

# Cabinet Agenda



**5.00 pm Tuesday, 5 June 2018**  
**Committee Room No. 2, Town Hall,**  
**Darlington. DL1 5QT**

**Members and Members of the Public are welcome to attend this Meeting.**

1. Introductions/Attendance at Meeting.
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Death in Service (Pages 1 - 2)
4. Times of Meetings
5. Minutes (Pages 3 - 10)
6. Matters Referred to Cabinet - There were no matters referred back for reconsideration to this meeting.
7. Issues Arising from Scrutiny - There were no issues arising from Scrutiny considered at this meeting.
8. Update on Children's Services Improvements and Outcomes of Single Inspection Framework Re-Inspection (Pages 11 - 20)
9. Key Decision - Darlington Borough Local Plan 2016/36 (Pages 21 - 28)
10. Futures Fund: Neighbourhood Renewal (Pages 29 - 34)
11. Town Centre Car Parking (Pages 35 - 46)
12. Revenue Budget Outturn 2017/18 (Pages 47 - 66)
13. Project Position Statement and Capital Programme Monitoring Outturn 2017/18 (Pages 67 - 86)
14. Disabled Facilities Grants 2018/19 (Pages 87 - 92)

15. (URGENT ITEM) Tees Valley Combined Authority - Devolution of Adult Education Budget (Pages 93 - 98)
16. Representation on Outside Bodies 2018/19 (Pages 99 - 104)
17. Proposed Resident's Parking - Objectors to Traffic Regulation Order:-
  - (a) Cleveland Avenue (Pages 105 - 110)
  - (b) Mowden Terrace, Westbrook Terrace and Mowden Street (Pages 111 - 118)
18. Membership Changes
19. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM(S) (if any) which in the opinion of the Chair of this Committee are of an urgent nature and can be discussed at this meeting.
20. Questions

### **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

21. To consider the exclusion of the Public and Press :- –  
**RECOMMENDED** - That, pursuant to Sections 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in exclusion paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.

### **PART III                      NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

22. Schedule of Transactions - Report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services. (Pages 119 - 120)
23. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM(S) (if any) which in the opinion of the Chair of this Committee are of an urgent nature and can be discussed at this meeting.
24. Questions.



**Luke Swinhoe**  
**Assistant Director Law and Governance**

**Monday, 28 May 2018**

**Town Hall  
Darlington.**

**Membership**

Councillors Dixon, Harker, C.L.B. Hughes, McEwan, S Richmond, A J Scott and Wallis

If you need this information in a different language or format or you have any other queries on this agenda please contact Lynne Wood, Elections Manager, Resources Group, during normal office hours 8.30 a.m. to 4.45 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays and 8.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. Fridays (e-mail [Lynne.Wood@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:Lynne.Wood@darlington.gov.uk) or telephone 01325 405803).

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**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **DEATH IN SERVICE – DOUG SINCLAIR**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Stephen Harker, Efficiency and Resources Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Ian Williams, Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. To inform Members of the recent Death in Service on 11 May 2018 of Doug Sinclair. Doug was employed as a Street Lighting Operative and was a valued member of the Civil Engineering team within Economic Growth.

#### **Information and Analysis**

2. It is with great sadness that I have to inform Members of Doug Sinclair's death on 11 May 2018. Doug was 55 years old and joined the Council in March 1998. Doug transferred from Durham County Council and had a total of 39 years local government service. Doug was a well-respected member of the team and will be greatly missed.
3. A letter has been sent to Doug's family conveying the Council's sympathy and Human Resources are ensuring they receive appropriate advice and support.

#### **Recommendation**

4. It is recommended that the Cabinet note :-
  - (a) with great sadness the recent death in service of Doug Sinclair a respected employee of the Council; and
  - (b) the actions of the Council in conveying the sympathy to Doug's family and the support offered from Human Resources.

#### **Reasons**

5. The recommendations are supported to make Members aware of the recent death in service.

**Ian Williams  
Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

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## DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE MONDAY 18 JUNE 2018

### CABINET 5 June 2018

**PRESENT** – Councillor Dixon (in the Chair); Councillors Harker, C.L.B. Hughes, McEwan, S Richmond, A.J. Scott and Wallis (7)

**INVITEES** – Councillors Curry and H. Scott (2)

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE** – Councillors Caron, Coultas, Johnson and Lyonette (4)

**C1. REPRESENTATIONS** – No representations were made by Members or members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

**C2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Councillors Dixon and C.L.B. Hughes declared non-pecuniary interests in Minute C10 below. There were no other declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

**C3. DEATH IN SERVICE – DOUG SINCLAIR** - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) informing Members of the Death in Service of Doug Sinclair, a Street Lighting Operative who was a valued member of the Civil Engineering team within Economic Growth.

It was reported that a letter of sympathy had been sent to Doug's family and that the Human Resource Division were ensuring that the family received the appropriate support and advice.

**RESOLVED** – (a) It is with great sadness that Cabinet notes the recent death in service of Doug Sinclair, a respected employee of the Council.

(b) That the actions of the Council in conveying sympathy to Doug's family and the support offered by the Human Resources Division be noted.

**REASON** - To make Members aware of the recent death in service.

**C4. TIMES OF MEETINGS – RESOLVED** – That meetings of this Cabinet be held at 5.00 p.m. for the remainder of the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

**C5. MINUTES** - Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Cabinet held on 3 April 2018.

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

**REASON** – They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

**C6. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET** - There were no matters referred back for re-consideration to this meeting.

**C7. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY** - There were no issues arising from Scrutiny considered at this meeting.

**C8. UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENTS AND OUTCOMES OF SINGLE INSPECTION FRAMEWORK RE-INSPECTION** - The Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Children and Adults Services (previously circulated) updating Cabinet on the outcome of the Single Inspection Framework (SIF) re-inspection conducted during February and March 2018.

The submitted report set out the inspection findings, published on 21 May 2018, which had cited considerable improvements and concluded that, overall, Children's Services in Darlington had improved considerably from a position of inadequate in 2015 to now requiring improvement to be good.

It was reported that the progress was a considerable achievement, pivotal to which was dynamic leadership, effective political and corporate support and significant resourcing of the improvement journey.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the findings of the SIF re-inspection of Children's Services be noted.

(b) That the revised inspection regulation framework that the Council is now subject to be noted.

(c) That it be noted that an improvement plan will now be developed in response to the recommendations.

**REASON** - Cabinet agreed they should receive regular update reports on improvement progress.

**C9. KEY DECISIONS - DARLINGTON BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2016/36 - DRAFT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION** - The Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) seeking Cabinet's approval to undertake a consultation exercise on the draft Local Plan 2016/36 (also previously circulated) and requesting that delegated powers be given to the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio holder, to make minor editorial amendments to the draft prior to its publication.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That approval be given to the commencement of a six-week period of consultation on the draft Local Plan 2016/36.

(b) That the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio holder, be given delegated power to make any minor changes to the documents before they are finally published.

**REASON** - Local Planning Authorities must prepare a Local Plan that sets out the local planning policies for their local planning authority area. Government guidance requires that Local Plans must be positively prepared, justified, effective and be consistent with national policy, in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

**C10. FUTURES FUND: NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL** - The Leader introduced the report of the Managing Director (previously circulated) seeking approval to allocate resources from the Futures Fund to further assist the Darlington Credit Union in its work to improve the financial wellbeing of the community.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That a one-off payment of £50,000 be made to the Darlington Credit Union in return for a deferred shareholding to strengthen capital balances.

(b) That the Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Partnerships, be given delegated power to draw up a funding agreement to secure the objectives and protect the interests of the Council.

**REASONS** – (a) Cabinet is a signatory to the goals of One Darlington, Perfectly Placed, as a statement of intent to narrow inequalities and protect the most vulnerable in our community.

(b) The financial hardship faced by many people in Darlington is rising and there was public support for the Council in taking steps to alleviate the problems households face.

**C11. TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKING** - The Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio introduced the report of the Managing Director and the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to reviewing car parking charges in the Town Centre in response to feedback and views from the public and traders.

It was reported that, to assist Town Centre trading, it was proposed to offer two hours free car parking in a number of car parks on the outside of the ring road, with East Street car park having an offer of all day parking for £2.00.

**RESOLVED** - That the charges for car parking as set out in paragraph 16 of the submitted report be approved.

**REASONS** – (a) To approve new charges in response to requests by traders and the public.

(b) To enhance the attractiveness of the Town Centre to visitors and residents.

**C12. REVENUE OUTTURN 2017-18** - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Managing Director (previously circulated) presenting the revenue outturn 2017/18 (subject to Audit), to allow Members to consider the results in light of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and also to consider the Collection Fund and Housing Revenue Account outturn.

The submitted report stated that the draft year-end position showed an improvement of £0.530 million from the opening balance projections reported in the 2018/19 to 2021/22

MTFP.

**RESOLVED** - (a) That the revenue outturn for 2017/18, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the additional carry forward requests of £1.189M, referred to in paragraphs 14 to 18 of the submitted report, be approved and carried forward into 2018/19.

(c) That the Earmarked Reserves, requested in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the submitted report, be approved.

**REASON** - In order to maintain appropriate management arrangements for the Council's finances and make effective use of the Council's resources.

**C13. PROJECT POSITION STATEMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

**MONITORING OUTTURN 2017/18** - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Managing Director and the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) updating Members on the delivery of the Council's Capital Programme, the financial outturn position as at 31st March 2018; the proposed financing of the 2017/18 Capital expenditure; providing an update on the current status of all construction projects currently being undertaken by the Council; and seeking approval for a number of changes to the programme.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That the delivery and financial outturn of the 2017/18 Capital Programme, as detailed in the submitted report be noted.

(b) That the status position on construction projects, as detailed in the appendix to the submitted report, be noted.

(c) That the adjustments to resources, as detailed in paragraph 21 of the submitted report, be approved.

**REASONS** – (a) To enable Members to note the progress of the 2017/18 Capital Programme and to allow the capital spend to be fully financed.

(b) To inform Cabinet of the current status of construction projects.

(c) To maintain effective management of resources.

**C14. DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT 2018/19** - The Cabinet Member with Adult Social Care Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Children and Adults Services (previously circulated) requesting the release of capital funding allocated for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG's) and to utilise that funding in accordance with the Council's DFG policy.

**RESOLVED** - That the Disabled Facilities Grant for 2018/19 be noted and the capital funding be released.

**REASON** - To enable the adaptations for those individuals who are eligible to receive a Disabled Facilities Grant for 2018/19 to proceed.

**C15. (URGENT DECISION) TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY DEVOLUTION OF ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET** - The Leader introduced the report of the Managing Director (previously circulated) seeking Cabinet's approval to enable legislation to be made to transfer responsibility for the Adult Education Budget to the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

**RESOLVED** – (a) That agreement be given to the making, by Parliament, of a statutory instrument to enable responsibility for the Adult Education Budget to transfer to the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

(b) That, subject to this being agreed, authority be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to give the Council's consent to the final Order being made when requested by the Secretary of State.

**REASONS** – (a) To enable the Tees Valley Combined Authority to have responsibility for the Adult Education Budget.

(b) Consent from the constituent councils of the Tees Valley Combined Authority is required by Government before legislation to enable this can be laid before Parliament.

**C16. REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES 2018/19** - The Leader introduced the report of the Managing Director (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to this Council's representation on other bodies for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, to which Cabinet appoints.

**RESOLVED** - That the appointments to the other bodies, as detailed below, for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, be approved.

**Name of Body or Organisation      Nomination(s)**

Association of Rail North  
Partnership Authorities

Rail North Ltd.                      Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)

Transport for the North              Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)

North East Rail  
Management Unit              Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)

Charitable Organisations for the  
Blind (COB)                      Councillor Newall

Community Library (Cockerton)  
Limited                      Councillor Baldwin (Cockerton Ward Member)

County Durham and Darlington  
Foundation Trust – Board of  
Governors                      Councillor A J Scott (Councillor S Richmond as  
named substitute)

<b>Name of Body or Organisation</b>	<b>Nomination(s)</b>
Creative Darlington	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio) and Councillor Carson (Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee) as named substitute
Darlington and District Youth and Community Association (2002)	Councillor Baldwin and Councillor Curry
Darlington Cares	Councillor McEwan (Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio)
Darlington Partnership Board	Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon); Cabinet Member with Housing, Health and Partnerships Portfolio (Councillor A J Scott); and Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes) and Councillor Mrs Scott (Leader of the Opposition)
Darlington Railway Museum Trust	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)
Durham County Pension Fund Committee	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker) and Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Haszeldine)
Durham Tees Valley Airport Limited - Board	Councillor McEwan (Director) (Councillor Carson as substitute Council Director)
Durham Tees Valley Airport Limited - Consultative Committee	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)
Family Help Organisation	Councillors J Taylor, Newall and Curry
Family Placement Panel	Councillor Crumbie
Maidendale Nature and Fishing Reserve (Associate Member)	Councillor Dixon (Ward Member)
North East Ambulance Service	Chair of Health and Well Being Board (Councillor A J Scott)
North East Child Poverty Commission	Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes)
North East Regional Employers Organisation	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker), Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Haszeldine) and Vice Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Crumbie)

<b>Name of Body or Organisation</b>	<b>Nomination(s)</b>
Executive Committee	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker)
North East Strategic Migration Partnership	Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes) (Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon) as named substitute)
Northern Housing Consortium	Cabinet Member with Housing, Health and Partnerships Portfolio (Councillor A J Scott)
Northumbrian Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Councillor Carson (Councillor McEwan as named substitute)
Poor Moor Fund	Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio (Councillor McEwan)
RELATE North East	Councillor Cartwright and one vacancy
Tees Valley Local Access Forum	Councillor Carson (Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee)
Tidy North Regional Consultative Committee	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)

**REASON** - To comply with the nominations received from the Political Groups.

**C17. PROPOSED RESIDENT'S PARKING - (1) Cleveland Avenue – Objection -**

The Cabinet Member with the Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) advising Members of an objection received to a resident parking proposal in Cleveland Avenue and seeking a decision on whether to proceed with the proposal.

