

## Council

6 November 2008

Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

*The Mayor thanked everyone at Kingsmeadow School for their hospitality in hosting the Council meeting*

### Chopwell Children's Centre

It was noted that Chopwell Children's Centre opened on the site of Chopwell Primary School on 26 September 2008.

### Open University

It was noted that the new Open University Regional Office has opened at Baltic Business Quarter. The Council welcomed the university to Gateshead and wished them every success for the future.

### Vulnerable Young People Project

It was announced that Gateshead have been selected to receive a share of £13m to set up an Intensive Intervention Project, which will see the Council, with the support of Barnardo's North East, working to prevent the most vulnerable young people from getting into situations, which could have potentially damaging consequences for their future.



**Pupils at St. Joseph's Junior School in Birtley are trying a novel approach to encourage more of their classmates to get some exercise on the way to school.**



## **International School Award**

It was announced that Lobley Hill Primary School has received an International School Award for its outstanding efforts in educating pupils about other cultures. The school were congratulated on receiving this award.

## **A Window of Opportunity**

It was announced that Gateshead Council, with the support of Northumbrian Water and Hemmingway Design, would submit an entry into the 2009 Chelsea Flower Show display. It was noted that pupils from Kingsmeadow Community Comprehensive School have been involved in the design process.

## **Independent Members to the Standards Committee**

The Council agreed to the appointment of Mr Anthony Atkinson as an additional member of the Committee.

## **Corporate Capital Strategy**

The Corporate Capital Strategy was agreed by the Council.

## **Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators 2008/09 – Second Quarter Review**

The Council agreed to the capital programme and its variations and accepted the additional recommendations, as outlined in the report.

## **Medium Term Financial Strategy**

The Council agreed to the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2009/10 to

2011/12, including the revised principles outlined in the report.

## **Notice of Motion**

The Council agreed the following motion.

This Council notes that thanks to investment in the NHS there are 5000 more GPs and 4000 more practice nurses than in 1997, and welcomes the Government's intention to accept the recommendations of the Darzi Review

- a) to provide 152 additional GP health centres, one in each Primary Care Trust Area, complementing, and not replacing, existing GP provision, and providing a wide range of GP, diagnostic and other services open 12 hours a day all year
- b) ensuring that at least half of all GP practices offer extended opening hours in evenings and/or during weekends
- c) to establish at least 50 additional GP practices in under-served areas.'

## **Notice of Motion**

Following an amendment to a Notice of Motion, the following motion was passed as a substantive motion.

'This Council welcomes the coming into law, with cross party support, of the Sustainable Communities Act, and requests the Chief Executive to report to Cabinet on its implications and on the opportunities it may provide for the delivery of Vision 2030, the Gateshead Agreement and the Council's Corporate Plan for the widest impact and benefits to the Borough (for example public transport

improvements, support to businesses and ensuring environmental sustainability).’

## **Council**

**18 September 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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### **Response to Recent Flooding**

The Leader of the Council gave an update in response to the recent flooding in the borough. Council employees and partner agencies and services that worked in response to the floods were thanked for their efforts.

### **Chief Executive’s Annual Review 2007/08**

The Chief Executive, gave a presentation on the Council’s performance throughout 2007/08 and also highlighted the challenges that would face the Council during the upcoming year.

### **Employment Issues Committee**

The Council approved an amendment to the delegated powers of the Employment Issues Committee

### **Treasury Annual Report – 2007/08**

The Annual Treasury report was presented to the Council for consideration.

### **Capital Programme 2009/10 to 2011/12**

A report detailing the approach and timetable for setting the capital programme for 2009/10 to 2011/12 was submitted to the Council.

### **Annual Report of The Audit Committee**

The Annual Report of the Audit committee for 2007/08 was agreed by the Council.

### **Designation of Prohibited Streets and Consent Streets Further to the Implementation of the Borough Wide Control of Street Trading**

Consideration was given to the designation of prohibited streets and consent streets, further to the implementation of the borough-wide control of street trading.

### **Report of the Cabinet**

The Leader of the Council reported on a number of key issues currently affecting the Council.

### **Notice of Motion**

A motion was passed congratulating Team GB for their excellent performance at the Olympic and Para-Olympic games in Beijing, and thanked all concerned for the successful Aviva British Grand Prix In Gateshead on 31<sup>st</sup> August.

# Cabinet

4 November 2008

Contact: Kevin Ingledew ext 2142

## Local Transport Plan Major Transport Schemes

A commitment has been given to the preparatory and capital costs of phase one of the Tyne and Wear Bus Corridor Improvements major scheme bid.

## Payment of Rent by Council Tenants – Former Tenant Transfer of Accounts

Individual amounts are to be transferred from former tenants to debtors' accounts where all possible recovery action has been taken has been. The amount to be transferred is £388,274.

## Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2009/10 – 2011/12

The Council is being recommended to approve the MTFS. It presents a sustainable but challenging financial position over the medium term that will allow resources to be directed towards the Council's corporate priorities.

The principles which underpin the MTFS remain broadly unchanged, except for principle 1, which acknowledges the delivery of the Gateshead Agreement, principle 6, which incorporates the latest Government targets for efficiency gains, principle 13 which is extended to cover service developments and legislative changes and principle 15 which recognises the role of the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership in identifying opportunities for collaboration to deliver efficiencies.

## Responses to Consultation

Responses are being submitted to the following consultations:

- 'Communities in Control' Community Empowerment White Paper -
  - Consultation 1 Improving Local Accountability
  - Consultation 2 Making and Enforcement of Byelaws–
- Revised Waste Exemptions from Environmental Permitting
- Waste Incentive Pilot Schemes: Draft Recycling Service Guidance
- "Transforming Places; changing lives: a framework for regeneration"

## Update on Review of Lettings Policy

The views of the Sustainable Communities Place Advisory Group are to be sought on further changes made to the lettings policy as part of the review, to take account of the new Code of Guidance on Choice Based Lettings

## Older People's Support Service and Gardening Service

The Home Cleaning Service is being re-designated as the Older People's Support Service and associated changes are being made to the service previously provided using Supporting People Eligibility criteria. Changes are also being made to the Gardening Service in response to recommendations of the Audit Commission.

## Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy

The development of this strategy, which aims to encourage and promote the use

of sustainable travel and transport for the school journey is to proceed. The views of the Sustainable Communities Place Advisory Group are to be sought on this issue and partners will be invited to participate and best practice will be considered from other areas.

### **Statutory power for acquiring properties to facilitate implementation of the Neighbourhood Action Plans within HMR Bridging NewcastleGateshead Pathfinder**

Clarification and confirmation have been given on the statutory power that the Council is relying on to undertake acquisitions of properties by agreement in the areas identified as "Potential Clearance and Redevelopment" within the Bridging NewcastleGateshead (BNG) Neighbourhood Action Plans'.

The Head of Property Services is to acquire additional properties for demolition, which are needed in order to implement the Bensham and Saltwell Neighbourhood Action Plan and the Teams Neighbourhood Action Plan.

### **Appointment of Local Authority School Governors**

A number of local authority school governor appointments have been made to schools in the borough.

### **Property Transaction**

The following new letting has been agreed:

- Unit A14 – Stonehills Complex – Leamside Services Limited

## **Cabinet**

### **21 October 2008**

Contact: Kevin Ingledew ext 2142

### **Asbestos Removal and Environmental Improvement Works at Campground Transfer Station, Wrekenton - Receipt of Tenders**

The tender of Squibb & Davis (Demolition) Ltd has been accepted for this contract subject to scrutiny. The tender in the sum of £596,741.00 was the lowest received.

### **Corporate Capital Strategy**

The Council is being recommended to approve the Corporate Capital Strategy, which determines the Council's approach to capital investment and forms part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment. A greater emphasis has been placed upon the management of capital project risks together with establishing a clearer link between the capital programme, the identification of resources, the Council's revenue budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy, the Council's Corporate Plan and improvements to the procurement process.

### **Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators 2008/09 – Second Quarter Review**

The latest position on the 2008/09 capital budget and prudential indicators at the end of the second quarter to 30 September 2008 has been considered. Since the original programme was set, market conditions have severely affected progress and costs of schemes, in addition, the slowdown in the housing market and the unavailability of mortgages are expected to have an impact on the level of capital receipts in

2008/09. The original programme assumed that sales of land, buildings and council houses would generate £18.2m in the current year. In the current economic climate, asset sales are now expected to be reduced to £7.5m. This will result in a shortfall in resources of around £4m to meet the revised programme. Re-phasing of schemes and short term borrowing may be required.

### **Revenue Budget Monitoring 2008/09**

Consideration has been given to the second quarter revenue monitoring report. Without any further action from services, the projected outturn for 2008/09 at 30 September 2008 is £219.105m compared to an original estimate of £214.462m, a projected overspend of £4.643m (2.2%) for the year. This is higher than the same period in recent years and reflects a number of known spending pressures coupled with uncertainty over costs in a number of areas such as the pay award and job evaluation.

Continued monitoring within services and the delivery of action plans to address budget variances aim to ensure that spending for the year is contained within the original estimate.

### **Risk Management - Business Continuity Planning – Policy Statement**

The Council has a duty to ensure that services continue to function in the event of a crisis or disruption affecting its activities. In order to make key services resilient to significant crisis or disruption, and to prevent such events from interrupting the provision of its services, the Council is committed to securing business continuity of its activities. A revised Business Continuity Policy is being introduced that takes account of

changes in the Industry Standard (BS25999) and best practice recommendations made by the Audit Commission.

