challenge, which was present last year, was the absence of Parish Councillors at LAP meetings, however, following the elections in May 2015, this problem has been alleviated, with parish councillors attending meetings, and playing an active role in the sub-groups.

### **Partnership Participation**

The LAP is well represented by Borough Councillors, Police, Officers from Newcastle Council, Aspire Housing, Residents and Local Businesses, however, invitations for the County Councillor to attend have been unsuccessful. The LAP covers four distinct areas and some have weaker resident participation than others, however, all LAP members encourage resident participation wherever possible.

### **Activities/Project Delivery**

Health and Wellbeing;

- Fun day
- Healthy Eating Project
- Provision of Baby Changing Table
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area
- Assisting and Developing IT Skills within Sheltered Housing Complexes \*
- Developing Intergenerational activities between Newcastle College and Older Persons' Complexes e.g. Hairdressing \*
- Loan Shark Educational Programme

Safer and Stronger;

- Restorative Justice Programme
- LAP Estate walkabouts
- Loan Shark Educational Programme

Economic Development;

- Recycling Project
- Healthy Eating Project
- Develop intergenerational skills between Newcastle College and Older Persons Complexes \*
- Loan Shark educational Programme.

\*These projects are waiting for a Volunteer Programme to be developed between VAST and Newcastle College.

### **Community Chest**

The Community Chest Fund, as administered by the Partnership of Western Communities LAP Community Chest Sub Group, has awarded six community groups a total of £1963-50 to finance local projects. A total of £33-25 remains in the fund, and as this figure is probably

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too small to support a project no further applications are expected. The groups supported were as follows:

St Marys Church, Knutton	Scarecrow Festival	150-00
Silverdale Elim Church	Purchase of Bouncy Castle	400-00
Alice Charity	Support for Young Carers	533-50
Silverdale Scouts	Upgrading heating/flooring	380-00
Silverdale Elim Church	Befriending Service	400-00
District Health nurses	Baby Changing Table	100-00
	Total	£1963-50

**Planned Activities for 2016**

- Dementia Awareness Project
- Refurbishment of Ilkley Place Play Area
- Intergenerational Projects with Newcastle College
- Reinstatement of Miners Wheel in Silverdale

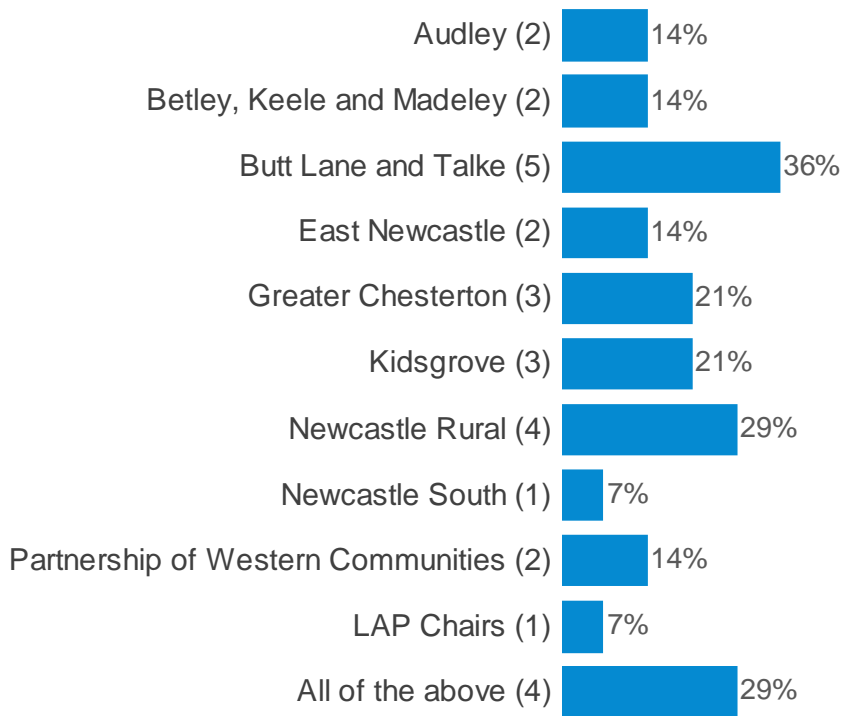


# LAP Survey 2015/16

This report was generated on 01/02/16. Overall 15 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