**RESOLVED** – That, having considered the objection, it be set aside and Officers be authorised to proceed with the proposal to introduce residents' parking as advertised.

**REASON** - To improve the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

**(2) Proposed Resident's Parking Mowden Terrace, Westbrook Terrace and Mowden Street – Objections -**

The Cabinet Member with the Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio introduced the report of Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) advising Members of two objections received to a resident's parking proposal in Mowden Terrace, Mowden Street and Westbrook Terrace and seeking a decision on whether to proceed with the proposal.

**RESOLVED** – That, having considered the objections, they be set aside and Officers be authorised to proceed with the proposal to introduce resident's parking and no waiting at any time as advertised.

**REASON** - To improve the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

**C18. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** – There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

**C19. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC - RESOLVED** - That, pursuant to Sections 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in exclusion paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

**C20. SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPH NO 3)** - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services (previously circulated) to consider the Schedule of Transactions and to seek approval of the terms negotiated.

**RESOLVED** - It is recommended that the schedule be approved and the transactions completed on the terms and conditions detailed therein.

**REASON** - Terms negotiated require approval by Cabinet before binding itself contractually to a transaction.

**DECISIONS DATED –  
FRIDAY 8 JUNE 2018**

**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENTS AND OUTCOMES OF SINGLE INSPECTION FRAMEWORK RE-INSPECTION**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Cyndi Hughes,  
Children and Young People Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Suzanne Joyner  
Director of Children and Adult Services**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Cabinet on the outcome of the Single Inspection Framework (SIF) re-inspection conducted during February and March 2018.

#### **Summary**

2. Following publication of the SIF report, on 1 September 2015, which found Children's Services in Darlington to be inadequate, Cabinet has received regular progress reports regarding the improvement journey. The most recent update was presented to Cabinet on 6 February 2018.
3. Ofsted subsequently carried out a full four week SIF re-inspection of Children's Services between 26 February and 22 March 2018.
4. Ofsted published their findings report on 21 May 2018 (**Appendix A**), which cites considerable improvements since 2015, which are detailed in the main body of this report. The report concluded that overall Children's Services in Darlington have improved considerably from a position of inadequate in 2015 to now being requiring improvement to be good.
5. Ofsted made recommendations for the continued improvement of children's services.
6. Within the overall judgement, Ofsted concluded the following three graded domain judgements and two sub domain judgements:
  - (a) Children who need help and protection – **Requires improvement to be good** (Inadequate at 2015 inspection).
  - (b) Children looked after and achieving permanence – **Requires improvement to be good** (Requires improvement to be good at 2015 inspection).

- (i) Adoption performance – **Good** (Good at 2015 inspection)
- (ii) Experiences and progress of care leavers – **Good** (Good at 2015 inspection)
- (c) Leadership, management and governance – **Requires improvement to be good** (Inadequate at 2015 inspection).

### **Recommendation**

7. Cabinet are recommended to note:

- (a) the findings of the SIF re-inspection of Children's Services
- (b) the revised inspection regulation framework that the Council is now subject to
- (c) that an improvement plan will be developed in response to the recommendations

### **Reason**

8. That Cabinet agreed they should receive regular update reports on improvement progress.

**Suzanne Joyner**  
**Director of Children and Adults Services**

### **Background Papers**

- (i) Darlington Childrens Services Improvement Plan 2015-17
- (ii) Ofsted – Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers
- (iii) Review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board
- (iv) Ofsted Monitoring Visit Letters – July 2016, October 2016, February 2017 and September 2017
- (v) DfE six and twelve month reviews
- (vi) Letter from Minister of State for Vulnerable Children and Families – June 2016 and January 2017
- (vii) Ofsted – Re-inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, published 21 May 2018

Sharon Raine 6091

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	This report has implications for the health and wellbeing of vulnerable groups of children.
Carbon Impact	This report has no implications for Carbon Impact.
Diversity	This report has no implications for Diversity.
Wards Affected	All wards within the Borough of Darlington are affected.
Groups Affected	Looked After Children and Care Leavers and Children in Need of Help and Protection.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend any changes to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent matter.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This report has implications for ensuring that children have the best start in life
Efficiency	This report has no implications for Carbon Impact.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has implications for the care and wellbeing of Looked After Children and Care Leavers.

## MAIN REPORT

### Ofsted Inspection Process

9. Ofsted carried out a four week SIF re-inspection of Childrens Services in Darlington between 26 February and 22 March 2018. Inspectors examined the experiences of children and young people who have needed or still need help and/or protection. This also included children and young people who are looked after and who are leaving care. The SIF re-inspection did not focus on the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Childrens Board.
10. The focus of the inspection was to consider the quality of work and the difference that children's services make to the lives of children, young people and families. Inspectors reviewed case files, observed how professionals work with families and each other and talked directly to young people about their experiences. Inspectors also tested the extent to which the authority understood about its own performance and the impact of leaders and managers.

### Inspection Findings

11. Ofsted judged that Childrens Services in Darlington require improvement to be good. The progress from a judgement of inadequate in 2015 was noted as a considerable achievement, pivotal to which was dynamic leadership, effective political and corporate support and significant resourcing of the improvement journey.
12. The overall judgement is based on three graded domain judgements and two sub domain judgements:
  - (a) Children who need help and protection – **Requires improvement to be good** (Inadequate at 2015 inspection).
  - (b) Children looked after and achieving permanence – **Requires improvement to be good** (Requires improvement to be good at 2015 inspection).
  - (c) Adoption performance – **Good** (Good at 2015 inspection).
  - (d) Experiences and progress of care leavers – **Good** (Good at 2015 inspection).
  - (e) Leadership, management and governance – **Requires improvement to be good** (Inadequate at 2015 inspection).
13. Ofsted Inspectors reported the following specific findings (quoted from the report):
  - (a) It has been a considerable achievement for the Local Authority to have improved the services that were judged to be inadequate at the previous inspection in 2015, whilst sustaining the quality of those services that were judged to be good
  - (b) Leadership and governance have markedly improved. Senior leaders know the services, quality of social work practice and improvement priorities well
  - (c) Pivotal to the improvement is the effective political and corporate support, including significant resourcing

- (d) Corporate and political oversight and scrutiny are now effective and social care performance management is well developed
- (e) The Council is a committed Corporate Parent, working closely with and acting on the views of the active and influential 'Darlo Care Crew', it engages partners effectively and prioritises council resources to support and improve outcomes for children who are looked after
- (f) Strategic and operational partnership working is generally well developed and effective
- (g) Persistent and wide ranging approaches have successfully improved workforce stability, capacity and development
- (h) No children were found in situations of unassessed or unmanaged risk, and a relentless focus on compliance has ensured that children are seen promptly and regularly
- (i) When children and families need help, they get the right service and when children are at serious risk of harm partners work together well and quickly to make sure they are safe
- (j) Social workers see children regularly and know their wishes and feelings

14. Inspectors also reported that the following areas needed continued improvement (quoted from the report):

- (a) The quality of practice and management oversight require improvement to be consistently effective. Assessments are too descriptive, lack analysis and clarity about what needs to happen next to ensure that work with families progresses quickly
- (b) Whilst children who are in care get good educational support, their progress and attainment at Key Stages 3 and 4 needs to improve
- (c) Some children have too many moves of placement. The matching of children with foster carers, the training of an information sharing with the carers is not sufficiently developed to consistently support placement stability, especially for children with complex needs
- (d) Children become looked after in response to a crisis, in some cases opportunities for a more planned approach are missed. Edge of care services are not sufficiently developed to provide a timely response for all those families whose children may become looked after

15. **The experiences and progress of children in need of help and protection** was judged to require improvement to be good. Ofsted reported that tangible progress had been made since the 2015 inspection, where this domain was judged to be inadequate, and that:

- (a) Where children are at risk of significant harm there is a prompt and co-ordinated response to ensure their immediate safety
- (b) There have been significant improvements in the timely completion of assessments, with these being in line with the needs of the child and better than comparator authorities
- (c) Good examples of direct work with children were seen
- (d) Services to disabled children are timely, child centred and well-co-ordinated

- (e) Responses to children who are at risk of sexual exploitation and who go missing are timely and well-co-ordinated
- (f) The LA is tenacious in locating children who are missing from education, and has highly effective systems to keep track of those pupils who are electively home educated and to ensure that they are safeguarded
- (g) The assessment and provision for homeless 16 and 17 year olds is prompt and effective

16. Continued improvement is required in:

- (a) Quality of critical challenge by frontline managers and by Independent Reviewing Officers
- (b) Stronger analysis within assessments
- (c) Further development of edge of care services
- (d) An evaluation of the effectiveness of early help

17. **The experiences and progress of children looked after and achieving permanence** is judged as having sustained requires improvement to be good from the 2015 inspection. In particular Ofsted noted that:

- (a) Children who are looked after live in good quality placements, and are well supported to maintain contact with their birth families and to pursue leisure interests
- (b) The local authority has addressed the concerns from the previous inspection regarding the inappropriate use of Section 20, and this is now applied appropriately
- (c) Social workers know their children well, see them alone, and they complete meaningful direct work with children
- (d) The conclusion of care proceedings are timely
- (e) Chronologies for Court are of good quality
- (f) Children's emotional health and wellbeing is enhanced through a range of support and activities
- (g) The virtual school head has engaged with schools and colleges effectively and strengthened systems to track and support the education of children who are looked after
- (h) The Darlo Care Crew is an energetic group with clear views about their care and how services can be improved. They meet with Corporate parents regularly

18. The sub judgement areas of **adoption performance** and **experience and progress of care leavers** are also part of this domain. These are also reported to have sustained judgements of good. Ofsted noted:

- (a) Leadership and management of the adoption service is strong
- (b) Performance of the adoption service has improved in the past 12 months
- (c) Children whose plans are for adoption are identified without delay and placed promptly within adoption placements
- (d) Children are at the centre of adoption work
- (e) The service for care leavers has further developed since the last inspection

- (f) The authority is in touch with all of its care leavers
- (g) Individual risks to care leavers are clearly identified, including those at risk of child sexual exploitation and support in place to reduce risks
- (h) Care leavers have good relationships and receive positive support from personal advisers
- (i) A range of accommodation options are available for care leavers, with prompt flexible support and advice too. There is sufficient choice and availability, which means that care leavers rarely wait for accommodation
- (j) The proportion of care leavers in education, employment and training is better than in comparator authorities, they live in safe accommodation and are fully aware of their entitlements

19. Continued improvement is required in:

- (a) The terminology used in letters before proceeding so that parents are clear about what needs to change
- (b) Assessments and plans need to be clear and succinct
- (c) The time taken for special guardianship arrangements and long term fostering matches to be ratified
- (d) Further stabilise placements
- (e) Improve the training, assessment and support offered to foster carers and the quality of short-term placement matching
- (f) The timeliness of review health and dental assessments
- (g) The attainment of children who are looked after at Key Stage 4
- (h) Improve effectiveness of managers and IRO oversight and challenge to improve the quality of practice and to ensure work is progressed in a timely way

20. **Leadership, management and governance** was judged to require improvement to be good. Ofsted reported that the management of Childrens Service is now much more rigorous and effective, where previously this domain was judged to be inadequate, and that:

- (a) The Chief Executive Officer and Lead Member work well together with the Director of Children and Adults Services, they are well informed and the lead member is persistent, tenacious and well able to assert herself
- (b) Senior managers and leaders know themselves and their services well
- (c) Significant progress has been made with regards to statutory compliance
- (d) Elected Members have invested judiciously in Childrens Services
- (e) Governance arrangements are robust, having been strengthened and strategic partnerships are refreshed and revitalised
- (f) Scrutiny committee now provides effective challenge, and the LSCB now provides strong and effective leadership across the partnership
- (g) Senior managers and leaders have had significant success in stabilising the workforce, which cannot be underestimated and is pivotal to practice improvements that have been seen. Workforce development is strong. Staff talk very positively about the professional development and training opportunities that are available

- (h) The volume and quality of performance management information has improved significantly since the last inspection, the LA is well on its way to developing a comprehensive performance culture
- (i) Senior managers have taken decisive and appropriate action to address poor performance
- (j) Social workers and managers are motivated and feel valued, morale is good

21. Continued improvement is required in:

- (a) Strategic planning that focuses on measurable activities designed to improve outcomes for children, young people and families
- (b) The development of a more fluid, dynamic, partnership based and regional approach to commissioning
- (c) The development of a systematic quality assurance framework
- (d) A whole system approach needs to be taken to implementation of the Council's chosen practice framework

22. The recommendations contained within the inspection report will be taken forward through a newly developed Improvement Plan, which will be submitted to Ofsted.