### **New Growth Points**

Gateshead and Newcastle City Councils together with Bridging NewcastleGateshead have jointly been awarded New Growth Points status, which is based on a long-term partnership with Government (initially to 2016/17 though with scope to extend to 2020/21) on providing for additional housing growth above current Regional Spatial Strategy levels.

A Programme of Development that is required as part of the initiative is to be submitted to the Government. Arrangements are being implemented for programme management and governance of the Growth Point.

### **Universities College Gateshead - Expression of Interest to HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) and other Partner organisations**

An expression of interest is being submitted to HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) and other funding streams regarding 'Universities College Gateshead' – a proposal for increased participation in, and presence of, higher education in Gateshead as outlined in Vision 2030. HEFCE published details of 'A New University Challenge' in July setting out proposals for capital and infrastructure funds (£150 million 2010 – 11) to support 20 new Higher Education Centres by 2014.

The proposal for Gateshead has been jointly developed with representatives from Gateshead Council, Gateshead Strategic Partnership, Gateshead

College, Secondary Schools, Aim Higher Partnership, LSC, One North East, The Sage Gateshead, Northumbria University and University of Sunderland.

### **RUnUP Project Update (Role of Universities for Economic Development in Urban Poles)**

RUnUP is a project developed under the EU's Urbact II programme. Urbact is a European programme which aims to foster the exchange of experience among European cities and the dissemination of knowledge on all issues related to sustainable urban development. The RUnUP project was set up to develop new ways in which such cities could harness the role of Universities in promoting entrepreneurship through the 'triple helix' – the combination of the university, business and public sectors.

The Council is the lead partner on the project and is to submit an application for the implementation phase to the Urbact Secretariat.

The project links to the aspiration in Vision 2030 to increase University presence in Gateshead and increase rates of participation in higher education.

### **Best Value Review Implementation Updates**

Services are improving/have improved as anticipated by the reviews and have had the necessary impact on service users.

### **Responses to Consultations**

Responses have been submitted to the following consultations:

- Comprehensive Area Assessment, Joint Inspectorate Proposals – Audit Commission

- Welfare Reform Proposals within Green Paper "No One Written Off" – Department for Works and Pensions
- "Youth Crime Action Plan 2008" – Home Office
- Proposed Changes to Planning Policy Statement 6: Planning for Town Centres – Communities and Local Government
- "Revised Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities in England to identify children not receiving a suitable education." – Department for Children, Families and Schools

### **Asset Management Strategy – The Gateshead Housing Company**

This strategy is being introduced, which aims to ensure the cost effective maintenance of council dwellings, to a good standard and meet customer's expectations. It includes plans to achieve the Decent Homes Standard and considers investment needs beyond decent homes. The Strategy is supported by an action plan and performance indicators to ensure the stock is maintained and managed efficiently and effectively.

### **Tenant and Resident Group Grant AID**

As an interim measure and until the review of tenant and resident involvement arrangements are implemented, to ensure that groups are able to access grant aid, it is proposed that applications when processed by Community Based Services are then submitted for approval to the Group Director. The Housing Portfolio Holder will be notified of all grant allocations, Ward Members will be notified of allocations to groups, which

are located within their individual Ward.

### **Decriminalised Parking Enforcement Annual Report 2007/08**

A copy of the annual report is to be submitted to the Department of Transport and it is to be published on the Council's website. The annual report is intended to explain to the public and stakeholders how the service is managed in Gateshead and to provide information regarding its performance. Reporting is an important part of accountability, as the transparency given by regular and consistent reporting helps the public understand and accept Decriminalised (now Civil) Parking Enforcement.

### **Fair Play Pathfinder – Department for Children, Schools and Families – Funding to Provide New and Improved Play Facilities**

The Gateshead Play Partnership is to submit an application for Fair Play Pathfinder Wave 2 grant for an adventure playground alongside the new Felling Pool development on the Heworth Grange site. The Partnership will also work with community and voluntary groups to develop natural outdoor play areas in their community.

### **Appointment of Local Authority School Governors**

A number of local authority school governor appointments have been made to schools across the borough.

### **Personalisation – Steps to Achieving this in Gateshead**

The views of the Healthier Communities Advisory Group are to be sought on the delivery of the personalisation aspect of the vision for adult social care.

### **School Appeal Panels – Appointment of Lay/Independent Members**

Additional lay/independent members have been appointed to serve on the Council's School Admission / Exclusion Appeals Panels.

### **Petitions Schedule**

An update on petitions received and actions taken on them has been considered.

### **Acquisition of Land to the rear of the former Co-op Premises at Jackson Street, Gateshead**

Terms for the purchase of this land have been agreed. This is a key element of the Trinity Square redevelopment proposals.

### **Freight Depot, Off Park Lane – Purchase of Freehold Site from Network Rail**

Terms for the purchase of this site have been agreed. This will ensure the aims of the Bridging NewcastleGateshead programme are secured and enable comprehensive redevelopment of the site for housing to be advanced.

### **Disposal of Site and Premises – Chowdean Lodge, The Lodges Road, Low Fell**

Terms for the freehold disposal of this property have been agreed.

### **Property Disposal – Matov Children's Centre**

The freehold disposal of the land at Alexandra Road, to the Trustees of Ohel Rivka Nursery is to proceed.

## Property Transactions

The following property transactions have been agreed:

- New Letting – The Bensham Grove Community Centre – Bensham Grove Community Association
- Lease Renewals:
  - Beggarswood Recreation Ground – Trustees of Rutherford Football Club
  - Campground Wrekenton - SITA

## Cabinet

**16 September 2008**

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Contact: Kevin Ingledew ext 2142

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## Highway Maintenance Back Lanes Capital Programme 2008/09

A programme of back lane maintenance schemes is to be carried out at locations across the borough.

## Treasury Annual Report 2007/08

The Council is being recommended to approve the Treasury Annual Report, which sets out:

- The strategy for 2007/08 (including investment and borrowing strategies);
- Treasury management approach to risk;
- Outturn 2007/08 performance measurement (including market interest rates, investment and borrowing performance and compliance with treasury limits set prior to the start of the financial year as Prudential Indicators);
- Debt restructuring and repayment; and

- A summary of Treasury Management performance for the year 2007/08.

## Capital Programme 2009/10 to 2011/12

The Council is being recommended to approve the approach and timetable for setting the capital programme for 2009/10 to 2011/12 to meet the priorities of the Capital Strategy. The Council has already decided to prepare a three-year rolling capital programme. It is proposed that this approach be continued, as this allows greater forward planning in developing and reviewing the Council's capital programme. In order to bring together capital and revenue budgets it is proposed that the timescale for preparing capital bids is brought forward to allow for more consultation on proposals.

## Annual Report of the Audit Committee

The Council is being recommended to receive the Annual Report of the Audit Committee. The report provides a commentary on the work of the Audit Committee, and describes how it has shown effective leadership on governance, financial reporting and audit issues across the Council, as well as providing challenge and independent assurance on the risk management framework and associated internal control environment.

## Designation of Prohibited Streets and Consent Streets further to Borough-wide Control of Street Trading

The Council is being recommended to pass a resolution as required by legislation to designate 'prohibited streets' and 'consent' streets with effect from 20 October 2008 as part of the implementation of the borough-wide control of street trading.

The process of legally designating streets requires the publication of a legal notice for a period of 28 days. A notice was published in The Journal on 8 August 2008. This notice invited representations relating to the designation of streets by 5 September 2008. No representations were made.

## **New Growth Points**

Gateshead and Newcastle City Councils together with Bridging NewcastleGateshead have jointly been awarded New Growth Points status, which is based on a long-term partnership with Government (initially to 2016/17 though with scope to extend to 2020/21) on providing for additional housing growth above current Regional Spatial Strategy levels.

A proposal is to be submitted to the Community Infrastructure Fund, which forms part of the Initiative and provides the opportunity to fund small and medium sized transport schemes.

## **Grants and Awards**

The advice of the Grants and Awards Advisory Group on the latest round of grant applications has been accepted.

## **Responses to Consultations**

- Responses have been submitted to the following consultations:
- - The Governance Of Britain Election Day – Weekend Voting
  - Local Area Agreement reward scheme – Department for Communities and Local Government
  - Funding Sport in Your Community – Sport England

- Changes in the performance assessment of adult social care in 2008-09 - The Commission for Social Care Inspection

## **Appointment of Local Authority School Governors**

A number of local authority school governor appointments have been made to schools across the borough.

## **Open Spaces Strategy**

An Open Spaces Strategy is being implemented, which sets out our vision for open spaces in Gateshead and identifies key activities that will be undertaken to achieve it.

## **Revenue Budget 2008/09 – First Quarter Monitoring Report**

Consideration has been given to the first quarter revenue monitoring report. Without any further action from services, the projected outturn for 2008/09 at 30 June 2008 is £219.237m compared to an original estimate of £214.462m, a projected overspend of £4.775m (2.2%) for the year. This is higher than the same period in recent years and reflects a number of known spending pressures coupled with uncertainty over costs in a number of areas such as the pay award and job evaluation.

Continued monitoring within services and the delivery of action plans to address budget variances aim to ensure that spending for the year is contained within the original estimate.