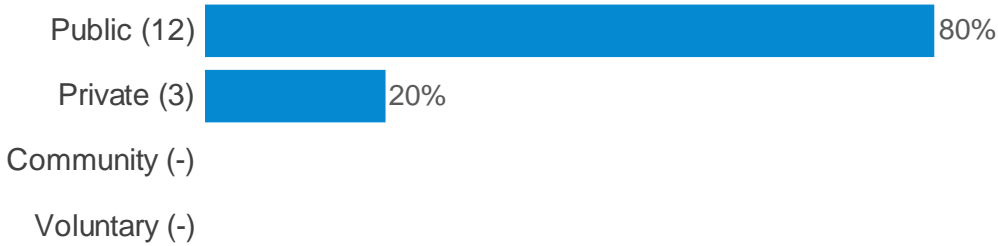
## Which LAP(s) do you attend or is your organisation represented at? (please tick all that apply)



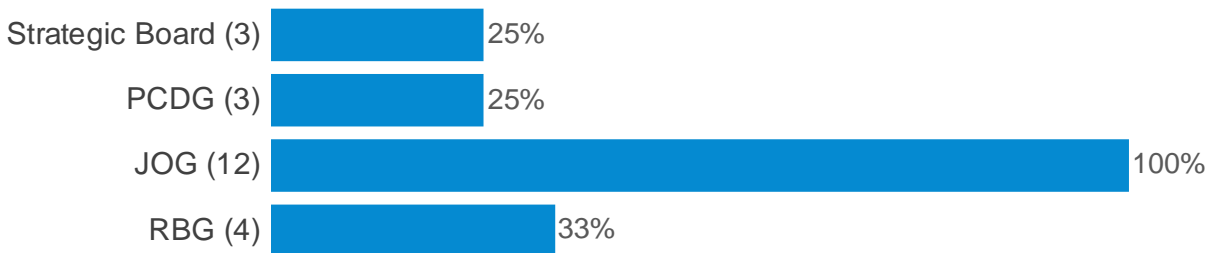
**Please state the name of the organisation that you represent and the department represented.**

- \_\_\_\_\_  
Sporting Communities CIC
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Staffordshire fire
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Newcastle Borough Council - Partnerships Team
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Aspire Housing
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Staffordshire Police neighbourhood
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Partnerships Team (Chief Executives) -Newcastle Borough Council
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Newcastle Borough Council - Partnerships Team
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Newcastle Police
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Newcastle Borough Council, Partnerships Team
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service, Prevent / Protect
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Centre Partnership/Newcastle BID
- \_\_\_\_\_  
police
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Kidsgrove NPT
- \_\_\_\_\_  
police
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Police

**Which sector is this organisation in?**



**At which other Newcastle Partnership meetings/groups is your organisation represented?**



**Other (Please state below)**

- \_\_\_\_\_  
Probably all of them?? !!!
- \_\_\_\_\_  
police

**Do you feel that the LAP(s) are able to contribute appropriately to the work of the Newcastle Partnership?**



**Why not?**

Some laps work better than others, attendance is poor their ability to address residents concerns is limited. Not quite sure how much additional funding the laps have brought into the area. ( this was one of the main reason to setting up the laps )

**Do you consider the frequency of the LAP(s) meetings to be right?**



**Do you consider the length of the LAP(s) meetings to be appropriate?**



**Do you feel the purpose of the LAP(s) meetings that you or your organisation attend is clear?**



**Why not?**

Some LAPs absolutely get the purpose of their role in the Borough. Our team is responsible for co-ordinating all LAPs and partners report to us that some of the groups stray from the agreed agenda and do not consider the wider area in which they operate. Some groups spend too much time on individual issues and some groups need to establish a more action driven approach.

It depends on the LAP in question. Some of the LAP's I feel are talking shops and their purpose gets blurred in the midst of personal and political agendas. That said there are a small number of LAP's that have a clear purpose and do not deviate from this.

**Do you understand your role within the LAP(s) and the contribution that your organisation makes?**



**Do you/your organisation benefit from contributing to the LAP(s)?**



**How?**

We have applied jointly for funding to develop services within the area of Chesterton. This successful collaboration has reach national and regional recognition. Collaboration is important to develop local services

Invariably the Council benefits from the delivery of projects and initiatives from the LAPs. Also, from the joined up working locally and the partnership activity that is tasked to solve local issues.