### **Next Steps**

23. As Childrens Services are now judged to be requires improvement to be good, intervention activity from Ofsted will cease. The DfE Improvement Board has ceased, as has the Independent Chair and the six monthly reviews. A light touch monitoring process will remain in place, in line with all Council's that improve from an inadequate judgment. The DCAS is in discussion with the DfE Link Officer regarding how this will take place.

24. The Council is now subject to inspection regulation under the Inspection of Local Authority Childrens Services Framework (ILAC), which replaces the SIF. This is a three year programme designed to be proportionate and more continuous in nature by way of an ongoing dialogue with the Council to assess performance rather than relying on a single inspection in a three year period. For Council's judged as requires improvement to be good, the programme (over a three year period) consists of:

- (a) An annual engagement meeting with Ofsted; this is based on the Council's own self-evaluation, previous inspection findings, the broader issues affecting children's services, and is used to inform themes for subsequent focussed visits. A letter confirming the outcome of the engagement meeting will be sent to the Council but it will not be published.
- (b) Up to two focused visits, which involve two day visits with Inspectors onsite, looking at one or more aspects of service, themes or cohorts of children. Findings from visits are published but graded judgements are not made.
- (c) A possible Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI), which would replace a focussed visit, which is a multi-agency inspection of a specific themed area, with findings published.

- (d) One standard two week inspection, which will cover the full range of Childrens Services. Graded judgements are made on the four point scale of inadequate, requires improvement to be good, good and outstanding.

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**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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**DARLINGTON BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2016 – 2036  
DRAFT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Chris McEwan,  
Economy and Regeneration Portfolio Councillor**

**Responsible Director - Ian Williams  
Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

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## **SUMMARY REPORT**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. This report seeks Members' approval to the consultation of the draft version of the Local Plan.
2. It further seeks delegated powers for the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services in consultation with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio Holder to allow minor editorial amendments to the Draft Plan prior to publication and to agree detailed consultation arrangements.

### **Summary**

3. This report follows a previous report on 9 January 2018 which agreed the Local Plan housing target of 9,840 and the Local Plan timetable.
4. Included within the Local Development Scheme (the Local Plan timetable) is provision for the publication of a Draft Local Plan for consultation. This report seeks Cabinet approval to carry out a consultation exercise on the Draft Local Plan (**Appendix 1**). The written document will be accompanied by a Policies Map which shows the boundaries of the allocations and designations set by the planning policies. All of the evidence base that has been used to produce the plan will also be available for comment. This includes the Objective Assessment of Need, The Sustainability Assessment and the outcome of the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA).
5. The consultation will involve writing to all parties on the Local Plan consultation database, Parish Councils and Statutory Consultees. There will also be a series of drop in sessions where officers will be available to discuss the Plan.
6. The Local Plan provides a vision and a guide for the delivery of sustainable development over the next 20 years. It's about planning for our residents' future

needs in terms of housing and about how we protect and nurture our local environment whilst we provide these homes, the workplaces of the future, and our leisure.

7. The Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services will make arrangements for consultations on the plan in line with Statement of Community Involvement. This is likely to commence end of June 2018.

### **Recommendations**

8. It is recommended that Cabinet:-
  - (a) Agree to consult on the draft Local Plan 2016 – 2036.
  - (b) Agree a six week period of consultation.
  - (c) Delegate authority to the Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services, in consultation with the Economy and Regeneration Portfolio Holder, to make any minor changes to the documents referred to above before they are finally published.

### **Reasons**

9. Local Planning Authorities must prepare a Local Plan that sets out the local planning policies for their local planning authority area. Government guidance requires that Local Plans must be positively prepared, justified, effective and be consistent with national policy, in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

### **Background Papers**

- (i) National Planning Policy Framework, CLG March 2012
- (ii) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- (iii) Localism Act 2011

David Hand: Extension 6294

S17 Crime and Disorder	The Local Plan has a role in reducing crime through the design and location of development.
Health and Well Being	A key objective of Local Plan policies will be to improve people's health and wellbeing by protecting and improving the economic, social and environmental conditions in the Borough.
Carbon Impact	A Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out on the strategic issues and options. Achieving sustainable development will be a fundamental objective of the Local Plan.
Diversity	An Equalities Impact Assessment will be part of the local plan preparation process.
Wards Affected	All.
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	The Local Plan will be prepared using existing budgets and will ultimately form part of the Council's Planning Policy Framework.
Key Decision	Yes
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The Local Plan will represent the spatial implications of the overarching aims of One Darlington: Perfectly Placed.
Efficiency	The consultation stage of the Local Plan represents the most efficient way to produce the Local Plan having regard to the legislative and engagement requirements.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

10. Local Planning Authorities must prepare a Local Plan that sets out the local planning policies for their local planning authority area. These policies are very important material considerations when deciding planning applications, as all decisions must be made in accordance with the policies unless there are very strong reasons not to do so. Government guidance requires that Local Plans must be positively prepared, justified, effective and be consistent with national policy, in accordance with Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF states that every local planning authority in England should seek to have in place a clear, up to date Local Plan that conforms to the Framework, meets local development needs and reflects local people's views about how they wish their community to develop. The plan preparation process should fully involve everyone with an interest in the document or area, and they should have had the chance to comment.

11. The initial Draft Local Plan now before Members brings together the Borough's policies and land use allocations for the future. It reflects several years of work and is underpinned by many specialist studies, but is not the final version. There is scope for further changes to be made in response to comments submitted through this consultation by the public, stakeholders and statutory consultees, and also in light of further changes that the Government are proposing in relation to the National Planning Policy Framework.
12. Local Plan discussions often focus on housing allocations but the Local Plan is about much more than that. It provides a vision and a guide for the delivery of sustainable development over the next 20 years, which is to 2036. It is about how we protect and nurture our environment whilst providing for the homes, workplaces and leisure opportunities that we need.
13. Darlington cannot stand still. It has to support its communities to thrive and compete with neighbouring Boroughs, and further afield, to attract investment. It needs a strong, clear Local Plan if it to grow in a sustainable way, and to preserve both its prosperity, and its unique quality of life.
14. The figure overleaf shows the various evidence bases which have informed the Plan to date and the future process:

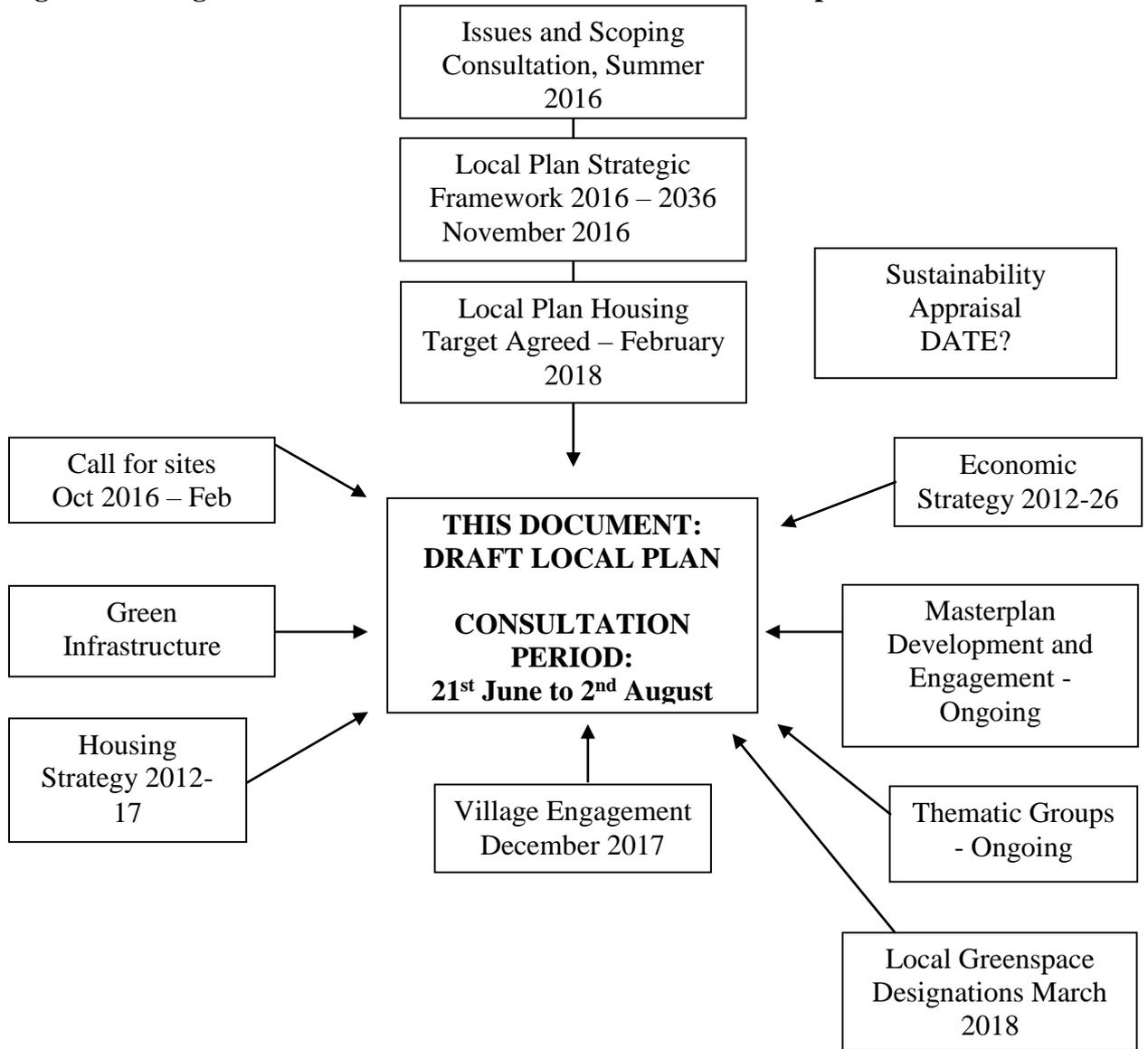
## **Consultation**

15. The Local Plan Regulation 18 requires that the local planning authority invite comments from the "statutory bodies" such as Historic England, the Environment Agency, the Highways Agency and Natural England, together with residents and other persons carrying out business in the area about the Local Plan.
16. There are no fixed rules regarding the form and content of Regulation 18 consultations, however the Council adopted its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) in 2016 which sets out who we will consult and how we will consult.
17. Members should be aware that as part of the development of the Draft Local Plan there has already been significant consultations as agreed with Cabinet including Members Local Plan Reference Group, Local Plan Steering Group, Subject Theme Groups and some Parish Councils. These consultations involved Statutory Consultees.
18. This proposed consultation will provide the opportunity for stakeholders and local residents to comment further on the policy framework which will guide development over the next 20 years, together with the sites, that have been assessed in detail, and could be used to accommodate the growth that is necessary to meet the Objectively Assessed Needs of the Borough.
19. In the context of this proposed consultation, aspects relating to plan preparation including the Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment – SEA) will also be released for comment.

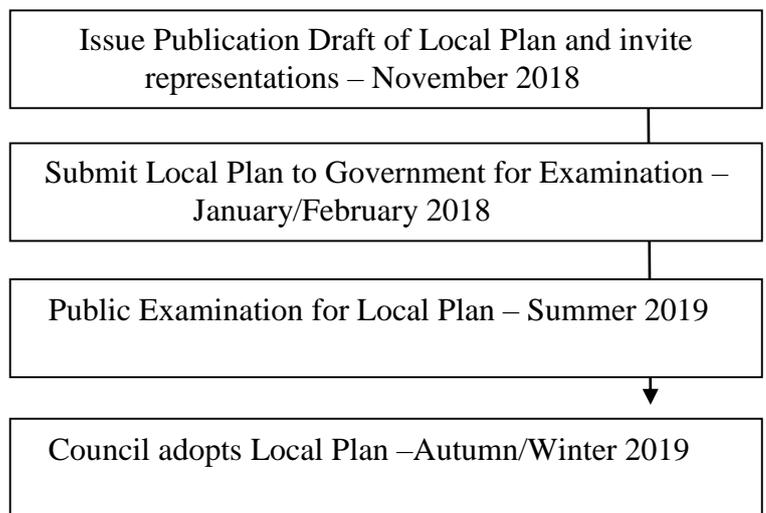
- 20. This will not be the final opportunity for stakeholders and local people to comment on the Local Plan. An invitation to provide representations under Regulations 19 and 20 on the Council's final version of the Plan, will be issued later in 2018.**

**Figure 1.1: Stages of**

**Preparation of the Local Plan**



**FUTURE STAGES**



21. The final (Publication) version of the Local Plan to be released later in 2018 following its approval by Council under Regulation 19 will be that, which the Council considers to be the “sound” and is prepared to submit to the Secretary of State for Public Examination. The publication version will require endorsement of Full Council before it can be published for representations.
22. All of the evidence base that has been used to produce the plan will also be available for comment. This includes the Objective Assessment of Need, the Sustainability Assessment and the outcome of the Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA).