## **Councillors ICT Security Policy**

A new ICT Security Policy for Councillors is being introduced, which responds to concerns raised by Councillors about

interpretation of the existing policy and takes account of new technologies available. There is:

- A new section covering the use of portable devices, in particular highlighting the risks of data loss
- An expanded section on telecommunications to cover a broader range of technologies and equipment
- A new section covering the use of reprographic equipment
- Greater clarity on personal use of equipment, the Internet and e-mail.

### **Audit Commission – Progress on Data Quality 2007/08**

The report notes the key actions in the Audit Commission's report on the review of Data Quality for 2007/08 and seeks approval of the

The Audit Commission have assessed the Council's overall management arrangements for ensuring data quality as performing well and effective, with some improvements taking place in the last year. An Action Plan is being implemented to respond to the Commission's findings.

### **Local Authority Mortgage Rate for Mortgages Granted Under Housing Act 1985**

The statutory declaration of the local authority mortgage interest rate for the six months commencing 1 October 2008 has been made. It is being reduced from the current rate of 7.27% to 6.89%.

### **Community Cohesion Strategy**

The Council is implementing this Strategy, which has the overall aim of creating an equal and fair Gateshead,

where everyone feels valued, where differences are appreciated and understood and where people share a sense of belonging.

### **Strategy Against Hate Crime and Harassment**

The Council is implementing this Strategy, which aims to enhance our partnership approach in Gateshead, working together to provide a more co-ordinated approach to hate crime issues and to eventually enable everyone in Gateshead to feel safe and secure.

### **Local Transport Plan Major Transport Schemes**

Phase 1 Tyne and Wear Bus Corridor Improvements major scheme bid is being submitted to the Department for Transport. The bid includes:

- Follingsby Park & Ride
- Felling Bypass/Lingey Lane Slip Road
- Sunderland Road Link
- Access to Team Valley (North)
- Lobley Hill Park & Ride

### **Tenders, Schemes and Estimates**

The following have been agreed:

- the scheme and estimate for the restoration and enhancement of Gateshead Old Town Hall as a Cultural Hub
- the negotiation of a tender and the placing of orders for the next phase of improvement works at the Gateshead Angel
- the shortlist of companies to be invited to tender for the contract for the supply and installation of structured data cabling and related services.

### Control of Legionella Bacteria in Water Systems

A revised policy on the Control of Legionella Bacteria in Water Systems is being introduced. It makes particular reference to organisation and responsibilities and the implementation of an associated management action plan.

### Corporate Complaints and Compliments Procedure - Annual Report 2007/2008

Consideration has been given to the analysis of the complaints and compliments recorded during the year 2007/08.

### Appointments to Council Bodies, Joint Committees and Outside Bodies

The following appointments and appointment changes have been made:

#### Advisory Groups

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
Healthier Communities Advisory Group	Vacancy	P Maughan

#### Joint Committees and Joint Authorities

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
Tyne and Wear Passenger Transport Authority	Vacancy	P Maughan
Tyne and Wear Fire	A Armstrong	G Haley

and Civic Defence Authority		
North of England Open Air Museum Joint Committee	Revised constitution	J McElroy B Goldsworthy N Callender  Substitutes: - J Hamilton J Turnbull B Osborne
Tyne and Wear Trading Standards Joint Committee	Vacancy	M Wallace  Substitute:-  N Callender
Gateshead and Newcastle Joint Bridges Committee	Vacancy	J McClurey
Gateshead and Newcastle Partnership	Substitute Vacancy	Substitute J McClurey
North East Purchasing Organisation	Substitute Vacancy	Substitute J McClurey

#### Other Bodies of the Council

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
School Organisation Committee	Vacancy	J McClurey

**Outside Bodies**

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
North East Contracting Consortium for Asylum Support	K Ferdinan	P Dillon

**Other Outside Bodies**

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
Northern Pinetree Trust •	N S Weatherley	M McNestry

**Youth and Community Organisations Under Terms Of Constitution**

Body	Current Member	Proposed New Member
• Marley Hill Community Association	• Vacancy	McClurey

**Petitions Schedule**

An update on petitions received and actions taken on them has been considered.

**Freight Depot, Off Park Lane - Purchase of Freehold Site from British Rail Board Residuary Ltd**

The purchase of the above freehold site is to proceed.

**Option appraisal on the future of Council sheltered schemes**

An option appraisal of the council sheltered schemes is to be carried out to determine the long-term sustainability of each scheme and explore future housing options for residents.

**ICT Infrastructure for Baltic Business Quarter**

Alcatel Lucent have been appointed as the Council's partner in a joint venture company to deliver the ICT infrastructure project for the Baltic Business Quarter.

**Property Disposal – Matov Children's Centre**

The freehold disposal of the land at Alexandra Road, to the Trustees of Ohel Rivka Nursery is to proceed.

**Property Transactions**

The following property transactions have been agreed:

- Rent review - Whickham District Office & bungalow, Front Street, Whickham
- New Letting - Land adjacent to The Schooner Public House, South Shore Road for use as a beer garden and service area
- Land disposal - Land at Derwent West Bank to Hodgson's Toyota Garage
- Surplus declarations - The Hermitage, Front Street, Whickham

and Dunston Hill Primary School,  
Dunston Bank

### **Decisions taken during the Summer Recess**

Officers using delegated powers decided the following matters during the summer recess:

- The scheme and estimate and invitation of tenders for Asbestos Removal and Environmental Improvement Works at Campground Transfer Station, Wrekenton
- A new letting of 16 Harraton Terrace, Birtley

## **Planning and Development Committee**

**5 November 2008**

Contact: Karen Fletcher ext 2129

### **Planning Applications**

The Committee determined the applications as follows:-

- Granted – 7
- Refused – 1
- Site Visits – 0
- Deferred – 0

### **Enforcement Action**

The Committee received an update on the progress of enforcement, which had been previously authorised.

### **Planning Appeals**

Seven new appeals have been received as follows:

- 15 Regent Terrace, Gateshead - Alterations and extension at rear to accommodate disable facilities and access.
- 15 Regent Terrace, Gateshead – Listed Building Consent – Provision of disable toilet, installation of platform stair lift and associated works (revised application)
- 15 Ventnor Gardens, Low Fell – Erection of new wall and fence along northern and western boundaries of dwelling house and raising of land level at south western corner of site.
- 3 Valley Gardens, Gateshead – Erection of single-storey extension at rear of dwelling house, installation of rooflight in roofspace at front, installation of dormer windows in roofspace.
- 2 West View, Clara Vale, Ryton - Erection of single-storey extension on west elevation of dwellinghouse.
- Gateshead College, Durham Road, Gateshead – Demolition of main college building and outbuildings
- Hagg Hill Cottage, Kyo Bog Lane, Crawcrook – Erection of first-floor extension over existing dining room on north elevation of dwelling house

## Planning Obligations

No new planning obligations have been received

One payment in respect of planning obligations has been received as follows:

- Erection of two blocks of 29 apartments and 6 apartments. F.H. Blacklock, Fanny Pit, Old Durham Road – a contribution towards off site play equipment of £18,272.00 has been received.

## Planning and Development Committee

15 October 2008

Contact: Karen Fletcher ext 2129

## Planning Applications

The Committee determined the applications as follows:-

- Granted – 5
- Refused – 0
- Site Visits – 1
- Deferred – 1
- Pending Appeal – 1

## Enforcement Action

The Committee received an update on the progress of enforcement, which had been previously authorised.

## Planning Appeals

No new planning appeals have been received

## Planning Obligations

Two new planning obligations have been received as follows:

- 18 Villa Place, Gateshead – contribution to play provision to serve the surrounding area.
- Former Half Moon PH, Gateshead – contribution towards the provision and/or improvement of measures to promote the public transport in the wider area serving the development

## Changes To The Permitted Development Rights For Households

The Committee received a report detailing legislative changes to the General Permitted Development Order (GPDO) in respect of what householders are able to do with their property from 1 October 2008. The amendments are to the Town and Country Planning General Permitted Development Order of 1995.

# Planning and Development Committee

## 24 September 2008

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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### Planning Applications

The Committee determined the applications as follows:-

- Granted – 4
- Refused – 1
- Defer - 1

### Enforcement Action

The Committee received an update on the progress of enforcement action, which had been previously authorised.

### Planning Appeals

Six new appeals have been received since the last Committee.

- DC/08/00663 Display of 1 externally illuminated 48-sheet advertisement hoarding Land Opposite Wernick Hire Ltd Wellington Road Dunston.
- DC/07/01712 Erection of 2 detached, 8 semi-detached and 24 terraced dwellinghouses (use class C3) with associated garages, works and play area. Land North West Of Hepburn Gardens Felling. This appeal is against the Council imposing a condition seeking affordable housing provision. This appeal will be dealt with via a hearing.

- DC/08/00187 Erection of first-floor extension over existing dining room on north elevation of dwellinghouse. Hagg Hill Cottage Kyo Bog Lane, Crawcrook
- DC/08/00485/ADV Display of 1 externally illuminated 96-sheet advertising hoarding fronting St Omers Road.
- DC/08/00713/ADV Display of 1 x 96 sheet externally illuminated Hoarding size 3.048m x 6.096m to replace existing 1 x 48 sheet Hoarding at junction Of Ellison Road and Forge Road, Dunston
- DC/08/00491/ADV Display of 1 freestanding scrolling advertising panel size 6270mm x 3330mm and 1 internally illuminated back lit 400 advertising hoarding size 12300mm x 3710mm on vacant grass land south of Abbotsford Road.

### Planning Obligations

No planning obligations were made.