It is an excellent way to share partner, stakeholder and community priorities and ensure they are accountable for actions

Able to provide update to key members of the group e.g. Aspire, NULBC. However I feel that some groups attendance is selective.

Able to share best practice with them all and share information of intrest.

By being able to identify, through use of the excellent Profiles and local intelligence, Action Plans that deliver tangible improvements to the local community

We can directly impart information to the local community and listen to their worries

Communication is enhanced between organisations

we get to see what other partners are already doing towards specific problems or are able to contribute. There is also an opportunity to seek funding and engage with other community events.

keeping us all updated

Keeping them updated and informed to keep community safe. Funding projects we do in the community

**Do you feel that the Newcastle Partnership priorities of ‘vulnerability & economic growth’ are reflected by the work of the LAPs?**



**Why not?**

As in question 8 - it can be a bit hit and miss. The stronger groups absolutely get the purpose and how they contribute to the priorities. Some however, do not enjoy the strategic overview and consider the Newcastle Partnership to be a hinderance to their operation.

When issues are highlighted I feel that they are left and often go domant

One size does not fit all and while some of the LAPs are addressing issues thta affect their communities other meetings are just talking shops with actions being progressed outside of the meetings by Partnership Officers/Partners.

They are very insular and are lookig at their own issues without regard to the greater picture. They need to understand how they can impact on the greater good.

I have put 'No' but this is not completely true, the LAP's do touch upon vulnerability and economic growth but nowhere near as much as they should in general (token gesture). Of course, certain LAP's do touch upon these priorities more than others.

**Is your organisation able to contribute to the development of the LAP(s) sufficiently?**



**Why not?**

in sufficient staff

We struggle with the understanding and communication with some of the LAP Chairs. The Borough Council are an active and supportive partner to LAPs and often this is overlooked, particularly when we make suggestions for improvements.

LAP members need to be responsible for leading on actions, working in partnership by engaing with relevant partners.

**Are you/your organisation confident to challenge if there are issues/problems that need to be addressed within the LAP(s)?**



**Why not?**

confident to raise an issue but not confident it can be resolved.

**Are you/your organisation confident with information sharing within the LAP(s)?**



## Why not?

In most cases yes, as appropriate. The LAPs aren't meant to be sharing information about individuals, this is for professionals operating in other forums.

## What else could be done by partners to help the LAP(s) become more effective?

Devolution of funding held by the Newcastle partnership should be devolved to the LAPs. Through the localism agenda this would give the people who represent their area more control and more control over public assets.

The vast majority of the public are unaware of the LAPS. What do the customers/residents want of the LAPS . Should it be more focused on dealing with vulnerable people. Dealing with the root causes of problems.

Support, guidance and a strong collective steer, as required with some of the groups that need more direction.

Ensure representation is consistent and actively promote positive initiatives/services/changes to services in the specified areas

Action plans are rarely followed through and have been left for too long without progress, they need to be removed or those who have accepted responsibility carry them through.

Membership of the LAPs needs to be strengthened and those new members attending should be there for the greater good of their community. A few members are only interested in their personal issues i.e. crime or litter which is fine but there needs to be a solution that benefits all of the community and is progressed through the appropriate LAP.

- Varies from LAP to LAP, but some partners could be more involved, especially the health sector - some gradual improvements thereof - and more consistent in attendance. - Help to communicate about the good work that LAPs can, and do, do. Equally important, about what they shouldn't and can't do. - Make sure that they send the appropriate representative to LAP meetings.

There needs to be greater local involvement within the LAP and value within the community. Some of the LAPs need a change of chair and core members as they are self-promoting about their issues and less about the community as a whole

These are the elements I think could be done:- 1.) Consistent, regular attendance by partners 2.) Better quality of input and contribution - sometimes the LAP's seem to go through the motions 3.) Taking ownership of some of the issues that arise 4.) Bringing in expertise where required into the forums - the partner representation around the table could be improved 5.) Chair dedication. A number of the LAP's I've attended the chairperson has been very late.

I do not feel that there is anything else at this time that could be done.

do less parish council work

## If you have any additional comments about the LAPs, please make them here.

The LAP that I attend is excellent in looking at the issues relating to the Neighbourhood area. They successfully co-ordinate an action plan which currently has 111 actions recorded, relating to:- The Community, Young/Older People, Health & Wellbeing, Training and skills and The Environment. Everyone is aware of the Neighbourhood Plan and we need to encourage partners to record their actions/services too.