### **Financial Implications**

23. Consultation is an integral part of Local Plan preparation and allowances are made within the existing Local Plan Budget to facilitate consultation.
24. Going forward the Local Plan will be key to delivering housing, employment and infrastructure development and is an important determinant of the future economy of Darlington.

### **Legal Implications**

25. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. However it is important the consultation under Regulation 18 is effective and allows stakeholders and local people opportunities to engage in plan preparation.

### **Consultation**

26. As indicated in Figure 1.1 above the Council has consulted a number of times during the preparation of the local Plan. This Consultation under Regulation 18 will further allow stakeholder and local people to make comments which the Council will be able to consider in more depth as the Publication Version of the Local Plan is prepared.

### **Outcome of Consultation**

27. The responses received during the consultation period will be carefully considered and reported to Members with amendments recommended to members where required prior to the publication version being released for representation.

### **Equalities considerations**

28. The Local Plan itself will have regard to equalities considerations.

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**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **FUTURES FUND: NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Bill Dixon, Leader**

**Responsible Director – Paul Wildsmith, Managing Director**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. To seek the agreement of Cabinet to allocate resources from the Futures Fund to further assist the Darlington Credit Union in its work to improve the financial wellbeing of the community.

#### **Summary**

2. In the consultation on the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2018/19 to 2021/22 residents supported the proposal to create a futures fund theme described as Neighbourhood Renewal. The focus of this theme was to address the financial hardship and deprivation found in households and neighbourhoods across Darlington. Work is underway to develop a framework to guide the investments but early work has begun with an allocation to the Darlington Citizens Advice Bureau from existing budgets to promote take up of unclaimed welfare benefits. There is also now a need and opportunity to make an allocation from the Futures Fund Neighbourhood Renewal theme.
3. The Council has since its foundation, supported the Darlington Credit Union (DCU). In 2013 the Council provided £50,000 of funding, £35,000 of deferred shares enabling the Credit union to offer interest bearing accounts and £15,000 corporate investment to that was to be recycled for use as affordable loans to reduce the risk of residents using loan sharks. Furthermore on 29 April 2014 the Cabinet agreed to invest £50,000 in the DCU as part of a strategy to address growing evidence of financial hardship and the dangerous consequences for families of resorting to unregulated and so-called “pay-day” lenders for household white goods and/or electricals
4. With this support, the introduction of payroll saving for Council staff, and in particular, the hard work and commitment of the staff and board of DCU, the subsequent years have seen impressive growth.
5. Membership has risen from 400 when it was founded in 2009 to over 6,500 currently and this is increasing on a monthly basis. The value of deposits stands at

over £2.7m and over £2m is paid out on loans. The DCU has become a significant and responsible lender of particular value to residents on low incomes. Most loans for example help residents to meet the additional costs of Christmas or unforeseen household repairs. Corporate investors, like the Council and other businesses help to strengthen the capital reserves that enable more loans to be made to those in need.

6. The DCU, alongside other key agencies such as Darlington Citizens Advice, the Food Banks and the Councils own housing management and benefits staff, are seeing increasing evidence of hardship, affecting all groups but in particular working households on low and/or insecure wages. The FCA commissioned a study which found that “over half the UK population are financially vulnerable”.
7. DCU are looking to expand as demand has never been greater, however in doing so need to increase their reserves to comply with the Financial Conduct Authority regulations. In discussion with the DCU, it is proposed that a £50,000 increase in the deferred shareholding the Council holds would strengthen the capital assets and put them in a strong position to continue to grow membership and in turn continue to give help and support where it is most needed in Darlington.
8. The Council will also take every opportunity to encourage other public service organisations and businesses to make capital investments with DCU, and to promote payroll saving.
9. The Council’s financial contribution will be registered as deferred shareholding in the capital of the company, therefore from a state aid perspective though it is likely that support of the Credit Union activities may have the benefit of exemption under a general block exemption (GBER) any aid will be minimal and well below the *de minimis* threshold.
10. The relevant legal documentation will be concluded to protect the interests of the Council and document the transfer and registration of the Councils increased shareholding.

## **Recommendation**

11. It is recommended that :-
  - (a) Cabinet make a one-off payment of £50,000 to the Darlington Credit Union in return for a deferred shareholding to strengthen capital balances.
  - (b) Cabinet delegate to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Health, the authority to draw up a funding agreement to secure the objectives and protect the interests of the Council.

## **Reasons**

12. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-

- (a) The Cabinet is a signatory to the goals of One Darlington, Perfectly Placed, as a statement of intent to narrow inequalities and protect the most vulnerable in our community.
- (b) The financial hardship faced by many people in Darlington is rising and there was public support for the Council in taking steps to alleviate the problems households face.

**Paul Wildsmith  
Managing Director**

## **Background Papers**

- (i) Cabinet Report 29 April 2014 Proposal to support Credit Union low cost loans.
- (ii) Darlington Credit Union Annual General Meeting Report 2018.
- (iii) Report of the DCU Directors and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2017.

S17 Crime and Disorder	There is evidence that extreme financial hardship can contribute to criminal behaviour and supporting responsible lending can aid crime prevention
Health and Well Being	There is evidence that financial hardship contributes to poor health and even to suicide, and the Futures Fund NR theme is directed to mitigate the impacts of this.
Carbon Impact	No direct impacts
Diversity	There is evidence that financial hardship impacts on all segments of the community
Wards Affected	All but with particular concentrations of need within those boroughs in the most deprived IMD register
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	There is no impact on the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	No
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	One Darlington has as its focus the alleviation of poverty and inequality and this report directly addresses this goal
Efficiency	No direct impact
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	There is evidence that Care Leavers do face financial hardship and this report addresses the goal of having effective support in place to assist this group of young adults

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

13. There has long been a recognition that credit unions have a key role to play in addressing the adverse impacts of financial hardship. Back in 2014, the Council hosted a seminar in Darlington on behalf of all North East Councils on the future role of Credit Unions. It attracted over 50 delegates from local authorities, their partners and the Credit Union sector. Leaders and Elected Mayors from across the North East were encouraged to consider how they could support the Credit Union sector to develop as an accessible and sustainable source of banking and credit.
14. Darlington was one of the first to sign up to statement of intent and this was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting in July of that year. Members agreed that following:
- (a) We recognise the vital role that Credit Unions have to play in promoting financial inclusion, in acting as a trusted source of accessible and affordable banking and credit, and in providing an essential alternative to high-cost lenders.

- (b) We undertake to work with the Credit Union sector to help it expand in a sustainable way, to increase its membership and to develop a diverse and balanced customer base; and we will take practical measures to achieve this.
15. Practical steps followed including promoting the Credit Union membership to Members, to staff and to partners and encouraging them to open accounts and save with the Credit Union. The schools in Darlington support the Credit Union through a number of early savings arrangements involving the Credit Union and promote financial education and membership to students. The Council removed access to pay day loan companies from the Council's website including those in the library.
  16. Darlington is fortunate to have a strong and well-led Credit Union. Set up in 2009 to offer savings and affordable loan facilities to its members, who live and/or work within the area of the DL postcode DCU provides a responsible and low cost alternative to the non-standard consumer credit market.
  17. Membership is now in excess of 6,500 and are well served from a professional town centre location in Tubwell Row. Thirteen schools and approximately 1,500 children and young people have saved over £125,000 through DCU. There are 47 Corporate members depositing over £325,000. For 342 members the DCU is their sole financial provider with support in paying bills through a budget account service.
  18. However the need is growing, as a nation personal debt and hardship is a fact of life. A survey reported in the national press in the autumn of last year found that 6 million Britains "don't believe they will ever be debt free".
  19. The latest Joseph Rowntree Foundation report on Rates of Poverty in the UK (published 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017) "highlights that overall, 14 million people live in poverty in the UK – over one in five of the population. This is made up of eight million working-age adults, four million children and 1.9 million pensioners. 8 million live in families where at least one person is in work." Further it states that "The analysis highlights that the three factors which have led to a fall in poverty and are now under question; state support for many of those on low incomes is falling in real terms, rents are increasing, and rising employment is no longer reducing poverty."
  20. It is in this context that the Council consulted the public on how it might deploy the modest investment opportunity within the MTFP, and specifically proposed a Neighbourhood Renewal Fund. The public in consultation supported the theme and work is underway to review the evidence that can guide where best to direct the modest sums of money available.
  21. However in regular discussion with DCU it is apparent that there is a need and an opportunity now to intervene to address financial hardship. They have seen over the last year a growth in demand and would like to expand their membership to provide assistance to those most in need. However in doing so need to increase their reserves to comply with the Financial Conduct Authority regulations who require a 8% Capital/Asset ratio for Credit unions with membership above 10,000.

22. It is proposed that an increase of £50,000 in the deferred shareholding the Council holds would strengthen the capital assets and enable the DCU to meet the FCA regulations.
23. The Council will also take every opportunity to encourage other public service organisations and businesses to make capital investments with DCU, and to promote payroll saving.
24. A funding agreement will be drawn up to protect the interests of the Council in the application of the fund.

### **Financial Implications**

25. The one off £50,000 payment would be funded from the £500,000 Neighbourhood Renewal Futures Fund identified in the 2018/19 – 2021/22 MTFP
26. The £50,000 would be invested in deferred shares, however it must be noted that this is a revenue contribution and not a treasury investment under our treasury management strategy.

### **Consultation**

27. The public were consulted on the MTFP and specifically on the proposal to increase the Futures Fund under a number of themes. Neighbourhood Renewal was one of these themes and secured significant support from those that responded to the consultation.

**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKING

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**Responsible Cabinet Member -  
Councillor Nick Wallis, Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio  
Councillor Chris McEwan, Economy and Regeneration Portfolio**

**Paul Wildsmith, Managing Director  
Responsible Director - Ian Williams,  
Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

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### SUMMARY REPORT

#### Purpose of the Report

1. To review car parking charges in the town centre in response to feedback and views from the public and traders.

#### Summary

2. To assist town centre trading, an offer of two hours free car parking is being proposed in town centre car parks on the outside of the ring road namely:
  - (a) Park Place East/West
  - (b) St Hilda's
  - (c) Chesnut Street
  - (d) Kendrew Street East/West
  - (e) Garden Street
  - (f) Archer Street
  - (g) Hird Street
3. In addition East Street car park within the ring road will have an offer all day parking for £2. This offer is intended to increase usage of the underutilised car park and free up spaces in the other long stay car parks for the two free hours offer.
4. On street car parking will not be changed and remains at 50p for 30 minutes up to a maximum of £2 for two hours with the exception of Grange Road and Northumberland Street which is £3 for a maximum of three hours.
5. The potential cost of the offer is £120,000 but this depends on usage and other factors. The financial position will be kept under review. The cost will be funded by the Town Centre Futures Fund.

## **Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that the charges for car parking as set out in paragraph 15 of this report be approved.

## **Reasons**

7. The recommendation is supported by the following reasons :-
  - (a) To approve new charges in response to requests by traders and the public.
  - (b) To enhance the attractiveness of the town centre to visitors and residents.

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Managing Director**

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth and**  
**Neighbourhood Services**

## **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

Paul Wildsmith: Extension 5828  
TAB

S17 Crime and Disorder	Whilst anti-social behaviour and crime does on occasions take place in car parks, there is no impact on crime and disorder as a result of this report.
Health and Well Being	No additional impact on health and wellbeing of residents as a result of this report.
Carbon Impact	There may be an impact on carbon emissions as a result of making two hours free car parking in long stay car parks, as it is likely that there will be more car journeys into the town centre.
Diversity	An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out on the change in pricing policy and details are included in this report.
Wards Affected	Car parks are located in Park East and Northgate, however residents from across the Borough will utilise them.
Groups Affected	No group is affected any differently to any other.
Budget and Policy Framework	There is no impact on the Budget or Policy Framework.
Key Decision	Not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	Not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The proposals contained in this report have an impact on the Perfectly Placed element of the strategy; encouraging more people to utilise the Town Centre for retail, social and pleasure.
Efficiency	There is no impact on the Council's Efficiency agenda as a result of this report.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

8. The Council has a number of town centre car parks generally split between short stay (within the ring road) and long stay (outside the ring road). Charges are generally £1 per hour in short stay car parks whilst long stay car parks are variable with either hourly charges or the option of £4 for the day. Weekly tickets are also available.
9. The Council receives approximately £2m a year income from off street car parking, this income is used to offset the running costs such as repair and maintenance, business rates and staffing. Although not included as a cost in the budget, there is an apportionment cost of holding the land for the purpose of car parking. The off street car parking delivers a surplus of £1.6m per annum excluding any charges for land utilisation. This net income provides resources to fund other services provided

by the Council and if income is not achieved, it is to the detriment of the Council's overall financial position.