# Planning and Development Committee

## 6 September 2008

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Contact Anne Jennings ext 2141

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### Planning Applications

The Committee determined the applications as follows:-

- Granted – 7
- Withdrawn - 3

### Enforcement Action

The Committee received an update on the progress of enforcement action, which had been previously authorised.

### Planning Appeals

Four new appeals had been received:

- DC/08/00638/ FUL : 4 Symon Terrace  
Erection of conservatory at front of dwellinghouse.
- DC/08/00105/ FUL: 59 Grange Lane  
Erection of 1 detached dwellinghouse with garage and 1 block of 4 terraced dwellinghouses with vehicle parking at front
- DC/08/00377/FUL Vacant yard to rear of 17-18 Woodbine Terrace Bensham  
Erection of 4 single storey sotage untis in former builder's yard.
- DC/08/00159/FUL: Domnick Hunter Reorganisation of existing

parking facilities and implementation of additional parking facilities

### Planning Obligations

One new obligation has been received as follows:

Application Reference:  
DC/07/01833/COU

Application Site: 36 Durham Road, Birtley  
Application Description: Change of use from storage (use class B8) to residential at first floor (use class C3) (retrospective)  
Obligation: To pay the Council £308.35 for play space and £428.22 for open space to comply with Council policy.  
Trigger: Implementation of consent (monies paid)

## Regulatory Committee

### 4 November 2008

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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### Appeals and Prosecutions

Details of Appeals and Prosecutions were reported. A verbal update was given.

### Licences, Permits and Registrations Issued

Details of Licences, Permits and Registrations issued between 1 and 30 September 2008 were reported.

### Application for Pet Shop Licence

The Committee granted a Pet Shop Licences for Aqualand, 4 Front Street, Swalwell.

## **Renewal and Variation of Sex Establishment Licence**

An application for renewal and variation of a Sex Establishment Licence for Cocktails, 27 and 28 Tundry Way, Blaydon Business Park was granted subject to conditions.

## **Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Issues**

The Committee considered details of six applicants. The Committee agreed that the application by FS to replace his existing licensed vehicle with a different vehicle, which exceeds the Council's Age Policy, be not granted; that the application by AFH to make an exception to the Council's Age Policy to permit the vehicle to be licensed for a further twelve months be deferred in order that the Committee have all of the relevant information in order to make a decision; that the application by APS to make an exception to permit the vehicle, which exceeds the Council's Age Policy to be granted a licence be not granted; that the application by LB to continue to hold her Private Hire Licence be granted with a severe written warning as to her future conduct and that the application by GWD for a Hackney Carriage Driver Licence be not granted.

## **Regulatory Committee 23 September 2008**

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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## **Appeals and Prosecutions**

Details of Appeals and Prosecutions were reported. A verbal update was given.

## **Licences, Permits and Registrations Issued**

Details of Licences, Permits and Registrations issued between 1 and 31 August were reported.

## **Application for Approved Premises**

Applications on behalf of the Ravensworth Arms, Lamesley, Gateshead and the Beamish Park Hotel, Gateshead, for the premises to be approved as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and registration of civic partnerships were approved.

## **Renewal and Variation of Sex Establishment Licence**

The application for Renewal and variation of Sex Establishment Licence on behalf of Cocktails Ltd was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

## **Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Issues**

The Committee considered details of four licence holders. The Committee agreed that the application by RBC for an extension for one further year be granted, subject to the requirement of an additional test during the year at the cost of the owner; that the application by PD for a Private Hire Driver Licence be granted; that the application by AA to

keep his Dual Driver Licence be approved with a written warning as to his future conduct and that the Private Hire Licence of DJH be revoked.

## **Accounts Committee**

### **29 September 2008**

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Contact: Mike Aynsley Ext 2128

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#### **Audit Commission Annual Governance Report 2007/08**

The Committee considered the Audit Commission's Annual Governance Report, which had been issued following the audit of the Council's financial statements for 2007/08. The Audit Commission did not raise any issues in relation to the 2007/08 financial statements for the Council to respond to.

The Committee agreed that the Strategic Director, Finance and ICT should issue the Letter of Representation on behalf of the Council and approved the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2007/08 for publication.

## **Rights of Way Committee**

### **24 October 2008**

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Contact: Karen Fletcher ext 2129

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#### **Proposed Changes to Bridleway at Northside, Birtley**

The Committee received a report seeking authority for the marking of concurrent extinguishment and creation orders for the diversion of Birtley Bridleway No.32 at Northside, Birtley.

The route is recorded on a definitive map and statement as a public highway but until recently it has never been used due to a scrap yard, which has occupied the land where the path runs through.

A number of consultation events were carried out by the Council with rights of way user groups to determine opinions regarding the possible diversion or extinguishment of Bridleway No.32. The response to the consultation supported the reinstatement of the bridleway to public use.

Proposals were put forward to both groups that the bridleway should be aligned along the eastern side of the site, thus enabling the development to take place on the rest of the site. This arrangement was agreed by the owner and his agents and user groups.

## **Employment Issues Committee**

**17 September 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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The Committee approved a number of applications for early retirement, a request to undertake outside employment, a request to work beyond the age of 65 and an appeal against a decision to refuse an application for early retirement.

## **Standards Committee**

**10 October 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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### **Code of Conduct Regulations and Guidance**

Part 10 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 provided for a revised ethical conduct regime for local government. From 8 May 2008, complaints concerning the conduct of Members come direct to the appropriate Authority for consideration by their Standards Committee, not to the Standards Board for England.

The Standards Board for England has published a toolkit to assist local authorities and issued guidance on local assessment of complaints as submitted.

In accordance with the regulations and the guidance, and to deal with the initial assessment of complaints, the Committee will need to establish an assessment sub-committee, to deal with the initial assessment of a complaint and a review sub-committee to deal with a complainant's right of review of a decision

by the assessment sub-committee not to take any action.

Both sub-committees need to consist of at least three Members of the Standards Committee, including at least one Independent Member. The sub-committees must be chaired by Independent Members.

Members of the assessment sub-committee cannot subsequently sit on the review sub-committee although Members of either or both can sit on a full Standards Committee hearing.

## **Corporate Vitality Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**10 October 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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### **Monitoring of OSC Review of Race Equality and Discrimination**

A report was received, that updated members on actions taken since the Committee's review of race equality and discrimination in Gateshead and the impact that changes are having within Gateshead.

### **Corporate Complaints and Compliments Procedure – Annual Report 2007-08**

The Committee considered a report that provided an analysis of complaints and compliments recorded by the Council and the Gateshead Housing Company in the year ended 31 March 2008.

Councillors were informed that as a high performing Council good use is made of opportunities to learn from customer

feedback from both complaints and compliments. This process of learning should be viewed as a positive, constructive activity used to develop priorities and improve value for money.

### **OSC Review of Promoting and Supporting Volunteering**

The Committee, at the meeting held on 8 September 2008, agreed the proposed approach to the Review of Promoting and Supporting Volunteering. The Committee was presented with evidence relating to this issue.

The Committee received presentations from the following people:

- Catherine Ross, Gateshead Council on the Cultural Volunteers Programme
- Rebecca Leary, Gateshead Community Network on the involved project
- Gev Pringle and Andi Parker, Gateshead Community Network - on the Link Project and Community Consultation

## **Corporate Vitality Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**8 September 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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### **Best Value Review of Birtley – Implementation Report**

The Committee were provided with an update report on the implementation of service improvements arising from the Best Value Review of Birtley.

The implementation plan contained 13 options, 11 of which are now complete. The outstanding options include town centre parking and asset transfer. Work is due to start next week and will be monitored and evaluated.

It was acknowledged that there are still longstanding issues in the area and it was agreed that an impact report would be brought to a future meeting.

### **Best Value Review of Services to Neighbourhoods – Implementation Report**

The Committee heard an update on the implementation of the Best Value Review of Services to Neighbourhoods, including proposals for how the outstanding actions will be monitored through new workstreams.

The Review was conducted in two neighbourhoods within the neighbourhood management areas. An update was provided on the South neighbourhoods of Springwell, Beacon Lough East, Seven Stars and Meadow Rise estates. An update was also provided on the Inner West

neighbourhoods of Low Teams and Derwentwater Road

### **Monitoring of OSC Review of Increasing Democratic Involvement in Gateshead**

The Committee was presented with an update on the actions arising from the review of increasing democratic involvement in Gateshead.

### **Monitoring of OSC Review of the Implementation of the Corporate Procurement Strategy**

The Committee were provided with an update on the actions arising from the review of the implementation of the Corporate Procurement Strategy

### **OSC Review of Promoting and Supporting Volunteering**

The Committee were presented with a scoping report on the promoting and supporting of volunteering in Gateshead.

It was proposed that the review will explore the following:-

- Definition of volunteering, what it means to be a volunteer and how volunteering is measured
- Current range and scale of volunteering activity in Gateshead and the support given to volunteering
- Progress made to date on the 2007-2010 Pathway to Achieving Vision 2030
- Success of Gateshead Year of Volunteers 2008
- Future aspirations and plans for volunteering in Gateshead
- Overall is Gateshead on track to achieve the outcomes for volunteering as set out in Vision 2030

## **Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

14 October 2008

Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

### **Health Inequalities Service Improvement – Review Update**

A screening exercise on Vision 2030 has taken place, which was the beginning of the process of developing a strategic approach to the use of Health Impact Assessment. A database of people trained in Health Impact Assessment at various levels has been set up. The pilot engagement in Bensham and Saltwell is complete and 348 were interviewed. A strategy is being developed for financial inclusion and should be completed by the end of October. Smoking cessation training has taken place and the Department of Health have consulted on their proposals for a new Tobacco Control Strategy. Gateshead's response to the consultation stressed the need to take an uncompromising approach to something that causes so much harm to our communities. Since July 2008 the GOAL exercise on referral scheme has been mainstreamed. A contract has been signed for new services and contracts have also been secured to establish outreach community weight and nutrition services in a further 4 areas to ensure access to lifestyle services in wards with lowest life expectancy. A strategy group has been established to lead on the development of alcohol harm reduction strategy.