I question if the chair and vice chair of the group should be local councillors and should not be somebody from local community safety and have a more independent view.

**If you have any additional comments about the LAPs, please make them here.**

Most of the LAPS are progressing and undertaking some great work to benefit the community and bridge gaps. Unfortunately one or two of them are dominated by individuals who are only interested in their own Agenda i.e the Chair of Newcastle South only discusses problems in and around Westbury Park and fails to address any issues in Town or Thistleberry. Kildgrove LAP attendance has fallen as one individual takes over the meeting and again raises issues that are only of interest to him. Often these issues are being addressed but he is not happy with how this is being done. He feels that travellers should pay to stay at Bathpool and the Police just want the area secured so they cannot gain access.

- When they work well they can do excellent things. We need to build on that. - Better promotion of, and publicity about, LAPs. - Some LAPs can be hijacked by disfunctional individuals with their own agenda - puts other people off and stifles involvement. - Would like to see at least one LAP make serious moves towards setting themselves up independently as a CIC. - LAPs need to be bolder and more imaginative in what they seek to do, and in the way they do that. - Impact of changes at Aspire need to be considered.

Nope

I understand the validity and purpose of the LAP's, however I'm unsure of partners buy-in on a consistent level across the board. Several of the LAP's I have attended are just not fit for purpose. Some are ok at best and others are reasonably useful and proactive. I remember when we had LAG's and I don't think things have moved on a great deal now we have LAP's - evolution has been slow, cumbersome and repetitive. I question the long term future of the LAP's I really do, because a lot of officer time goes into them and the outcomes and outputs sometimes do not yield enough positive rewards.

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## Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs) Cabinet Panel - Summary Progress Report - 2015

### Key achievements;

- All LAPs held an AGM and confirmed the Chair/Vice Chair and signatory positions/arrangements.
- All of the nine LAPs are now fully constituted with bank accounts.
- £46,692.32 external funding has been brought into the Borough by the LAPs.
- All of the nine LAPs have refreshed their Action Plans, into a consistent format, with actions identified following consultation.
- Two of the LAPs have been administering the Community Chest grants on behalf of the Borough Council via a sub group, in the absence of an alternative Locally Based Body.
- The total number of attendees at LAP meetings during 2015 was 475. These attendances consist of a variety of partners from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors.

### Challenges;

- Difficulties engaging with the wider community in a number of areas.
- Lack of engagement in a number of areas from health partners.
- Closure of community services/facilities e.g. youth clubs and children centres.
- Misunderstanding or lack of understanding of what LAPs do / unrealistic expectations from community members and some partners.
- Limited funding opportunities for some activities.
- Responding to key issues and hotspots e.g. ASB.

### Strengths;

- Many LAPs reported that they continued to receive support and involvement from key partners such as the Borough Council, County Council, Police, Aspire and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue.
- LAPs reported that they continued to receive and provide support and involvement from Resident Associations, Schools, Councillors, local churches, local businesses.
- LAPs reported improved relationships with and Town and Parish Councils.
- LAPs are proactively accessing external funding to address issues in their communities.
- LAPs are assisting NBC to administer the Community Chest grant funding scheme.
- LAPs are actively co-ordinating partnership activity to address community issues and concerns.
- LAPs have been working with other established local groups to deliver solutions in the community.

### Weaknesses;

- Not all LAPs are performing at the same level, there are different stages of development.
- Representation and involvement from some of the partners could be better e.g. Councillors, Schools, Aspire and Police.

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LAP CABINET PANEL – SUMMARY PROGRESS REPORT 2015

- LAPs acknowledge that community input and involvement could be much better.
- Representation of some areas could be improved but this is dependent on better promotion, attracting new members, increasing representation from some of the key partners.

**Areas for improvement;**

- Some LAPs reported the need to better engage with local businesses, schools, Councillors, community groups, town and parish councils, doctors surgeries and other health professionals.
- The majority of LAPs reported the need to further improve relationships in the localities with health and other partners, although some progress had been made particularly with dementia projects and older people.
- The majority of LAPs agreed that more promotion of LAPs was required in their communities to raise the profile of their work.
- Development of LAPs as a community delivery conduit needs to improve in some areas.
- Some LAPs need to become more ambitious and encourage wider membership to meet the needs of the community.