10. Town Centre retail trading across the Country is challenging and Darlington is no exception. Well known High Street retailers are regularly announcing profit warnings and many businesses are contracting or closing. Cabinet recently agreed a Town Centre Strategy to assist businesses by working to increase footfall into the town centre, the strategy included an action to review car parking charges. The Council has recently agreed a Town Centre Futures Fund of £0.5m to assist in implementing the strategy.
11. Car parking charges are often cited by the public and traders as a barrier to town centre footfall, it is not possible to demonstrate cause and effect, however views are very strong that a reduction in charges would help. Neighbouring Local Authority areas have introduced some free parking as have retailers/developers in some other town centres.
12. Car parking charges are used in many ways and, whilst it is a view held by some that they are only levied to raise income for the Council, this is not the case. A pricing structure clearly needs to cover costs and is acknowledged as a town centre issue. Should, for example, all charges be removed and widespread free parking introduced the result would be car parks full of town centre workers and commuters meaning that no space would be available for shoppers, therefore a pricing policy must take this and other factors into account. Given the Council's overall financial position, this must also be a significant factor when considering the pricing structure.
13. To balance all the relevant objectives, it is proposed that :-
  - (a) There will be two hours free car parking in 9 off street car parks currently designated long stay car parks.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Car Park</b>	<b>Spaces</b>
8	Archer Street	62
9	Kendrew Street East	76
10	Kendrew Street West	85
11	Park Place East	95
12	Park Place West	115
13	Garden Street	72
14	Chesnut Street	109
16	Hird Street	14
17	St. Hilda's Tannery Yard Parkgate	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>643</b>

- (b) East Street car park will be designated a long stay car park at a reduced cost of £2 per day, which has 338 spaces.

14. The logic behind this proposal is to provide 643 parking spaces with two hours free to encourage more visitors to the town centre. The pricing structure proposed for East Street is to encourage people to use the underutilised facility and to free up spaces in the current long stay car parks.
15. The long stay are parks that this proposal effects are located outside the inner ring road, with a short/medium/easily accessible walk into the town centre.
16. The proposed detailed charging schedules are shown in the table below for the car parks included in the report.

**BOLD = proposed changes**

Car Park	Spaces	EXISTING		PROPOSED	
		Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm	Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm
Archer Street	62	£1 per hour  £4 per day 2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	£1 per day	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  <b>3 hours £1</b> £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day
Kendrew Street East	76	£1 per hour -up to 3 hours  More than 3 hours - £4 per day 2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	£1 per day	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  <b>3 hours £1</b> £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket £16 (up to 7 days)	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day
Kendrew Street West	85	£1 per hour -up to 3 hours  More than 3 hours - £4 per day 2 days - £8 3 days - £12	£1 per day	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  <b>3 hours £1</b> £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12	<b>First 2 hours NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day

Car Park	Spaces	EXISTING		PROPOSED	
		Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm	Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm
		Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16		Weekly ticket £16 (up to 7 days)	
Park Place East	95	£1 per hour -up to 3 hours  More than 3 hours - £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	£1 per day	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  <u>3 hours £1</u>  £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket £16 (up to 7 days)	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day
Park Place West	115	£1 per hour -up to 3 hours  More than 3 hours - £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	£1 per day	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  <u>3 hours £1</u>  £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day
Garden Street	72	£1 per hour  More than 3 hours - £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12  Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	£1 per day	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  <u>3 hours £1</u>  £4 per day  2 days - £8 3 days - £12 Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16	<u>First 2 hours</u> <b>NO CHARGE</b>  £1 per day

Car Park	Spaces	EXISTING		PROPOSED	
		Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm	Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 8am to 6pm
Chesnut Street	109	<p>£2 per day</p> <p>HGVs and coaches free</p> <p>Weekly ticket (cars only, up to 7 days) £8 per week</p> <p>HGVs and coaches 6pm-8am every night £4 per night</p>	<p>£1 per day, HGVs and coaches free</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>3 hours £1</u></b></p> <p>£2 per day</p> <p>HGVs and coaches free</p> <p>Weekly ticket (cars only, up to 7 days) £8 per week</p> <p>HGVs and coaches 6pm-8am every night £4 per night</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p>£1 per day, HGVs and coaches free</p>
Hird Street	14	<p>£1 per hour -up to 3 hours</p> <p>More than 3 hours - £4 per day</p> <p>2 days - £8 3 days - £12</p> <p>Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16</p>	<p>£1 per day</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>3 hours £1</u></b></p> <p>£4 per day</p> <p>2 days - £8 3 days - £12</p> <p>Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p>£1 per day</p>
St. Hilda's Tannery Yard Parkgate	15	<p>£1 per hour -up to 3 hours</p> <p>More than 3 hours - £4 per day</p> <p>2 days - £8 3 days - £12</p> <p>Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16</p>	<p>£1 per day</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p><b><u>3 hours £1</u></b></p> <p>£4 per day</p> <p>2 days - £8 3 days - £12</p> <p>Weekly ticket (up to 7 days) £16</p>	<p><b><u>First 2 hours</u></b> <b><u>NO CHARGE</u></b></p> <p>£1 per day</p>

Note: To take advantage of the 2 hours free parking, customers must use the ticket machines as the 2 hours free will not be accepted by phone. However, customers can use their phones

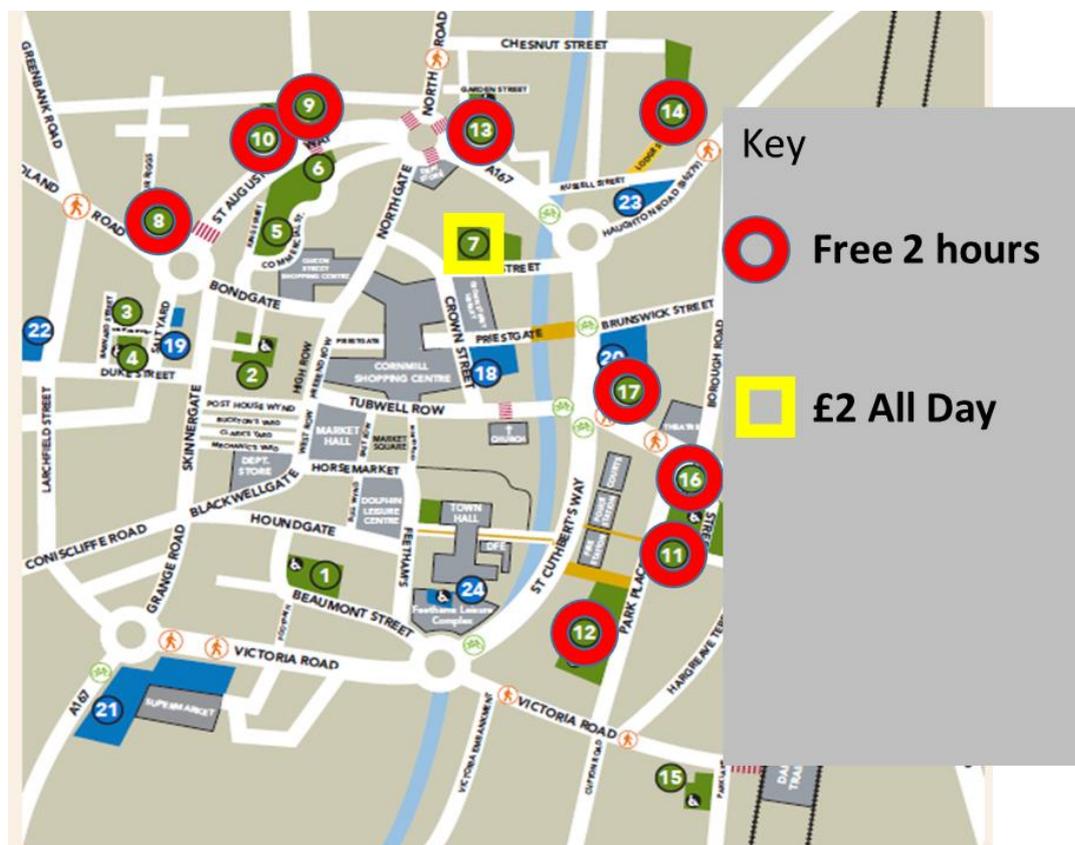
for 3 hours parking for £1 (2 hours free and 3<sup>rd</sup> hour for £1).

### East Street Multi Storey – Revert to £2 per day

**BOLD = proposed changes**

Car Park	Spaces	EXISTING		PROPOSED	
		Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 9.30am to 5pm	Mon-Sat 8am to 6pm including bank holidays	Sunday 9.30am to 5pm
East Street	338	£1 per hour £4 per day	£1 per day	£1 per hour <b>£2 per day</b>	£1 per day

17. A map of the car parks is shown below.



### Financial Implications

18. The estimated cost of the proposal is £120,000 per annum and this will be kept under review. The costs for the first year will be funded from the Town Centre Futures Fund and the position will be reviewed for futures years as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

## Legal Implications

19. Subject to Members' approval, notice will be issued with regard to the proposed changes to charges for car parks. In addition, running in parallel, a process to implement a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to take place to consolidate and bolster the no return condition to the free offer to limit users to one free ticket per day.

## Equalities Considerations

20. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out with regard to the proposed changes in the pricing structure for car parking. The main impacts identified are as a result of the 9 long stay car parks being located outside the inner ring road, which means a short/moderate walk into the town centre that some individuals may find more difficult. The particular groups of people with protected characteristics this affects are; Age, Disability, Pregnancy, and Carers. However, as a result of introducing the 2 hours free parking it is likely that the pressure on the short stay parking within the inner ring road will be reduced, freeing up more spaces for individuals who find the walk difficult to access parking. In addition, on street car parking for Blue Badge Holders is not affected and there is also a car park exclusively for Blue Badge Holders at the Town Hall.
21. The table below details the impacts on these groups and the proposed mitigations.

Impact	Mitigation
<p><b>Age</b> Negative impact on less mobile older people who may feel that they cannot take advantage of the free parking offer that will only apply in long stay car parks that are outside the ring road as this will involve a short walk to the town centre.</p>	<p>As a result of the 2 hours free parking in the 9 long stay car parks there should be reduced demand in 'closer to town centre' short stay car parks.</p> <p>East Street car park will be available at a reduced parking fee and is close to the town centre, including lift access.</p> <p>There is excessive demand at times for short stay parking in some car parks and therefore spaces are limited, which results in long stay car parks having to be used. Placing more cars into the 2 hours free long stay parking will have a positive impact by freeing up spaces in the short stay 'closer to the town centre' car parks.</p>
<p><b>Disability</b> Negative impact on less mobile people who may feel that they cannot take advantage of the free parking offer that will only</p>	<p>As a result of the 2 hours free parking in the 9 long stay car parks there should be reduced demand in 'closer to town centre' short stay car parks.</p>

Impact	Mitigation
<p>apply in long stay car parks that are outside the ring road as this will involve a short walk to the town centre.</p>	<p>East Street car park will be available at a reduced parking fee and is close to the town centre, including lift access.</p> <p>There is excessive demand at times for short stay parking in some car parks and therefore spaces are limited, which results in long stay car parks having to be used. Placing more cars into the 2 hours free long stay parking will have a positive impact by freeing up spaces in the short stay 'closer to the town centre' car parks.</p> <p>On street car parking for Blue badge holders is not affected. There is a car park exclusively for Blue Badge holders at the Town Hall.</p>
<p><b>Pregnancy</b> Negative impact on pregnant women who may feel that they cannot take advantage of the free parking offer that will only apply in long stay car parks that are outside the ring road as this will involve a short walk to the town centre.</p>	<p>As a result of the 2 hours free parking in the 9 long stay car parks there should be reduced demand in 'closer to town centre' short stay car parks.</p> <p>East Street car park will be available at a reduced parking fee and is close to the town centre, including lift access.</p>
<p><b>Carers</b> Negative impact on carers who may feel that they cannot take advantage of the free parking offer that will only apply in long stay car parks that are outside the ring road as this will involve a short walk to the town centre.</p>	<p>As a result of the 2 hours free parking in the 9 long stay car parks there should be reduced demand in 'closer to town centre' short stay car parks.</p> <p>East Street car park will be available at a reduced parking fee and is close to the town centre, including lift access.</p> <p>On street car parking for Blue badge holders is not affected. There is a car park exclusively for Blue Badge holders at the Town Hall.</p>

## **Timescale**

22. Subject to Members' approval, notice will advertised from 13 June 2018 for 21 days therefore the intention is to implement from Monday 9 July 2018. This will be in time for the Ingenious Festival and also the summer school holiday period.
23. Again, subject to Members' approval leading up to implementation and post-implementation, publicity will take place in:
  - (a) One Darlington magazine
  - (b) Social media, including #LoveDarlo
  - (c) Leaflets
  - (d) Banner on East Street Car Park
  - (e) Council website
  - (f) Press and media releases

## **Consultation**

24. No specific consultation has been undertaken on this proposal but car parking charges have been subject to responses in various consultations including the MTFP.

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**CABINET**  
**18 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## REVENUE OUTTURN 2017-18

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Stephen Harker**  
**Efficiency and Resources Portfolio**

**Responsible Director - Paul Wildsmith, Managing Director**

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### SUMMARY REPORT

#### Purpose of the Report

1. To present the revenue outturn 2017-18 (subject to Audit), to allow Members to consider the results in light of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and also to consider the Collection Fund and Housing Revenue Account outturn.