### **Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being Review – Evidence Gathering**

There were presentations from Public Health Network lead on mental health,

Health Development Manager from Gateshead Council, a Mental Health Partnership Service User Representative and from the Head of Adult Service, Gateshead Council. Information was gathered of the mental health needs assessment report and its aims and an overview of some of the services involved in promoting Well-Being. The document 'Work is an Option' was also distributed which is a work opportunities strategy for Gateshead residents who have a physical or sensory impairment, learning disability or mental health need.

## **Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**2 September 2008**

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Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

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### **Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being Review**

The Committee received the scoping report for the review. The review will look at services as they currently exist and consider the ongoing improvement strategies that the Council and other partners have in place.

The review will focus on the impact of the changes to the Models of care, early interventions and the role of the voluntary sector, the likely impact of these changes, Council and partners to work more closely, identify areas for improvement and assessing the possibility for user led service delivery.

The Committee received 3 presentations, Mental Health in Gateshead, Overview of Changed in Model of Care – PCT Perspective and Overview of Changes in Model of Care – Council Perspective.

### **Choose and Book – Progress Update**

The Committee received an update report on the implementation of Choose and Book in Gateshead. The Choose and Book system was introduced in order to provide choice for patients at the point of referral.

There are 30 GP practices that now take part in the Choose and Book system with a further 3 to go live in September and November. There has been steady progress made in the number of bookings and utilisation of the system.

## **Sustainable Communities Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**3 November 2008**

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Contact: Karen Fletcher ext 2129

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### **Adapting to Climate Change in Gateshead Review – Evidence Gathering**

The Committee received a report which summarised evidence from the first evidence gathering session.

The Committee received two presentations on climate change adaptation. They detailed the current and proposed strategic approach towards adapting to climate change in Gateshead and on the regional perspective of adapting to climate change.

The Committee also received presentations on the impact of flooding which occurred in Morpeth in September 2008. The presentations provided timelines of the Morpeth floods, actions

that were taken, the agencies involved, the impact of the floods and the recovery process and ways in which to sustain support from volunteers.

### **Local Area Agreement and Corporate Plan – Delivery and Performance Report**

The Committee received a report which provided an update on the performance and delivery of Vision 2030, Gateshead Agreement and the Corporate Plan improvement targets within the remit of the Committee

The report provided an update of performance at the six-monthly stage of 2008/09.

Achievements and improvements were highlighted as:

- Progress on the Town Centre
- New Growth Point Status
- The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management partnership was awarded £73.5 million PFI credits
- Open University occupies new building at Baltic Business Quarter
- Joint Venture Partner to be procured to bring forward housing sites

Challenges included:

- Impact of credit crunch and recession
- Housing sites on hold
- Need to get sites ready for when the market picks up
- Significant investment in was disposal is needed

Future Focus:

- Need to get sites ready for when the market picks up
- Need to progress the Joint Waste Strategy
- Need to work in partnership to address the issues associated with energy and climate change

## **Sustainable Communities Place Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**15 September 2008**

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Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

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### **BVR Street Scene Impact Report**

The Committee received the BVR Street Scene Impact Report. There has been some improvement and from 8 service options there are two milestones still outstanding. New integration arrangements bring together reporting, inspection, planning and completion work under the control of a single cohesive team resulting in increased efficiency, effectiveness and cost reduction.

The first phase of the 'It's your Gateshead' Campaign has been rolled out across the borough and there has also been a range of enforcement and education initiatives with Enforcement Officers. Neighbourhood Wardens continue to make a significant impact on improving the local environment along with the pilot of the Junior Neighbourhood warden Programme.

The Gateshead Housing Company and Ground Maintenance have produced a DVD giving an overview of what LES do. A new guide to waste collections has also been produced that sets out key information about bins, bulky items and recycling. The Highway inspection regime has been increased to double the previous level, which has helped to keep up with repairs.

### **Review of Opportunities for Social Housing - Monitoring Report**

The Committee received the monitoring report of the review of opportunities for social housing. The review was complete in April 2008. The housing scene is fast changing and with recent changes in mortgage schemes, shared ownership is hoped to help prevent repossessions however, larger deposits are required and mortgages are harder to obtain.

The Council is currently in negotiation with developers about providing additional affordable housing where sales have slowed or stopped. A review has begun of out of date sheltered housing schemes across Gateshead. The Council and the Gateshead Housing Company are working with the developers at the Boklok scheme to provide a scheme where prospective buyers can rent first and rental income is converted into a deposit to enable future purchase.

Remodeling and enlarging of unpopular bed-sit accommodation in town centre flats has started and a long-term developer has been appointed to determine and assist with the procurement of the most appropriate model for the development of 25 sites. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment should be complete by May 2009. Bridging Newcastle Gateshead have appointed consultants to carry out research during 2008/09 seeking to produce a 'housing options ladder'

providing a choice of homes for people on different incomes, and flexibility to staircase up and down as financial circumstances change.

### **Adapting to Climate Change in Gateshead Review – Scoping Report and the first Evidence Gathering**

The Committee received the scoping report for adapting to climate change in Gateshead. Gateshead Council has included 'Adapting to Climate Change' as one of the 35 National Indicator targets. This means that a comprehensive adaptation action plan will be implemented across the local authority area.

The review will focus on the current infrastructure in Gateshead, the current plans and proposals for tackling emergency situation and the opportunities available in the future. The review will explore the impact on communities businesses and services in Gateshead and what is needed to adapt.

The Committee received two presentations on what climate change is and how we can adapt to the changes. Climate changes can be natural or caused by humans. Temperatures all over the world are warming up and adapting to climate change is essential as it is no longer possible to prevent the climate change that will take place over the next two to three decades but it is possible to protect from its impacts. Planning and being prepared for climate change is important.

# **Sustainable Communities People Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**24 September 2008**

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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## **Measures to Address Unemployment and Worklessness in Gateshead - Scoping Report**

Gateshead Council's Cabinet and Sustainable Communities People Overview and Scrutiny Committee had agreed that it should review worklessness in Gateshead by examining the issues from the perspective of the Felling and Low Fell Wards. Low Fell has the lowest unemployment at 1.1% and Felling has high unemployment at 8.7% although the highest is Bridges Ward at 9.2%. Felling had been chosen because it is also an area with the highest deprivation factor and is also one of the areas where there is a lot of housing market renewal work.

The report set out the scope of the Review and how it will link with the subsequent crosscutting area based review of worklessness that will be undertaken as part of the Council's Improvement Programme outlined in the Corporate Plan. The report also outlined the Scope of the Review, the Process, Who would be involved and the Outcomes. A steering group consisting of the Council, Learning and Skills Council and Job Centre Plus will oversee the review process.

## **Measures to Address Unemployment and Worklessness in Gateshead - Evidence Gathering**

The Committee received presentations from the Council's Economic

Development Service and Learning and Skills Council, which outlined the Aims of the Review and Proposed Outcomes. An overview of the work of the Learning Skills Council was given.

The Committee agreed to undertake a full day site visit before its next meeting in November, as part of its evidence gathering.

## **Monitoring of OSC Review of Community Participation in Sport and Leisure**

The Committee received a report which gave a summary update on the action arising from the Review of Community Participation in Sport and Leisure. Since completion of the Review the Council has been implementing the recommendations made by the Committee. Work has been progressing in the four themed areas and the impact this has had for users was outlined. The Council will continue to implement the recommendations made by the committee and an overview of the next steps was outlined.

## **Report on Withdrawal of "101" Non Emergency Number, Gateshead Council's Response and Future Plans**

Gateshead was part of the Northumbria Partnership for the 101 Service for which central government funding ceased at the end of March 2008. Most calls were related to community safety and antisocial behaviour incidents. These incidents were passed to Gateshead via an information system and then were re-input into the Council's systems to arrange for delivery of the service.

When the funding ceased Gateshead absorbed the calls into its existing operations. The impact of the 101 cessation in Gateshead has been limited. Although it is not now possible to report all requests for service 24 hours a day,

service delivery teams did not work 24 hours and often out of hours requests were actioned the next working day.

The Council's Care Call operation has always, and continues to be, available 24 hours a day to deal with urgent issues and this team deals with urgent calls that do require an immediate response.

Analysis suggests that the publicity around the closure has worked well and calls have been redirected either to the Council's number or to Northumbria Police as appropriate. There have been few problems and no corporate complaints have been recorded regarding the 101 cessation.

Working together on the cessation of 101 has highlighted the positive impact of bringing Community Based Services and Customer Services together to improve services for residents. The two services are working together on a redesign of customer contact in Adult Social Services which is planned to launch later this year.

Further work is also planned in relation to Care Call and there will be benefits to residents of extending the scope of Care Call to include other Council services.

In response to the cessation of 101, Northumbria Police have launched a non emergency number for local people which is 03456043043. The Care Call number is 0191 477 0844.