**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO CABINET**

**Date 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

1. **HEADING** Newcastle-under-Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-2021
- Submitted by:** Mike O'Connor
- Portfolio:** Planning and Housing
- Ward(s) affected:** All

**Purpose of the Report**

To seek approval to adopt the Newcastle-under-Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-2021.

**Recommendations**

- (a) That Cabinet approve the adoption and implementation of the Housing Strategy 2016-2021 based on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Building Research Establishment dwelling analysis.
- (b) That the Executive Director for Regeneration and Development in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder is authorised to make any minor amendments following the Cabinet discussion.

**Reasons**

The current five year housing strategy expires this year. A new strategy to cover the period 2016-2021 has been produced and having been through scrutiny and public consultation is ready for consideration by the Cabinet.

1. **Background**

- 1.1 The quality of housing, its cost and location is of primary importance to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate in their community. Moreover, housing has a significant role in people's quality of life and their general health and wellbeing.
- 1.2 Since the publication of the last Housing Strategy which covered the period 2011-2016, there has been significant change to both the national and local approach towards housing policy and funding opportunities for building and improving homes.
- 1.3 During 2015/16 a new housing strategy was developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders and service users. This included a report to the Economic Development and Enterprise Scrutiny Committee, December 2015 meeting.

## 2. **Issues**

2.1 The proposed strategic priorities within the draft strategy are to:

- Support the delivery of affordable housing and development,
- Provide help and advice in finding a home,
- Reduce the number of empty homes,
- Support the Private Sector,
- Promote independence and inclusion to our most vulnerable residents.

2.2 The Borough faces a number of housing issues and challenges which have influenced the development of these priorities and these are set out fully in the strategy. The key issues are summarised below.

### 2.3 **Demographics.**

2.3.1 There has been a significant increase in the number of single person households to approximately 16,000 which accounts for 30% of the total households. This has impacted upon the Housing Register where the largest group seeking housing are single person households requiring one bedroom properties.

2.3.2 The population of the Borough is ageing and it is projected that there will be at least 10,000 additional older persons, over the aged of 65, in 2039 compared to 2014. This will have implications for housing within the Borough, as appropriate dwellings will have to be provided for older people both within the private and social provider sectors.

2.3.3 Conversely the Borough is home to Keele University and there are a significant number of students living here (about one third on campus with the remainder in nearby communities). The numbers of students is projected to rise with the University having ambitions to grow by up to 30% by the year 2020. In addition the nearby Staffordshire University is increasing its capacity as a result of the planned reduction in the Stafford campus (taking effect from autumn 2016). Accordingly there will be a need for accommodation which will be met through purpose-built accommodation or Houses in Multiple Occupation in the private rented sector.

### 2.4 **Local Housing Conditions.**

2.4.1 Earlier this year the Council commissioned the Building Research Establishment to undertake a dwelling level modelling exercise to assess the condition of the housing stock in the Borough with a focus on privately owned accommodation.

There are a number of significant findings which are summarised below;

- 1,140 dwellings in the private rented sector have category 1 Housing Health and Safety system hazards. This equates to 20% of properties in the private rented sector.
- The highest concentrations of fuel poverty and the hazard of excess cold are found in the Town ward and the rural wards.
- “Simple SAP rating” is an estimate of the energy efficacy of a dwelling with a range from 0 being the worse up to 100 the best. The average Simple SAP rating for all private rented sector dwellings in the Borough is 55 which is the same as both England and West Midlands region. For the owner-occupied stock in the Borough the figure is 55 and for the private rented it is 53.
- 9.5%(4156 as a total number) of private sector dwellings and 12.7% of private rented dwellings in the Borough have an Energy Performance Certificate Rating below band

E and under proposed legislation would not be eligible to be rented out after 2018. This is worse than the national average.

- The highest numbers of dwellings in disrepair are found in the wards of Town, Maybank and Wolstanton.
- The total cost of mitigating category 1 hazards in the Borough's private sector stock is estimated to be £17.1 million.

## 2.5 **Local Economy.**

2.5.1 The Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2015 (SHMA) indicates that the ability to be able to afford a home has worsened since 1997 and is an issue for first time buyers and those wishing to live in rural communities. The SHMA has concluded that within the Borough, households are required to spend around five times their income on the cost of purchasing a home.