#### Summary

2. The draft year end position shows a welcomed improvement of £0.530M from the opening balance projections reported in the 2018/19 to 2021/22 MTFP.
3. Whilst there have been changes to the bottom line figures for each department the most significant is within Children and Adult Services with an overall improvement of £0.712M. This is primarily due to the reduced requirement for residential and nursing beds in Adult Social Care over the year. There has however, in common with Council's across the country, been an increase in expenditure in Children's Services with the ongoing pressure in looked after children (LAC) and the high costs of individual placements. This pressure cannot be underestimated and will need to be managed carefully next year.
4. Cabinet have previously approved carry forwards of £0.709M, in addition to this further year end carry forward requests of £1.189M have been made and are detailed in the report. The provisional outturn figure makes the assumption that all of these carry forwards are approved.
5. The Outturn figures are welcomed especially as a number relate to the early delivery of savings which provides a solid base for achieving future year efficiencies. The increase in balances will assist the Council in managing the risks inherent in the MTFP in relation to the delivery of savings and mitigate potential pressures.

## Recommendation

6. It is recommended that :-
- (a) The revenue outturn for 2017-18 be noted.
  - (b) The additional carry forward requests of £1.189M referred to in paragraphs 14 to 18 below be approved and carried forward into 2018-19.
  - (c) The earmarked reserve requested in paragraphs 25 and 26 be approved.

## Reasons

7. The recommendations are supported in order to maintain appropriate management arrangements for the Council's finances and make effective use of the Council's resources.

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Managing Director**

## Background Papers

No Background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Elizabeth Davison: Extension 5830

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no specific crime and disorder implications in this report.
Health and Well Being	There are no issues relating to health and well being which this report needs to address.
Carbon Impact	There are no specific carbon impact issues in this report.
Diversity	The report does not contain any proposals that impact on diversity issues.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected.
Groups Affected	No specific groups are particularly affected.
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	The report does not require a key decision.
Urgent Decision	The report does not require an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The subject matter of the report, the Council's financial standing and financial management, is critical to delivery of the SCS, but this report does not contain new proposals.
Efficiency	The report contains updated information regarding efficiency savings contained in the MTFP and also spend to save requests included in the carry forward totals.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

8. The year-end position shows an improvement of £0.530M from the opening balance projections in the 2018/19 to 2021/22 MTFP report.
9. The draft General Fund Reserve position at 31 March 2018 is £20.763M, a summary of which is shown in **Appendix 1**. Of this, £11.777M is planned to be used in 2018-2022 to assist the MTFP, £4.330M is set aside to cover our risk balances, £4.100M was identified for the Futures Fund over the life of the MTFP with the remaining £0.556M available to assist the Council in the period 2018–2022 and beyond.

### Departmental Resources

10. Departmental Resource projections are summarised in **Appendix 2** and detailed in **Appendices 2(a) to 2(e)**. The outturn identifies an underspend of £1.431M compared with the 2017-21 MTFP and this assumes the carry forward requests detailed further in this report are approved. The departmental outturn projections reported to Cabinet for the third quarter were used as the basis for the opening balance projections for the 2018-21 MTFP and therefore any variances reported below are from both the third quarter report and the 2018-21 MTFP. Significant variances are explained below.
11. The **Children and Adult Services Group** is forecasting an under spend of £0.414M, an improvement of £0.712M. Of this overall improvement, the Children's Services position has worsened by £0.422M (including an additional £0.356M of carry forward requests) and the Adult Social Care position has improved by £1.134M.

### Children's Services

- (a) Assessment Care Planning & LAC - Ongoing costs of agency social workers across the four assessment teams and the Looked After Through Care team to cover maternity and additional demand within leaving care, have created an additional pressure of £0.090M. In addition cost pressures have continued as children leave care (£0.200M), in particular the costs of placement and accommodation.
- (b) First Response & Early Help - Additional savings have been achieved across a number of Early Help budget lines, some short term associated with staff turnover however others are due to the early achievement of savings required in 2018/19 associated with the new early help model (£0.130M). Savings of £0.033M are being requested to be rolled forward to facilitate the implementation of services changes during 2018/19.
- (c) Adoption & Placements – There are ongoing pressures of placing children in external residential and independent fostering placements and whilst the number has only increased slightly the nature of the placements have been complex causing the projected over spend to rise by an additional £0.190M.

This is in common with Council's across the country and has been raised as a national issue. In addition savings in adoption are £0.100M less than projected as incoming inter-agency fees have not been received due to placements not being made in the year. These fees should be received in future years. These pressures have been offset by savings within in-house fostering provision of £0.040M.

- (d) Transport Unit – There is a limited supply of special education placements in the borough and the number of children being placed in out of area specialist provision has continued to grow as demand increases, this is putting a strain on the transport budget with a further £0.075M pressure in the period.
- (e) Healthy New Towns - Year 2 funding has been received for the Digital Platform (£0.166M) but the programme has slipped due to the service not starting until Quarter 3 2017/18. As this funding is for a specific purpose it is requested to be carried forward into 2018/19.

### **Adult Social Care**

- (f) Adult Services is reporting a £2.143M underspend position, an improvement of £1.134M in the quarter. The primary reason is the continued reduction in residential and nursing placements. Historically there is an increase in demand over the winter period, however this year it has not come to fruition. This along with a general reduction in placements has accounted for a further saving of £0.550M.
- (g) Furthermore short break stay usage has also reduced over the year, this wasn't previously reported due to the uncertainty in the figures following the introduction of the new system, however this has now been resolved and the further saving of £0.275M can now be released. There has been a reduction in the use of transport following review which has generated a £0.064M saving and there has also been additional income of £0.245M from client contributions and health funding.

12. The **Economic Growth Group** is reporting an outturn under spend position of £0.276M, a small change from Quarter 3. This position includes an additional £0.288M of carry forward requests that are referred to later in this report. While there has been some variations between services over the last quarter these have balanced out across the group.

13. The **Neighbourhood Services and Resources Group** underspent by £0.737M, £0.379M lower than previously reported. Included within this are additional carry forward requests of £0.409M that are referred to later in this report.

- (a) Democratic Services – an improvement of £0.92M from additional income received along with savings in staffing and supplies and services across a number of budget lines has been put forward and is detailed later in the report.
- (b) Administration – Savings within the central postal budget have been made primarily from lower than expected usage for the Hippodrome (£0.065M).

- (c) Communications and Engagement – A positive movement across the area with savings in supplies and services budgets within the engagement team (£0.044M) and lower utilisation of the design and print budget in the final quarter of the year (£0.027M).
- (d) Income from cremations was greater than anticipated over the last quarter of the year with an increase in service use of 10% over the budgeted profile resulting in an improvement of £0.080M.
- (e) Slippage on spend in the Events budget along with increased hire income in the Market Square and Joseph Pease have improved the position by £0.041M from Quarter 3.
- (f) Waste Management saw an improvement of £0.048M with reduced tonnages going to landfill. Recycling levels were unchanged.
- (g) Winter maintenance service saw some significant gritting over the last 4 months of the season due to severe winter conditions. Salt usage was up on the previous year with 7,500 tons of salt spread, this is an increase of 5,000 on last season. The overall impact of this winter has been an over spend of £0.149M against budget.
- (h) Essential responsive repairs required to the property portfolio over the latter part of the year has seen an increase in spend of £0.250M. Works required have been varied and many have required immediate attention. Much of this work is carried out by external contractors and is supplemented by the council's own team. Work has been ongoing to review and update the condition report on the property portfolio, works carried out include, conversions required due to facilitate the expansion of the Department for Education and the requirement for additional office accommodation, renewal of the loop system at the Town Hall, and refurbishment work on boilers across the portfolio.

### Carry Forward requests

14. There are a number of carry forward requests to 2018-19 amounting to £1.189M relating to underspends from departments detailed below and are additional to the £0.709M already approved previously. The requests are categorised into the four areas: slippage, spend to save/MTFP transition, assist in achieving the conditions of the MTFP and emerging pressures and approval is requested to carry these amounts forward into the new financial year.
15. **Slippage** – There is £0.502M of slippage on planned projects across the Council in the following areas:
  - (a) £0.030M for the development and implementation of new project management software which will introduce an integrated control point solution replacing the existing paper based systems, the budget for this was identified in 2017/18 but the procurement has slipped and a carry forward is therefore required.

- (b) £0.018M slippage on the purchase of equipment including a scanner for Building Control and noise reduction equipment for Environmental Health due to delays in meeting the order requirements.
- (c) £0.015M carry forward of budget to deliver a local traffic management scheme identified within year but has not been able to be delivered in year due to delays arising from the design process.
- (d) £0.022M There has been some small slippage on a number of Economic Growth projects over the year including local plan, sector proposition and Highways Asset Management System (HAMS) level 3. It is requested to carry this forward to allow completion of the work.
- (e) £0.050M to support the ongoing implementation of an improved mobile and job costing solution for Housing and Building Services. The project has partially slipped due to the complexities of the integrations between various ICT systems.
- (f) £0.048M on various Street Scene repairs and maintenance works including fencing at the Denes and refurbishment of the Town Centre water feature due to contractor delays causing work to slip.
- (g) £0.014M – To complete the implementation of the Electronic Document & Records Management System (EDRMS) within Development Control. When complete EDRMS will allow efficient case management and access to records across services. In addition the public and officers will be able to view planning records online to improve access to planning information. This work was commenced in 2017/18 but will be completed during 2018/19 requiring carry forward of budget allocations to pay for the final works.
- (h) £0.025M to continue to deliver training across social care to implement “Signs of Safety” to ensure that the programme is embedded into day to day working practices. Signs of Safety is the Child Protection focused strengths based methodology that is being embedded across Children’s Services. During 2018/19 Signs of Safety Training will continue to be commissioned, with Practice Lead, Leadership & Management and Service Specific Workshops/Support Sessions delivered in order to fully immerse and embed the methodology. Ofsted comments indicated that whilst initial training had commenced in 2017/18, further work was required to ensure full compliance regarding Signs of Safety.
- (i) £0.007M to complete the implementation of onsite work by Capita to allow the development of performance management reporting mechanisms in Children’s and Education services, including staff training and development. This work commenced in 2017/18 but slipped into 2018/19.
- (j) £0.030M - Members will be aware that the Councils Equality scheme has recently been approved and there is a requirement to ensure all our staff are aware and adequately trained in all aspects of equality. Funding was put aside for this from the training budget and needs to be carried into 2018/19 to be drawn down over the year.

- (k) £0.243M for the Healthy New Towns Digital Platform, £0.207M of which was carried forward from 2016/17.

**16. Assist in achieving the 3 conditions set out in the MTFP, namely Building Strong Communities, Growing the Economy and Spending Wisely.** The following £0.260M of carry forwards all meet the criteria described above and are as follows:

- (a) £0.080M There has been significant damage to highways, footways and verges over the winter associated with this year's extreme winter weather. The carry forward is requested to develop initiatives to lead to a more sustainable way to manage damage across the highway network, particularly grass verges.
- (b) £0.038M Companion passes. Cabinet considered and agreed a new criteria for the assessment of companion bus pass holders for implementation in 2018/19. The new assessment process will be applied to existing Companion Pass holders and new applicants in all categories. There is an ongoing Occupational Therapy cost for assessing new Companion Pass applicants (if no evidence exists through Social Care records) and an initial cost in assessing the 358 existing Companion Pass holders. The funding will cover this initial assessment.
- (c) £0.032M additional net income was generated in the 2017/18 events programme. Due to a limited delivery budget for events in future years it is requested the surplus be carried forward to support both the 2018/19 program and staff training, especially traffic management which will allow staff to erect, dismantle and manage road closures for various events.
- (d) £0.060M for the purchase of street litter bins to support the new resources allocated to street scene as part of the MTFP. New smart bins will be purchased for the town centre which can hold up to 8 times the capacity of existing litter bins and a range of larger bins for other areas across the town where there are ongoing problems with litter and overflowing street bins.
- (e) £0.030M unspent supplies and services budget to undertake a piece of work commissioned from the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to deliver a 12 month project that will raise awareness among local residents of benefits available to them and provide support in claiming those benefits.
- (f) £0.020M of unused community safety funds, to provide additional funding for a number of planned community safety initiatives across the town to complement the community safety agenda priorities.

**17. Pressures** - £0.312M of pressures have been identified for 2017/18 as follows:

- (a) £0.070M - There have been significant increases in the cost of the software licenses for specialist software products (AutoCad). The carry forward would fund the costs for the next three years as well as facilitate a refresh of desktop computers to ensure designers can use the most up to date software

effectively and efficiently. The software is essential to carry out our highway design and statutory traffic management functions.

- (b) £0.019M - for professional fees in the Legal Services required in 2018/19.
  - (c) £0.024M - additional income received during 2017/18 to allow further developments of the One Darlington magazine during 2018/19. In addition this extra resource will provide some security within the budget during 2018/19 should revenues from partners decrease.
  - (d) £0.028M - additional election income received in 17/18 into 18/19 to pay for potential Borough and Parish Council by elections that are not currently budgeted for and to support the preliminary costs of the 2019 elections.
  - (e) £0.015M - to provide additional capacity in the Child Sexual Exploitation Services (CSE) delivered by Barnardo's due to increasing demands on the current service. CSE is a high priority safeguarding area for Children's Services.
  - (f) £0.005M - to provide additional capacity for the Independent Visitor service for Looked After Children due to increasing demands on the current service. The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient independent visitor support for all LAC children.
  - (g) £0.015M - The Joint Negotiating Committee for Coroners have agreed the pay scales and for the Durham Coroner this has been agreed at £130k due to the local complexities. There is a back pay element to the award and it is requested £0.015M is carried forward to fund this payment.
  - (h) £0.136M – The Council's license agreements for Microsoft software packages are due to be renewed but Microsoft are moving away from the existing software onto the new Microsoft 365 package. The move to this system will increase license costs by £34,000 per year over four years of the MTFP, therefore the carry forward request will cover this increased cost. The new system will lead to more efficient working practices in officer time and also may replace some other systems over time as contracts come up for renewal saving resources elsewhere within the ICT budget.
18. **Spend to Save** - £0.115M of spend to save carry forward requests have been identified as follows:
- (a) £0.008M - to support agile working for staff with the Commissioning and Contracts team and provide training in negotiation and influencing skills.
  - (b) £0.033M - of one-off underspend within the Early Help service to allow flexibility and transition arrangements during the next phase on the implementation of the new early help model to assist with developing an edge of care model.