The Committee agreed that the actions taken by Customer and Building Services to integrate the 101 service into the Council's customer contact arrangements are satisfactory.

## **Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

### **25 September 2008**

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Contact: Rosalyn White ext 2088

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#### **Monitoring of OSC Review of Early Years**

The Committee received an update report on the actions arising from the review of the delivery of early years services through Children's Centres. The following recommendations came out of the review:-

- Working with our partners
- Engaging with hard to reach families
- Partnerships with schools
- Engaging parents and developing parenting skills
- Evaluating impact

#### **Local Safeguarding Board Business Plan 2008/09**

The Committee received the annual report of The Local Safeguarding Children Board. Quarterly update reports are presented to the Children and Young People Partnership as well as the Director of Children's Services and the Portfolio team for children and young people.

The newly created working groups were identified:-

- E Safety – i.e. internet protection
- Sexual Exploitation
- Safe and Secure Employment
- Assessment of high risk children (AIM)
- Neglect

## **OSC Review of Mechanisms in Place to Support Families – Scoping Report**

The Committee received a scoping report on the review of mechanisms in place to support families in Gateshead. The aim of which is to examine the extent to which current practices are effective and what needs to be put in place to ensure effective delivery for the future.

The Review will take place over an 8 month period and the final report will be brought to the Committee in April 2009.

## **Review of Mechanisms in Place to Support Families – Evidence Gathering Session**

The Committee heard four presentations during the first evidence gathering session which discussed the area working contributions already in place to support families, the role of adult services in supporting families and adult learning.

## **Looked After Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**27 October 2008**

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Contact: Rosalyn White ext 2088

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## **Celebration of Achievement Event**

The Committee received an update on the Celebration of Achievement Event. The awards night took place on 15 October. There were 269 young people nominated for over 400 awards.

## **Corporate Parenting**

The Committee received a presentation from a looked after child who gave feedback from the Care Matters residential weekend. The Committee was presented with the 'Care Pledges', which were agreed by the young people who took part in the weekend.

## **Virtual Head Report and REALAC Update**

The Committee received a progress report on the Virtual School Head Pilot, for which Gateshead is one of 11 authorities who run this pilot. It is about improving and supporting the educational achievement of looked after children. From January 2009 until March 2009 an evaluation on progress will be carried out by Bristol University. The priorities for the coming year are to:-

- Develop the concept of the Virtual School
- Develop work with Early Years
- Develop work within the 14 to 19 curriculum

- Develop a comprehensive data system

## **Central Area Forum**

### **20 October 2008**

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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#### **Home Housing in Deckham**

Graham Darby and Maggie Begg, Home Housing gave an update in relation to Home Housing in Deckham. A total of £4m is to be invested in the housing stock at Deckham. It was noted that the current demand for housing in Deckham is high for family accommodation. The turnover of one-bedroom properties is slightly higher, with all properties currently being let.

It was agreed that Home Housing would provide a further update on the brief for the decent homes works that are to be carried out. Consultation will take place with all residents prior to any works being undertaken. It was noted that the works were initially slightly delayed, but the target for completion by 2012 will be achieved.

#### **Community Development Strategy**

Lynne Caffrey and Annie Murphy gave a presentation on the Community Development Strategy. The presentation set out the proposed framework for the Strategy and the priority areas for action. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that there is a coordinated, partnership approach towards community development in Gateshead. The strategy will also increase community ownership and engagement of the local area and sets out how this will be achieved in a coordinated way

#### **Operation Goldfinch Review**

Paul Hewson, Sergeant in the Central Area gave a presentation following the recent Operation Goldfinch, which took place in Carr Hill.

A total of 500 homes were targeted in this process. The operation took place for 6 days between 22 September and 27 September 2008 and equated to a total of 376 hours. Surveys were undertaken with the help of the Gateshead Community Network, who helped to provide an impartial element into the survey findings

#### **Building an Active Future Programme**

Louise Rule gave a presentation setting out the Building an Active Future Programme. Gateshead Council is investing £29 million in Sport and Leisure facilities as part of this programme of works. Within the Central Area the Building an Active Future project will include the redevelopment of Gateshead Leisure Centre. The planning application for this project has been submitted for consideration. It is anticipated that work at Gateshead Leisure Centre will start in January 2009 with works due to be complete by Spring 2010, with the Centre closed completely for the duration of the works.

# Central Area Forum

## 8 September 2008

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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### **Neighbourhood Planning: Bensham and Saltwell Baseline Summary**

David Shimmin, Chief Executive's Department of Gateshead Council, gave a presentation on the development of the neighbourhood profile for Bensham and Saltwell. The area profile which was available on the Council's website had been used to prepare the neighbourhood profile. This was the first neighbourhood profile to be prepared in Gateshead.

The Forum was advised that, where possible, the most up to date data had been used for the profile but in some cases the last census had been used for some of the information.

### **Health Inequalities Review**

Alyson Learmonth gave a presentation on the health inequalities review. The presentation gave an update on the outcome of the review; outlined the eight priorities agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2008; and looked at how the priorities could be taken forward through the Area Forum and neighbourhood planning.

### **Parking Enforcement in Bensham and Saltwell**

The Forum had previously been advised that the Police intended to undertake an operation in the Bensham and Saltwell area to address parking enforcement problems. The Police, in consultation with their partners, had agreed an action plan and this was implemented over a two day period. Prior to the exercise the police issued leaflets and posters in the area.

Paul Hewson outlined the results of the exercise. Around 50 tickets and warnings had been issued over the two days. Approximately 50% of the enforcement related to obstruction which is a police area of responsibility. There had been a problem with signage in Saltwell Road which had meant that the Police could not issue tickets in this street. The Police had subsequently visited the area and there was still a problem. They will continue to address parking enforcement in Bensham and Saltwell.

### **Gateshead Central Library BLF Project Update**

Peter Udall and Stephen Walters, Gateshead Council, gave a presentation on the proposals for the Gateshead Central Library BLF Project. The Council had been successful in its stage 1 application. Since then a considerable amount of work had been undertaken and three key plans had been submitted to the Big Lottery Fund. All of these had been signed off.

The value of the project is £2.5m of which £2m would be provided by the Lottery and the rest by the Council. Most of these resources would be spent on capital improvement.

## East Area Forum

22 October 2008

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Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

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### Health Inequalities

An update of the outcomes of the review was presented. Healthier Communities OSC agreed eight priorities and Service Improvement Plans have been developed for each. The Community Engagement Programme will be rolled out in the East.

### Windy Nook and Staneway Neighbourhood Plan Area

There is a variation of health in the area and approximately one in seven residents state that they are not in good health. This issue has been recognised as well as the challenge to overcome the variance in infrastructure within the area.

### Community Development Strategy Update

This strategy brings together all service area seeking to consult and involve local people in the design and development of services they use. A vision statement has been developed along with 5 outcomes to help achieve the vision that are of equal importance, overlapping and linking into each other.

### Building an Active Future

Gateshead Council is investing £29 million in Sport and Leisure facilities. A new leisure facility is proposed for the East area on the High Lanes site to replace Felling pool. Planning permission will be in October with a start date of summer 2009 and completion Winter 2010.

### Area Forum Evaluation

The evaluation has taken place and it is proposed that there will be a report at all five area forums in December.

## East Area Forum

10 September 2008

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Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

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### East Gateshead Quality Bus Partnership

The Forum received an update report. The Partnership was launched in January with the Council, Nexus and Go North East. The Stakeholder Board meetings have given the Council and Nexus a better insight into the cost pressures that Go North East are facing, particularly in terms of fuel prices. Some services are experiencing an upturn in the number of adult fare paying passengers. There has been a greater degree of public consultation on services changes proposed over the summer, although with all service changes some areas have benefited while others have lost out.

### Windy Nook and Staneway Neighbourhood Plan Area

The Forum received the draft neighbourhood profile summary. It provides statistical evidence from available data sources and will be used to inform the neighbourhood planning process in Windy Nook and Staneway. The profile shows that a wide range in quality of life is experienced by residents, with Staneway being amongst those neighbourhoods in Gateshead facing some significant challenge. The Forum would comment on the profile at the next meeting.

## **Mulberry Trading Estate**

The Forum received a presentation on Mulberry Trading Estate. The site is in the Felling area and was originally part of the Felling Colliery, which ceased prior to 1948. The site was used at some time for private garages and an upholstery business before it was granted planning permission in 1975 for small units and offices. Some of the units were demolished in 2003 and only the car breakers remains. The police have investigated these premises over the last few years and the land is being used for fly tipping.

The site is identified for residential use and for redevelopment within the BNG Felling Neighbourhood Action Plan. Complaints regarding the site have been received as it has been targeted by arson attacks leading to problems for the Police and the Fire Service. The East Problem Solving Team contacted the Enforcement Team regarding action to be taken. An on site assessment was made of the condition of the land and the land is actionable under section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The site is now secured from vehicular access and this should prevent any further tipping and work is now being carried out at the site to improve the condition of the land.

## **South Area Forum** **11 November 2008**

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Contact: Dean Lowery ext 2098

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### **Cardinal Hume Catholic School**

Nick Hurn, Headteacher at Cardinal Hume Catholic School, gave a presentation to the Forum on a proposed capital project. A feasibility study is currently ongoing for a proposal to expand the school. The need to expand is due to the high number of requests from outside organisations and groups to use the school's facilities, the expansion would also benefit 6<sup>th</sup> form pupils and current pupils of the lower school. The question was raised as to who would manage the facilities and it was recognised that this would probably be through shared partnership. It was acknowledged that it is very early days and feedback is needed to shape ideas.