2.5.2 The SHMA has calculated that there is an annual need for at least 163 affordable homes in the Borough.

## 2.6 **Homelessness.**

2.6.1 During the last financial year 2015/16 a total of 49 decisions were made of which 11 households were owed a full homelessness duty. This compare to 99 homelessness decisions made during 2014/15, of which 10 households were accepted as statutory homeless and 98 homelessness decisions during 2013/14 of which 18 accepted as statutory homeless. Even if a household is deemed to be non priority or intentionally homeless, the Council still has a duty to provide advice and assistance to find suitable accommodation.

2.6.2 The majority of those accepted as homeless fall within the age group of 25–44. The number of 16 to 24 year olds becoming homeless remains relatively high; this may reflect the lack of opportunity to prevent homelessness through the provision of alternative accommodation for single people who may have been affected by welfare reforms.

2.6.3 The causes of homelessness in the Borough reflect the national picture of parents / relatives / friends no longer willing or able to accommodate these individuals and the loss of rented or tied accommodation (termination of assured tenancy). Domestic Violence is the main cause of homelessness with fewer of those accepted as homeless being so as a result of mortgage arrears or lost tenancies due to rent arrears.

## 2.7 **The Private Rented Sector**

2.7.1 There has been a significant growth in the private rented sector in the Borough from 5% of the total stock in 2001 to 11% in 2011. In certain areas of the Borough the level of private renting has risen to approximately 40% which illustrates the important role this sector has in providing an alternative option to home ownership or social renting.

2.7.2 Most landlords manage their properties well and ensure they are well maintained but a minority fail to do this and fall short of the required standards. We will continue to raise the profile of good landlords, providing encouragement, support and incentives through the North Staffordshire Accreditation Scheme, whilst taking robust action where homes fall below the legal standards. We are currently developing a proposal for a selective landlord licensing in Kidsgrove and are taking this forward to consultation.

## 3. **Options Considered**

3.1 Three options have been considered:

- Do not produce a Housing Strategy.
- Produce a Housing Strategy over five years.
- Produce a Housing Strategy with a longer /shorter timescale.

4. **Proposal and Reasons for Preferred Solution**

4.1 The proposal is to have a Housing Strategy for the next five years.

4.2 Whilst there is no legal obligation on the Council to prepare and publish a housing strategy it is considered that, given the importance of housing to the residents of the Borough, a strategy is needed to provide a framework for setting priorities and the direction of housing related plans and policies. It should assist Registered Providers and Private Landlords in targeting known needs and enables the Government's Homes and Communities Agency to direct its funding or other support for housing-related initiatives.

4.3 The previous strategy had a duration of five years. Whilst it is recognised that changes economically and politically affecting housing can be rapid it is considered that five years would give sufficient time for plans to be delivered. Conversely a longer term strategy is likely to become out of date and therefore serve limited purpose. To ensure the strategy remains relevant the action plan has annual monitoring of outcomes linked to a service plan and the continued relevance of actions will be reviewed annually.

5. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

5.1 The strategy supports the Council's corporate priorities to provide a clean, safe and sustainable borough, a borough of opportunity, a healthy and active community and becoming a co-operative Council, delivering high quality community driven services.

6. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

6.1 It is not a statutory requirement for the Council to have a housing strategy but it is considered good practice to prepare and publish one.

7. **Equality Impact Assessment**

7.1 During the development and production of this strategy, equality issues have been considered. It is felt that the strategy is an inclusive document and will not have an adverse impact upon people with protected characteristics.

8. **Financial and Resource Implications**

8.1 There are no immediate financial implications resulting from the adoption of the strategy. Where the implementation of activities in the action plan requires capital funding these will be the subject of subsequent reports. It is expected that funding will be allocated as part of the Council's Capital Programme process and would, where possible, be supplemented with investment from land and property owners and central government.

9. **Major Risks**

- 9.1 If the housing strategy is not approved there will be no framework for setting the priorities and the direction of housing related plans and polices. This would make it difficult to deliver a cost effective and efficient service.

Conversely if the Housing Strategy is approved there is a risk that it may not be fully delivered. To mitigate this delivery will be through the implementation of an action plan over five years and to ensure the strategy remains relevant this plan will be monitored against measures and outcomes annually.

10. **Key Decision Information**

- 10.1 The strategy will affect more than two wards in the Borough and was included in the Cabinet's Forward Plan for the period in which the meeting is to take place.