- (c) Systems £0.044M - Civica e-portal payment store. The purchase of this on-line form that will allow our customers to Apply, Book and Pay for services including for instance bulky waste collections. As we move into the digital era this functionality is vital to ensuring we keep demand with our customers' expectations and it will also bring future efficiencies in processing.
- (d) Systems £0.010M - the authority has made a significant investment in a major upgrade to the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system. This application allows the management of all contacts (telephone, e mail, web and face to face) into the council and is a key enabler to channel shift, facilitating the movement of expensive contacts (telephone and face to face) into web based self-service ones. The design and structure of the new version means that we can design our own on line forms and target service areas that would benefit most from online, self-service forms. To do this we need to provide training to officers to maximise the potential efficiencies.
- (e) £0.020M to carry forward savings within Democratic Services staffing budgets to fund the Enhanced Democratic Committee Management System. This system will provide efficiencies within working practices.

19. The School balances are in a positive position and are shown in **Appendix 2e**.

### **Council Wide and Corporately Managed Resources**

20. There has been an improvement in Corporately Managed Resources in the last quarter of £0.208M. There has been an improvement in the financing costs outturn of £0.132M relating to £0.049M increased income from investments and a further improvement of £0.080M relating to the saving on the Minimum Revenue Provision. A total of £0.156M of additional non-ring-fenced grant has been received during the year which was not specifically required by a service so will be transferred to general reserves. The Council Wide budget improved by £0.010M and the under spend on the Contingencies budget at outturn reduced by £0.031M.

### **Housing Revenue Account**

21. HRA projections are shown in **Appendix 3**. The HRA remains in a stable position.

### **Collection Fund**

22. The Collection Fund account reflects the statutory requirements for the Council to maintain a separate Fund in relation to the operation of Council Tax and Business Rates Retention Scheme (BRRS). The Fund records all of the transactions for billing in respect of Non Domestic Rates (NDR) and Council Tax, exemptions and discounts granted, provision for bad debts and appeals and payments made to the Council's General Fund, the Police and Fire & Rescue precept authorities and Central Government.

23. The Business Rates Collection Fund outturn deficit is £0.909M, of which Darlington's share is £0.446M. Darlington's deficit will be met from Section 31 grant

received during 2017/18 from Central Government for various exemptions and discounts granted under statute.

24. The Council Tax Collection Fund outturn is a deficit of £0.127M, of which Darlington's share is £0.106M. The previous forecast was a break even position. Any council tax surplus or deficit cannot be released or charged to the General Fund in the financial year it is incurred, therefore the deficit will be held within the Collection Fund pending monitoring of the performance of the Council Tax Collection Fund during 2018/19.

### **Earmarked Reserves**

25. 20% Additional Planning Fees – in January 2018 the government allowed Local Authorities to increase their planning application fees by 20% if they commit to invest the additional fee income in their planning department. It is proposed to setup a reserve to capture this additional income and allow the service to draw down on it as appropriate.
26. Digital Apprenticeship Services Account (DASA) – from April 2017 eligible employers pay a levy of 0.5% of their payroll to HMRC which is subsequently credited to a DASA for the employer to use toward approved apprenticeship training costs. The accounting treatment for the DASA requires an earmarked reserve to be created to record the unspent balance of the DASA at the end of the financial year.

### **Conclusion**

27. The Council's draft revenue reserve at the end of 2017-18 is £20.763M, which is £0.530M better than the initial 2018-19 MTFP position. The £0.530M consists of an improvement of £0.322M in departmental resources and an overall improvement in corporately managed resources of £0.208M.
28. An additional £1.189M is being requested to be carried forward into 2017/18 to meet future commitments on top of the £0.709M already approved.
29. Whilst the improved position is helpful it does not change the financial context in which the Council is currently planning. The additional reserves of £0.530M are welcomed, particularly in the context of the significant savings required over the coming years.

### **Outcome of Consultation**

30. No external consultation has been carried out in preparing this report.

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2017/18****Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2018**

	2017-21 MTFP (Feb 2017) £000
<b>Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) :-</b>	
MTFP Planned Opening Balance 01/04/2017	16,697
Approved net contribution from balances	(1,685)
<b>Planned Closing Balance 31/03/2018</b>	<b>15,012</b>
Increase in opening balance from 2016-17 results	639
Projected corporate underspends / (overspends) :-	
Economic Growth based savings	310
Neighbourhood Services & Resources based savings	30
Council Wide	294
Financing Costs	600
Release of Living Wage Contingency	69
Apprentice Levy Contingency Saving	95
Release of Employers NI Contingency	275
Pensions Contingency Saving	87
Release Tees Valley Probation Service (ARCC) Earmarked Reserve	1,000
Release planned 2017/18 contribution to Redundancy Reserve	765
Additional non-ringfenced grant	156
<b>Projected General Fund Reserve (excluding Departmental) at 31st March 2018</b>	<b>19,332</b>
<b>Planned Balance at 31st March 2018</b>	<b>15,012</b>
<b>Improvement</b>	<b>4,320</b>

**Departmental projected year-end balances**

	Improvement / (decline) compared with 2017-21 MTFP £000
Children & Adults Services	417
Economic Growth	276
Neighbourhood Services & Resources	738
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,431</b>

**Summary Comparison with :-**

	2017-21 MTFP £000
Corporate Resources - increase in opening balance from 16/17 results	639
Corporate Resources - additional in-year Improvement/(Decline)	3,341
Quarter 1 budget claw back	340
Departmental - Improvement / (Decline)	1,431
Improvement / (Decline) compared with MTFP	<b>5,751</b>
<b>Projected General Fund Reserve at 31st March 2018</b>	<b>20,763</b>

**GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2017/18**

	Budget			Expenditure				Variance
	Original 2017/18	Approved Adjustments	Amended Approved Budget	Expenditure	C/fwds previously approved by Cabinet	C/fwds to be approved at Outturn	Outturn	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
<b>Departmental Resources</b>								
Children & Adults Services	53,023	(1,023)	52,000	51,085	142	356	51,583	(417)
Economic Growth	6,552	(208)	6,344	5,282	498	288	6,068	(276)
Neighbourhood Services & Resources	20,641	607	21,248	19,896	69	545	20,510	(738)
<b>Total Departmental Resources</b>	<b>80,216</b>	<b>(624)</b>	<b>79,592</b>	<b>76,263</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>78,161</b>	<b>(1,431)</b>
<b>Corporate Resources</b>								
Council Wide	(2,754)	2,959	205	(89)	0	0	(89)	(294)
Financing Costs	1,645	(27)	1,618	1,018	0	0	1,018	(600)
<b>Contingencies Budget</b>								
Living Wage	69	(69)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apprentice Levy	274	(94)	180	179	0	0	179	(1)
Employers NI	275	(275)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pensions	(1,319)	(1,022)	(2,341)	(2,309)	0	0	(2,309)	32
<b>Mid-Year Savings</b>								
Economic Growth based savings	0	310	310	0	0	0	0	(310)
Neighbourhood Services & Resources based savings	0	30	30	0	0	0	0	(30)
Additional non-ringfenced grant	0	0	0	(156)	0	0	(156)	(156)
<b>Total Corporate Resources</b>	<b>(1,810)</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>(1,357)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,357)</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>78,406</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>79,594</b>	<b>74,906</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>76,804</b>	<b>(2,790)</b>
<b>Contributions To / (From) Reserves</b>								
Planned Contribution from General Fund Reserves (MFTP)	(920)	0	(920)	(920)			(920)	0
Departmental Brought Forwards from 2016/17	0	(1,745)	(1,745)	(1,745)			(1,745)	0
In-Year Contribution to General Fund Reserves	0	557	557	(1,000)			(1,000)	(1,557)
<b>General Fund Total (excluding 2016-17 b/f)</b>	<b>77,486</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>77,486</b>	<b>71,241</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>73,139</b>	<b>(4,347)</b>

Note: Appendix 1 shows an increase in reserves of £0.698M brought forward from 2016/17 and also the release of the planned

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<i>Budget</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>	(Under)/ Over Spend £000
	Original Budget £000	Approved Adjustments £000	Amended Approved Budget £000	Expenditure £000	
<b><u>Council Wide</u></b>					
Public Health Reprovision	(2,759)	2,959	200	0	(200)
Airport	27	0	27	7	(20)
Procurement Savings	(22)	0	(22)	(96)	(74)
	<b>(2,754)</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>(89)</b>	<b>(294)</b>
<b>In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>	<b>(2,754)</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>(89)</b>	<b>(294)</b>

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<b>Budget</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>(Under)/ Over Spend £000</b>
	<b>Original Budget £000</b>	<b>Approved Adjustments £000</b>	<b>Amended Approved Budget £000</b>	<b>Expenditure £000</b>	
<b><u>Children &amp; Adults Services</u></b>					
<b><u>Director of Adults &amp; Children</u></b>	173	3	176	192	16
<b><u>Children &amp; Adult Services</u></b>					
Transformation & Performance	589	54	643	627	(16)
Business Support	1,246	(25)	1,221	1,252	31
	<b>1,835</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,864</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>15</b>
<b><u>Children's Services</u></b>					
Children's Services Management & Other Services	429	8	437	568	131
Assessment Care Planning & LAC	2,911	30	2,941	3,521	580
First Response & Early Help	2,598	(337)	2,261	1,783	(478)
Youth Offending / ASB	411	(7)	404	315	(89)
Adoption & Placements	9,675	25	9,700	11,249	1,549
Quality Assurance & Practice Improvement	467	(91)	376	445	69
	<b>16,491</b>	<b>(372)</b>	<b>16,119</b>	<b>17,881</b>	<b>1,762</b>
<b><u>Development &amp; Commissioning</u></b>					
Commissioning	2,533	(764)	1,769	1,594	(175)
Voluntary Sector	272	160	432	179	(253)
Workforce Development	172	8	180	162	(18)
	<b>2,977</b>	<b>(596)</b>	<b>2,381</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>(446)</b>
<b><u>Education</u></b>					
Education	1,911	(230)	1,681	1,436	(245)
Schools	0	0	0	0	0
Transport Unit	0	0	0	389	389
	<b>1,911</b>	<b>(230)</b>	<b>1,681</b>	<b>1,825</b>	<b>144</b>
<b><u>Public Health &amp; Community Safety</u></b>					
Public Health	99	1	100	100	0
Community Safety	0	0	0	(20)	(20)
Healthy New Towns	0	207	207	(36)	(243)
	<b>99</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>(263)</b>
<b><u>Adult Social Care &amp; Health</u></b>					
External Purchase of Care	23,540	(30)	23,510	21,360	(2,150)
Intake & Enablement	838	27	865	489	(376)
On-going Long Term Care - Older People	1,303	(21)	1,282	1,311	29
On-going Long Term Care - Physical Disability	9	0	9	3	(6)
On-going Long Term Care - Learning Disability	1,566	57	1,623	1,590	(33)
On-going Long Term Care - Mental Health	1,066	(106)	960	957	(3)
On-going Long Term Care - Children's	453	10	463	533	70
Service Development & Integration	762	(2)	760	1,086	326
<b>Total Adult Social Care &amp; Health</b>	<b>29,537</b>	<b>(65)</b>	<b>29,472</b>	<b>27,329</b>	<b>(2,143)</b>
<b>In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>	<b>53,023</b>	<b>(1,023)</b>	<b>52,000</b>	<b>51,085</b>	<b>(915)</b>
<b><u>Carry Forward Requests</u></b>					
Futures Fund - Public Sector (initially approved as part of 2016-17 Outturn Report)					50
Futures Fund - Voluntary (initially approved as part of 2016-17 Outturn Report)					92
Healthy New Towns - Digital Platform					243
Community Safety - Community Safety Initiatives					20
Workforce Development - Continue signs of safety training					25
Commissioning - CSE Services					15
Commissioning - Independent Visitors					5
Commissioning - Agile Working					8
Family Support - Early Help transition costs					33
Planning Unit - Capita training					7
<b>Total Carry Forward Requests</b>					<b>498</b>
<b>Revised In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>					<b>(417)</b>