### **Older Peoples Support Services**

The Forum heard a presentation on the two new services across Gateshead; Older People's Support Services (OPSS) and Home Support Services (HSS). The services were developed after a survey of residents in sheltered accommodation confirmed that a cleaning service would help maintain their independence. In order to be eligible for OPSS a resident must be over 50, live in Gateshead, be in need of the support offered and also be in receipt of Housing or Council Tax Benefit.

### **Health Inequalities**

The Forum heard a presentation from Alyson Learmonth giving an update on the outcomes of the Health Inequalities Review and how the priorities can be

taken forward through Area Forums and neighbourhood planning. The Forum was asked which of these priorities were most important in the South area and how they could be taken forward in the neighbourhood planning area. It was also asked how health inequalities could be addressed in the area. Members felt that they needed more time to provide answers to these questions and it was agreed that the points raised would be debated at the next meeting and on the Development Day.

## **South Area Forum**

### **23 October 2008**

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Contact: Dean Lowery ext 2098

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### **Health Inequalities – Issues for South Neighbourhood Management Area**

At this meeting of the Forum members were asked to discuss six questions regarding Health Inequalities in the South Area of Gateshead. The Forum discussed each question and made relevant comments regarding the best way to move forward such as looking into what impacts health in the South Area, such as economic issues and unemployment. Members agreed that a community approach to health inequalities would be the best way to reduce health problems in the area. Members also discussed looking at a number of solutions to the problem of health rather than specifically concentrating just on one particular area. It is thought that this would give the greatest return in decreasing health problems in the area. The Forum was also informed that the Public Health Team would be joining each Area Forum to give advice and try and find new solutions to the problems that are encountered in each area.

### **Building an Active Future Programme**

Gary Livsey from Sport and Leisure Services gave a presentation to the Forum regarding the Building an Active Future Programme in the South of the borough. This involves the investment of £29 million being invested into leisure services throughout the borough. Gary stated that the programme was intending to increase participation in sport, physical activity and to promote a healthy lifestyle. The forum were informed that six key design points were looked at such as Accessible, Durable, Flexible, Sustainable, Economical and Safe. These key design features will allow for the best use by all members of the community of the new facilities.

### **Community Development Strategy**

The Forum received a report and presentation on the proposed framework for the Community Development Strategy and the areas for action. The draft Strategy will be going to each themed partnership as well as all the area forums, after which an action plan will be produced.

It was stated that the strategy is aimed at bringing together everything we are already doing to avoid duplication and encourage joined up working. The vision for community development is to enable local people to "...challenge, influence and shape decisions that affect their lives and contribute to active and sustainable communities". It was acknowledged that there are both local and national drivers which all fit together to help towards community development. The question was raised as to how the outcomes would be measured. It was confirmed that this would be done against the Place Survey, Local Area Agreement and national indicators so all targets are measurable.

## **West Area Forum**

### **4 November 2008**

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Contact: Rosalyn White ext 2088

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#### **Community Development Strategy**

The draft Community Development Strategy aims to encourage joined up working to enable local people to influence decisions that affect their lives and contribute to sustainable communities.

The report will go to Cabinet on 18 November and an Action Plan will be agreed with partners thereafter.

#### **Building an Active Future Programme**

Planning permission is currently being sought on the sport and leisure development proposed on the Blaydon Comprehensive School site. The plans include a shared building with a Primary Care Centre. Work is also ongoing with Nexus to make access easier, including incentive schemes, improved bus routes and bus times.

If the proposal is successful, the current swimming pool will remain open as long as possible throughout the refurbishment.

#### **Highfield Neighbourhood Planning Profile**

Twenty neighbourhoods in the West were grouped into ten clusters, the first profile is that of Highfield. The profile pulls together statistical data and identifies key issues and will be followed by service profiling.

Findings show that the Highfield area is within the top 30% of deprived areas, there are educational attainment issues for young people between the ages of 11

and 14 and the numbers of 16-18 year olds who are NEET is high. However, recorded crime is low compared to the Gateshead average.

## **West Area Forum**

### **16 September 2008**

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Contact: Rosalyn White ext 2088

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#### **Alcohol and Children and Young People**

Issues surrounding alcohol for children and young people in the West of the Borough were highlighted to the forum such as; an increased chance of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour, an impact on educational achievements, an affect on the ability to protect themselves and a heightened chance of taking risks.

The Youth Panel are looking to allocate £50,000 of funding to tackle the issue of alcohol. Responses to the questionnaires completed by the Youth Area Forums showed that:-

- 43% of 11-18 year olds drink alcohol
- 50% of those young people get alcohol from family members
- 30 people missed school due to alcohol
- 84 people were involved in fights because of alcohol

Social Norms research method is currently being piloted in Hookergate Comprehensive School. The pilot is a three year research programme, in conjunction with Northumbria University, which looks at year 7 and year 9 pupils perceptions of social issues including alcohol.

## **Inner West Area Forum**

### **5 November 2008**

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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#### **Appointment of Vice-Chair**

Inspector Ki Azam was appointed as Vice-Chair of the Inner West Area Forum.

#### **Operation Goldfinch**

Sargent Alan Parks gave an update on the Operation Goldfinch which had taken place in the Dunston area in September.

#### **Building an Active Future Programme**

Louise Rule, Head of Gateshead Council's Sport and Leisure informed the Forum of the proposed plans for a £29 million investment in Sport and Leisure facilities in the Borough over the next three years. It is planned to replace the Felling and Blaydon swimming pools and refurbish the Gateshead Leisure Centre.

The proposed Plan for the refurbishment and alteration of the Dunston Swimming facility was displayed. It is anticipated that the work will begin in 2009 and be complete by 2010.

#### **Evaluation of Local Lettings Plan - Redheush and Eslington Court, Teams**

Since the introduction of the Local Lettings Plan (LLP) an evaluation of the impact and outcomes during the first 12 months of operation had revealed that measures had resulted in reducing levels of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage, reduced the fear of crime, improved the estate management to the benefit of all residents, reduced environmental damage and improved the

demand for properties, community spirit and cohesion.

As a result the Gateshead Housing Company Board had recommended to Council that the LLP be continued in its current form.

## **Inner West Area Forum**

### **17 September 2008**

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Contact: Anne Jennings ext 2141

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#### **Discussion Topic - Housing in the Inner West**

The Forum was asked to consider and discuss:

- Inner West is an area of mixed income. How can we improve cohesion and financial cohesion?
- How can we improve the choice of housing in the area?
- The link between good quality housing and health has been identified. What can be done through housing to improve the health of people living in the Inner West?

#### **Health Inequalities Review**

Alison Learmonth, Director of Public Health - Gateshead attended the meeting and gave an update on the outcomes of the review.

A Service improvement plan has been developed for each priority with a three year implementation plan.

#### **Neighbourhood Pride**

The Forum received a presentation on the Neighbourhood Pride Fund. The

main objective of the fund is to improve pride in neighbourhoods by enhancing the local environment.

The allocated budget is managed in accordance with Council procedures. Bid proposals and monitoring arrangements were outlined. Several projects have been identified for 2008-2009 and further ideas would be welcomed.

### **Riverside Park Strategy**

A draft strategy for the Riverside Park was prepared in 2007 to create an agreed framework to take forward, improve and manage the park. This served as a basis for consultation during 2008 and it is intended to take a final draft Strategy to the Council's Cabinet for adoption in August 2008.

A 3 year allocation of funding to deliver improvements to the park has been approved from the Council's Capital programme for the period 2008/11.

## **Children and Young People Partnership**

**15 October 2008**

Contact: Rosalyn White ext 2088

### **Workshop Discussions**

The Partnership took part in a workshop to look at how the Partnership works for all of its partners and how the outcomes for all children and young people in Gateshead could be improved. The Partnership heard presentations on the national perspective and also on the thinking behind 'family thinking'.

### **Partnership Exercise**

Partners identified the main drivers for their organisation or service that will drive forward what they do over the next three to five years.

### **Partner Feedback**

Feedback was provided on what the Partnership does well and where improvements could be made.

### **Moving Forward – Next Steps**

Suggestions were made as to how the Partnership could improve and move forward in the future:-

- Annually make the Partnership meeting coincide with the Gateshead Youth Assembly
- Standing agenda items
- There should be a balance of themes
- Consultation exercises to be carried out with young people to establish what they want to be seen done

# Health and Social Care Partnership

6 November 2008

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Contact: Deborah Haswell ext 2137

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## GSP Improvement Plan

A number of initiatives were looked at and the Group agreed six themes which include:

- Communications and Engagement
- Delivering Vision 2030 and the Gateshead Agreement
  - Holding each other to account for delivery of Vision 2030 and the Gateshead Agreement
- Engrain more robust challenge of performance and service delivery
- Improve the links between the GSP Steering Group and these partnerships and area forums
- Work further to embed the neighbourhood agenda both through the Area forums and engagement with communities
- Putting Equality and cohesion at the heart of the GSP

## Mental Health Commissioning Plan

Twelve PCT's within the North East have developed a single commissioning team. The National Service Framework for Mental Health is coming to a close in 2009 and a new vision for mental health, nationally and regionally is developing. The vision for the future is an integrated approach, bringing organisations together focusing more attentions on prevention and early intervention for all age groups.