11 **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

- 11.1 Consultation Draft Newcastle-under- Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-21 accepted at meeting held December 2015.

12. **Background Papers**

- 12.1 Draft Newcastle-under- Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-21 is available from Housing Strategy Team on request.

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**NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO CABINET**

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

1. **HEADING** Newcastle under Lyme Homelessness Strategy 2016 - 2021
- Submitted by:** Caroline Hallsworth
- Portfolio:** Safer Communities
- Ward(s) affected:** All

**Purpose of the Report**

This report brings forward the final version of Newcastle under Lyme's Homelessness Strategy for Cabinet approval and adoption.

**Recommendations**

**To approve the adoption and implementation of the Homelessness Strategy 2016 –2021.**

**Reasons**

The Homelessness Act 2002 places a statutory duty on Council's to publish a new Homelessness Strategy. The Homelessness Strategy provides the framework for the delivery of our services designed to prevent homelessness and support those who may become homeless.

Newcastle's third Homelessness Strategy was for the period of 2010 to 2015 and has now reached its end date. Newcastle under Lyme's fourth Homelessness Strategy has been produced and having been through scrutiny and public consultation is ready for Cabinet approval.

1. **Background**

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory duty under the Homelessness Act 2002 to publish a Homelessness Strategy every five years. Newcastle's last Homelessness Strategy was published in 2010 and covered the period of 2010 to 2015.
- 1.2 Newcastle has had significant success in preventing homelessness over the past 5 years, however is starting to see an increase in the number of homelessness presentations in the Borough.
- 1.3 The draft Homelessness Strategy provides the framework for the delivery of our services designed to prevent homelessness and support those who become homeless over the next five years.
- 1.4 During 2015, the Council's Housing Strategy Team has undertaken a comprehensive review of the current Homelessness Strategy to determine:
- an up-to-date understanding of homelessness and housing need in Newcastle;
  - current and likely future levels of homelessness and homelessness trends;
  - services currently provided to prevent homelessness, to secure housing for homeless people and to provide them with support;

- the resources available to the Council, other statutory organisations and voluntary organisations to provide services for homeless people (acknowledging that the issue of homelessness requires involvement of a multiplicity of partner organisations, generally working together); and
  - gaps in provision.
- 1.5 Stakeholders have been consulted on the findings of the review, Homelessness Forum members have been briefed on the contents of the draft strategy and urged to take part in the consultation process post scrutiny.

## 2. **Issues**

- 2.1 Preventing and reducing homelessness remains a key priority for Newcastle, the proposed Strategic Priorities within this draft Strategy are:

Priority One – To prevent homelessness

Priority Two – Support Households into sustainable housing solutions

Priority Three – Work in partnership to address homelessness in Newcastle

- 2.2 Preventing homelessness is far more cost effective than dealing with its consequences, however there is growing evidence that the impact of welfare reform and downturn in the economy is putting increased pressure on housing advice and homelessness prevention services in the borough.

- Customers are facing difficulties in managing their income and sustaining affordable accommodation.
- There has also been a noted increase in cases of people presenting to services with complex needs (for example: those with mental health problems, addictions, negative behaviour, poor life skills).
- Year on year there has been a slight increase in the number of people accessing our rough sleepers' service.
- Finally there is recognition that the current accommodation options for young homeless people are not suitable and Newcastle no longer has any specific young person supported accommodation schemes operating in the borough.

These findings are evidenced by people approaching Newcastle Housing Advice and other homeless prevention services that operate in the Borough.

- 2.3 The new Homelessness Strategy builds on the success of the old strategy and proposes to continue to focus on prevention and early intervention, whilst undertaking targeted work on the identified issues above.
- 2.4 The draft Strategy takes into account good practice and Government guidance to assist the Councils in achieving the 'Gold Standard' in the delivery of homelessness services. The 'Gold Standard' has been developed by the Government and is based on the Government's Strategy for Homelessness 'Making Every Contact Count' 2012. In March 2016, Cabinet approved the Council's participation in working towards the 'Gold Standard'. Having a fit for purpose and up to date Homelessness Strategy is an essential part of this process.
- 2.5 How we will achieve our priorities are addressed in the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan. The action plan will be monitored by the Housing Strategy Team and the Homelessness

Forum. They will be responsible for ensuring the actions and outcomes contained in the action plan are implemented. There is flexibility within the action plan over the next five years, to allow for change dependent on future homelessness trends.