## Health Impact Assessment

A Health Inequality Impact Assessment screen workshop took place and focused on pathways for each of the 6 Big Ideas of vision 2030. A Health Impact Assessment champion for each themed partnership was requested and a Health Impact Assessment steering group is to be set up.

## LAA Update 6 Monthly Performance

A draft report had been finalised and there is a lot of work being carried out regarding health inequalities and getting people active.

## Community Development Strategy

This strategy brings together all service areas seeking to consult and involve local people in the design and development of services they use. The Strategy will ensure communities are fully involved in the delivery of a range of strategies. A vision statement has been developed along with 5 outcomes to help achieve it.

# Safer, Stronger Communities & Culture Partnership

24 October 2008

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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## GSP Improvement Plan

Alison Rigg gave a presentation of the development of an Improvement Plan for the Gateshead Strategic Partnership (GSP).

A draft action plan has been prepared following a number of consultation and discussion sessions with the GSP.

Six broad themes have been identified within the plan these are:

- Communications and Engagement
- Engrain more robust challenge of performance and service delivery
- Delivering Vision 2030 and the Gateshead Agreement – holding each other to account for delivering of Vision 2030 and the Gateshead Agreement
- Improve links between GSP steering group, themed partnerships and area forums
- Work further to embed the neighbourhood agenda both through Area Forums and engagement with communities
- Putting equality and cohesion at the heart of the GSP

Under each broad theme there are a number of actions, timescales, responsibility and additional comments.

## Delivering Vision 2030

The proposals for the performance monitoring arrangements of Vision 2030 were presented.

Partners welcomed the report and a number were able to see how their work influences a number of the targets. A list of lead officers, with responsibility for certain targets is to be prepared and circulated. This will assist partners in reporting back their achievements/performance.

## Community Development Strategy

An update was provided on the development of the Community Development Strategy. The vision for the strategy was outlined, as '*Local People are able to Challenge, influence and shape decisions that affect their lives and contribute to active and sustainable communities*'.

The strategy is still currently in draft form. Once a final draft has been prepared this will be considered by Cabinet and the GSP.

## Get With It Volunteering Programme

Caroline Luck, Sport and Leisure Manager, Gateshead Council gave a presentation on the 'Get with it' volunteering programme.

# Safer, Stronger Communities & Culture Partnership

26 September 2008

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Contact: Iain Burns ext 3993

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## Skills for Life Strategy

Kevin Pearson gave a presentation on the Skills for Life Strategy 2008-2011.

The strategy identifies key priorities that need to be undertaken during this period by the Council, in order to improve the literacy, language and numeracy skills of the adult population of Gateshead.

## Building an Active Future Programme

Louise Rule gave a presentation setting out the Building an Active Future Programme. Gateshead Council is investing £29 million in Sport and Leisure facilities as part of this programme of works.

## Sports and Physical Activity Partnership

The terms of reference for the Gateshead Sport and Physical Activity Partnership were presented for information.

## Hodge Review/Sport England/MLA Changes

David Bunce provided an update on the current changes taking place in the culture and sport arena. Updates on the Hodge Review and its findings, Sport England and Museum Libraries and Arts Changes were also provided.

## Climate Change Strategy

A proposed approach towards the development of a Climate Change Strategy was presented to the partnership. Each partner has an important role to play in tackling climate change. The partnership has previously agreed to own and lead on monitoring of such a strategy.

The strategy itself will be a high level document covering both mitigation and adaptation. It will also set out the role of partners as community leaders.

## Northumbria Police

### Policing Green Paper

A paper was presented to provide a summary of the new Policing Green Paper. This outlined the subsequent potential implications for Gateshead arising from this.

### Top Ten Targets

Northumbria Police have introduced an initiative, which will move the focus from targeting areas to targeting those individuals who cause the greatest harm in communities.

Partners will be involved in this process to identify and nominate the top ten targets for each Neighbourhood area.

## Community Development Strategy

Annie Murphy introduced the initial report on the Community Development Strategy and priority areas for action.

# Northumbria Police Authority

22 October 2008

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Contact: Mike Aynsley ext 2128

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## Code of Conduct Regulations and Guidance

Part 10 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 provided for a revised ethical conduct regime for local government. The Regulations bringing this regime into effect came into force on 8 May 2008. From that date, complaints concerning the conduct of Members come direct to the appropriate Authority for consideration by their Standards Committee, not to the Standards Board for England (SBE).

The Authority's Standards Committee, in accordance with the regulations and the guidance, has agreed to the establishment of an Assessment Sub – Committee and Review Sub – Committee, to be convened when required to consider complaints of a breach of the Members' Code of Conduct, on an ad hoc basis, with membership drawn from the Standards Committee.

# Northumbria Police Authority

17 September 2008

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Contact: Mike Aynsley ext 2128

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## Audit Commission Annual Governance Report

The Audit Commission presented the Authority's financial statements and Annual Governance Report. The key messages in the Audit Commission's Annual Governance Report were:

- The Audit Commission's work on the financial statements was substantially complete and they proposed to issue an unqualified audit opinion.
- The Audit Commission had concluded that the Annual Governance Statement was prepared in accordance with proper practice specified by CIPFA and was consistent with the findings of the audit.
- The Audit Commission's work on the Authority's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources was now complete and they proposed to issue an unqualified conclusion on the use of resources.

The Authority's 2007/08 Statement of Accounts, amended for any adjustments identified during the audit, was also presented.

- The Authority agreed that the Strategic Director, Finance and ICT should issue the Letter of Representation on its behalf and approved the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2007/08 for publication.

## **Crime and Reduction Partnership Structures And Local Area Agreements 2008-11**

The Authority has been advised of the following:

- The revised structures and requirements in place in Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) resulting from the implementation of the review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- Information relating to Local Area Agreements (LAAs) and the contribution of CDRPs to the development and delivery of these agreements.
- The partnership priorities and Local Area Agreements across Northumberland and Tyne and Wear.

## **White Paper - Communities in Control: Real people, Real Power**

The Authority has been advised of the contents of this White Paper which builds on the previous local government White Paper Strong, Prosperous Communities in 2006. It proposes to provide local people with more opportunities to get involved in shaping local services, more information on key decisions in the local area and greater accountability of politicians.

## **Acceptance of Tenders (£10,000 to £50,000)**

Contact: Mike Aynsley ext: 2128

The following contracts have been awarded:

Contract for: Campground Waste Transfer Site – Installation of CCTV System  
Period: 01/08/08 – 31/08/08  
Supplier: Barrier Surveillance (Co. Durham)  
Estimated Value: £35,000.00

Contract for: Gateshead Central Library – DDA Requirements  
Period: 01/08/08 – 31/08/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £166,147.95

Contract for: High Spen Primary School – Proposed Extension  
Period: 01/08/08 – 31/08/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services (supercedes order 81334 £412,000 on May 08 schedule)  
Estimated Value: £423,652.63

Contract for: Roman Road Primary School – DDA Works 2008  
Period: 01/09/08 – 30/09/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £43,976.68

Contract for: Baltic Business Quarter – Broadband Services  
Period: 01/09/08 – 30/09/08  
Supplier: Alcatel-Lucent Telecom Limited (Swindon)  
Estimated Value: £138,525.00

Contract for: BNG – Block Improvements West Saltwell Road – Phase 2  
Period: 01/09/08 – 30/09/08  
Supplier: Frank Haslam Milan and Co Limited (Sunderland)  
Estimated Value: £1,388,770.78

Contract for: BNG Avenues Gateshead – Phase 2  
Period: 01/09/08 – 30/09/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £982,365.00

Contract for: Civic Centre – Renewal of Office Lighting  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Newey and Eyre Limited  
Estimated Value: £61,907.81

Contract for: Dunston War Memorial – Work to Stabilize Monument and Granite Steps  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £46,880.07

Contract for: Gateshead @ Leam Lane – DDA Works – Changing Places WC  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £43,545.41

Contract for: Civic Centre – Function Suite and Courtyard – Furniture  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Albany Office Equipment (Gateshead)  
Estimated Value: £117,314.45

Contract for: Dunston Activity Centre – Housing Company Revised Scheme (supercedes order 81458)  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £296,710.00

Contract for: Watergate Country Park – DDA Upgrade  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Local Environmental Services  
Estimated Value: £181,761.55

Contract for: Campground Depot Transfer Station – Asbestos and Associated Works  
Period: 01/10/08 – 31/10/08  
Supplier: Squibb and Davies (Demolition) (Essex)  
Estimated Value: £596,741.00

## Forthcoming Meetings – December 2008

Central Area Forum (Elgin Centre Carr Hill)	01.12.08	4.00pm
Cabinet	02.12.08	10.00am
East Area Forum (Gateshead College Sport Academy)	03.12.08	4.00pm
Licensing Sub- Committee	04.12.08	10.00am
South Area Forum (Millennium Centre Kibblesworth)	04.12.08	4.00pm
West Area Forum (Winlaton Community Centre)	09.12.08	4.00pm
Inner West Area Forum	10.12.08	4.00pm
Employment Issues Committee	10.12.08	2.30pm
Council	11.12.08	2.30pm
Licensing Committee	12.12.08	10.00am
Sustainable Communities Place OSC	15.12.08	5.00pm
Cabinet	16.12.08	10.00am
Regulatory Committee	16.12.08	5.00pm
Sustainable Communities People OSC	17.12.08	1.30pm
Planning and Development Committee	17.12.08	10.00am
Children and Young People OSC	18.12.08	1.30pm