3. **Options Considered**

- 3.1 No other options have been considered because there is a statutory duty to produce a Homelessness Strategy.

4. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

- 4.1 Addressing and preventing homelessness assists in meeting the Corporate Priorities to provide a Clean, Safe and Sustainable Borough, a Borough of Opportunity, a Healthy Active Community and Becoming a Co-operative Council by delivering high quality community driven services.

5. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

- 5.1 The Homelessness Act 2002 requires local authorities to review homelessness in their area and develop a strategy to address its finding. The Act expects a 'joined up' approach to tackling homelessness by engaging statutory, non-statutory and voluntary agencies involved in homelessness. Adopting the Newcastle under Lyme Homelessness Strategy 2016 – 2021 as a framework for shaping local service development ensures that the authority meets its legal duty.

6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty is part of the Equality Act 2010 and this Duty requires us as a public body to have 'due regard' to eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act. It requires us to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a 'relevant protected characteristic' and people who don't.

During the development and production of this strategy equality issues have been considered. It is felt that this strategy is fair and works towards reducing any potential negative impacts on people with protected characteristics and increases inclusivity.

7. **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 There are no immediate financial implications as a result of this report; however, the successful implementation of the Homelessness Strategy will rely upon a range of capital and revenue funding. This will include the continued allocation of Council revenue and the annual homelessness grant from the DCLG.
- 7.2 To date the Council has received Homelessness grant funding each year from the DCLG. This funding has been confirmed at £124,672 for the 2016/2017 financial year, plus we have received indication of the proposed figures for the continuation of this funding for 2017 to 2019. The Homelessness grant is an extremely important allocation of funding as it is utilised to cover the current costs of the Borough's Homelessness prevention activities and the NHA service.
- 7.3 The Council is committed towards the No Second Night Out national approach, however there are specific gaps in provision in the borough, namely:

- The current availability of accommodation options to those who are sleeping rough in Newcastle who have either no local connection to Stoke on Trent or have already been denied access to provision in Stoke on Trent due to past behaviour.
- Outreach and engagement services in the Town Centre, which take place in the evenings. The Outreach Service currently operates by engaging with rough sleepers during the early hours of the morning, this is best practice and experience has shown that this is the best time to work with them. However, in recent months, in addition to the work that takes place in the mornings there has been an increasing presence of rough sleepers and beggars who are frequenting the Town Centre in the evenings, which has led to further issues for the Council.

7.4 The Council received £10,478.76 from the Shropshire and Staffordshire Homelessness Partnership during the financial year 2015/16 on the understanding that this money would be utilised towards the No Second Night Out approach, this provides £10,478.76 to take this approach forward.

7.5 The Strategy recognises that there is a national approach of utilising the private rented sector to meet the needs of many homeless households. The Council has recently commissioned a part time support service to enable people to access the private rented sector. Any extension of this service will incur costs that cannot be covered by the current budget of the Homelessness service.

7.6 The Council has committed to undertaking the first stages of the Homelessness Gold Standard, towards the end of the year. A further report will be made to EMT on the recommendations for improvements and the potential cost implications of these if these recommendations are decided to be actioned upon.

## 8. **Major Risks**

8.1 The risk of not having a Homelessness Strategy will result in the Council being open to legal challenge for failing to produce a mandatory document.

8.2 The risk of less funding being available for the delivery of homelessness services in the borough could have adverse effects on the levels of homelessness in Newcastle and although funds may not be available to deliver prevention services, the Council still has a statutory duty to assist those who are eligible and in priority need.

## 9. **Key Decision Information**

9.1 Endorsing and adopting the Homelessness Strategy will ensure that the Council has an up to date strategy and action plan in place to address the needs and gaps in provision in order to help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

9.2 The strategy enables the emphasis on the prevention of homelessness to be at the forefront of Council thinking, whilst promoting value for money and cost effectiveness.

## 10. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

10.1 The draft Newcastle under Lyme Homelessness Strategy was considered by the Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2015, they agreed for the draft strategy to forward for public consultation.

## 11. **List of Appendices**

11.1 Newcastle under Lyme Homelessness Strategy 2016-2021 (hard copies available on request).

12. **Background Papers**

12.1 Newcastle under Lyme Homelessness Review 2015.

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