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<b>Budget</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>(Under)/ Over Spend £000</b>
	<b>Original Budget £000</b>	<b>Approved Adjustments £000</b>	<b>Amended Approved Budget £000</b>	<b>Expenditure £000</b>	
<b><u>Economic Growth</u></b>					
Director of Economic Growth	155	4	159	161	2
<b><u>Economic Initiative</u></b>					
AD Economic Initiative	120	6	126	124	(2)
Built & Natural Environment	141	2	143	139	(4)
Christmas Lights	0	0	0	3	3
Consolidated Budgets	152	(140)	12	7	(5)
Development Management	(112)	2	(110)	(292)	(182)
Economy	320	136	456	380	(76)
Investment & Funding	(4)	168	164	122	(42)
Place Strategy	272	180	452	434	(18)
	<b>889</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>(326)</b>
<b><u>Regulatory Services</u></b>					
AD Regulatory Services	111	2	113	93	(20)
Building Control	126	25	151	151	0
CCTV	136	8	144	190	46
Emergency Planning	92	0	92	77	(15)
Environmental Health	456	(184)	272	200	(72)
Flood & Water Act	81	13	94	59	(35)
General Licensing	0	0	0	0	0
Parking	(2,225)	29	(2,196)	(2,095)	101
Private Sector Housing	135	(130)	5	(12)	(17)
Property Management & Estates	(468)	(183)	(651)	(616)	35
Taxi Licensing	0	0	0	0	0
Trading Standards	249	(34)	215	188	(27)
	<b>(1,307)</b>	<b>(454)</b>	<b>(1,761)</b>	<b>(1,765)</b>	<b>(4)</b>
<b><u>Transport &amp; Capital Projects</u></b>					
AD Transport & Capital Projects	114	2	116	117	1
Building Design Services	13	10	23	(9)	(32)
Capital Projects	109	43	152	133	(19)
Car Parking R&M	639	(74)	565	558	(7)
Concessionary Fares	3,255	(50)	3,205	3,151	(54)
Highways	2,524	(75)	2,449	1,890	(559)
Highways - DLO	(493)	(8)	(501)	(510)	(9)
Regeneration Projects	134	3	137	189	52
Sustainable Transport	189	27	216	126	(90)
	<b>6,484</b>	<b>(122)</b>	<b>6,362</b>	<b>5,645</b>	<b>(717)</b>
<b><u>Joint Levies &amp; Boards</u></b>					
Coroners	179	0	179	164	(15)
Environment Agency Levy	102	0	102	102	0
Outside Contributions	50	10	60	58	(2)
	<b>331</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>(17)</b>
<b>In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>	<b>6,552</b>	<b>(208)</b>	<b>6,344</b>	<b>5,282</b>	<b>(1,062)</b>
<b><u>Carry Forward Requests</u></b>					
Highways - HAMM Level 3 (Slippage) (previously agreed in Q2 2017/18)					29
Strategy & Commissioning - Local Plan (Slippage) (previously agreed in Q3 2016/17)					49
Economic Growth - Long Term Resilience & Longevity (agreed Q3)					385
Highways DLO - Highways Maintenance & Safety Supervisor (agreed Q3)					35
Building Control - ICT equipment & scanner					10
Capital Projects - Software development					30
Highways - Software Licences (Autocad, etc.)					30
Highways - New hardware required to run new versions of Autocad, etc.					40
Highways - Local traffic management scheme					15
Highways - Highways, footpath & verges winter damage					80
Concessionary Fares - Companion passes assessments					38
Environmental Health - Noise Monitoring Equipment					8
Economy - Sector Proposition (i.e. Bio pharmacy)					22
JLB - Coroners Pay					15
<b>Total Carry Forward Requests</b>					<b>786</b>

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<i>Budget</i>			<i>Expenditure</i>	(Under)/ Over Spend £000
	Original Budget £000	Approved Adjustments £000	Amended Approved Budget £000	Expenditure £000	
	<b><u>Economic Growth</u></b>				
<b>Revised In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>					<b>(276)</b>

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<b>Budget</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	(Under)/ Over Spend £000
	Original Budget £000	Approved Adjustments £000	Amended Approved Budget £000	Expenditure £000	
<b><u>Neighbourhood Services &amp; Resources</u></b>					
<b>Director of Neighbourhood Services &amp; Resources</b>	150	(26)	124	129	5
<b><u>AD Finance &amp; Human Resources</u></b>					
Financial Services & Governance	1,382	(52)	1,330	358	(972)
Financial Assessments & Protection Systems	201	3	204	189	(15)
Xentrall Services (D&S Partnership)	612	203	815	840	25
Complaints & Freedom of Information	1,505	97	1,602	1,596	(6)
Human Resources	151	12	163	163	0
Health & Safety	580	6	586	499	(87)
	132	2	134	62	(72)
	<b>4,563</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>4,834</b>	<b>3,707</b>	<b>(1,127)</b>
<b><u>AD Law &amp; Governance</u></b>					
Democratic Support	1,173	9	1,182	1,028	(154)
Registrars	(52)	8	(44)	(28)	16
Administration	627	77	704	618	(86)
Legal & Procurement	960	(18)	942	1,053	111
	<b>2,708</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2,784</b>	<b>2,671</b>	<b>(113)</b>
<b><u>AD Housing &amp; Bulding Services</u></b>					
Voluntary Sector Support	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>AD ICT</u></b>					
	569	6	575	561	(14)
<b><u>Chief Executive</u></b>					
Chief Executive Officer	227	4	231	224	(7)
Communication & Engagement	771	(18)	753	668	(85)
Darlington Partnership	14	22	36	36	0
Management of Arts	100	39	139	122	(17)
	<b>1,112</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>1,050</b>	<b>(109)</b>
<b><u>Community Services</u></b>					
AD Community Services	116	3	119	119	0
Building Cleaning - DLO	62	7	69	72	3
Cemeteries & Crematorium	(916)	85	(831)	(867)	(36)
Civic Theatre	15	61	76	76	0
Commercial Catering - DLO	0	0	0	4	4
Allotments	1	(5)	(4)	12	16
Dolphin Centre	583	(174)	409	550	141
Eastbourne Complex	44	(41)	3	9	6
Head of Steam	216	3	219	201	(18)
Indoor Bowling Centre	12	0	12	4	(8)
Libraries	803	(2)	801	794	(7)
Markets	(129)	(8)	(137)	(138)	(1)
Community Services - Other DLO	0	0	0	0	0
Outdoor Events	109	46	155	123	(32)
School Meals - DLO	16	6	22	24	2
Move More	0	3	3	2	(1)
Sports Development	0	0	0	0	0
Stray Dogs	53	1	54	51	(3)
Street Scene	4,429	163	4,592	4,512	(80)
Transport Unit - Fleet Management	(12)	0	(12)	(1)	11

**REVENUE BUDGET MANAGEMENT UPDATE 2017/18**

	<b>Budget</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>(Under)/ Over Spend £000</b>
	<b>Original Budget £000</b>	<b>Approved Adjustments £000</b>	<b>Amended Approved Budget £000</b>	<b>Expenditure £000</b>	
<b><u>Neighbourhood Services &amp; Resources</u></b>					
Waste Management	2,789	(100)	2,689	2,591	(98)
Winter Maintenance	403	3	406	555	149
	<b>8,594</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>8,645</b>	<b>8,693</b>	<b>48</b>
<b><u>Building Services</u></b>					
Construction - DLO	(480)	24	(456)	(642)	(186)
Maintenance - DLO	(367)	26	(341)	(343)	(2)
Other - DLO	102	(17)	85	1	(84)
Corporate Landlord	2,361	169	2,530	2,823	293
	<b>1,616</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>1,818</b>	<b>1,839</b>	<b>21</b>
<b><u>General Support Services</u></b>					
Works Property & Other	106	0	106	101	(5)
<b><u>Housing</u></b>					
Local Taxation	290	13	303	354	51
Customer Services	572	(53)	519	443	(76)
Rent Rebates / Rent Allowances / Council Tax	(132)	0	(132)	(94)	38
Housing Benefits Administration	106	15	121	40	(81)
Homelessness	264	5	269	282	13
Service, Strategy & Regulation and General	123	0	123	120	(3)
	<b>1,223</b>	<b>(20)</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,145</b>	<b>(58)</b>
<b>In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>	<b>20,641</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>21,248</b>	<b>19,896</b>	<b>(1,352)</b>
<b><u>Carry Forward Requests</u></b>					
Dolphin Centre - Slippage on refurbishment of softplay (previous agreed in Q2 2017/18)					32
Management of Arts (previously agreed in Q3 2017/18)					17
Human Resources (previously agreed in Q3 2017/18)					20
Systems - Civica					14
Engagement - CAB					30
Engagement - One Darlington magazine					24
Democratic - Enhanced Democratic CMS system					20
Democratic - Election costs					20
Democratic - Members allowances					8
Other - DLO Mobilisation upgrade Building Services					50
Library - Professional Fees					7
Outdoor Events - Town Centre hires & sponsorship					32
Indoor Bowling - Backdated service charges					8
Street Scene - Refurbishment of Town Centre water feature					10
Street Scene - Play Area work delayed due to weather					3
Street Scene - Works within Denes following HLF funded restoration					35
Street Scene - Support radio solution for Environmental Services					4
Street Scene - Replacement street litter bins					60
HRM - Equalities Training					30
Systems - Civica					44
Systems - LAGAN					10
ICT					136
<b>Total Carry Forward Requests</b>					<b>614</b>
<b>Revised In Year Over/(Under) Spend</b>					<b>(738)</b>

**BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2017/18**

<b>SCHOOLS CLOSING BALANCES 2017/18</b>					
School Name	Opening Balance at 1st April 2017	Formula Budget Allocation	Total Available	Closing Balance at 31st March 2018	Closing Balance as proportion of Formula Budget Allocation
	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
<b><u>Primary</u></b>					
Borough Road Nursery	79	309	388	35	11%
George Dent Nursery	23	453	476	(28)	(6%)
Red Hall Primary	157	1,040	1,197	175	17%
St. Teresa's RC Primary	219	1,166	1,385	193	17%
Whinfield Primary	84	2,012	2,096	139	7%
Harrowgate Hill Primary	437	2,171	2,608	317	15%
<b>Primary Total</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>7,151</b>	<b>8,150</b>	<b>831</b>	

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2017/18**

	<b>Budget</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	
	Original Budget £000	Approved Adjustments £000	Amended Approved Budget £000	Expenditure £000	(Under)/ Over Spend £000
<b><u>Housing Revenue Account</u></b>					
<b><u>Income</u></b>					
Working Balance Brought Forward	(7,384)	0	(7,384)	(15,925)	(8,541)
Rents Of Dwellings (Gross)	(19,661)	0	(19,661)	(20,010)	(349)
Sundry Rents (Including Garages & Shops)	(544)	0	(544)	(397)	147
Charges For Services & Facilities	(3,025)	0	(3,025)	(3,096)	(71)
Contribution towards expenditure	(331)	0	(331)	(285)	46
Interest Receivable	(26)	0	(26)	(38)	(12)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>(30,971)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(30,971)</b>	<b>(39,751)</b>	<b>(8,780)</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>					
Management	5,411	322	5,733	5,304	(429)
Maintenance	3,840	0	3,840	3,426	(414)
Capital Financing Costs	3,642	0	3,642	3,518	(124)
R.C.C.O.	12,077	0	12,077	9,505	(2,572)
Rent Rebate Subsidy Limitation	30	0	30	85	55
Increase in Bad Debt Provision	250	0	250	195	(55)
Future Major Capital Expenditure Fund	3,919	0	3,919	3,919	0
Working Balance Carried Forward	1,802	(322)	1,480	13,799	12,319
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>30,971</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,971</b>	<b>39,751</b>	<b>8,780</b>
<b>(Surplus)/Deficit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**CABINET  
05 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **PROJECT POSITION STATEMENT AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING OUTTURN 2017/2018**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Stephen Harker,  
Efficiency and Resources Portfolio**

**Responsible Directors -  
Paul Wildsmith, Manager Director  
Ian Williams, Director of Economic Growth and Neighbourhood Services**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. This report provides
  - (a) Information on delivery of the Council's Capital Programme, the financial outturn position as at 31st March 2018 and the proposed financing of the 2017/18 Capital expenditure.
  - (b) An update on the current status of all construction projects currently being undertaken by the Council
2. It also seeks approval for a number of changes to the programme.

#### **Summary**

3. Significant enhancements have been made to the Council's assets in three major programme areas of schools, housing and transport, mostly using external funding, as well as several other large scale schemes in the Borough. These investments are delivering a wide range of improvements to the Council's assets and more critically, to Council services. Refurbishment of council homes, improved learning environments in schools, better traffic flows and opportunities for sustainable travel have been achieved and are detailed within the report.
4. Capital expenditure in 2017/18 totalled £40.010M. Since the last revision of the Capital Medium Term Financial plan further refinements to estimates have occurred as part of the ongoing management of the programme and these are included in the recommendations below, all revisions can be contained within existing programmes.

5. The Council has a substantial annual construction programme of work. The current project position statement (PPS) shows there are 32 live projects currently being managed by the Council with an overall project outturn value of £67.999M. The majority of projects are running to time, cost and quality expectations with no foreseeable issues.
6. The projects are managed either by the Council's in-house management team, a Framework Partner or by Consultants sourced via an open/OJEU tender process.

### **Recommendations**

7. It is recommended that Cabinet :-
  - (a) Note the delivery and financial outturn of the 2017/18 Capital Programme.
  - (b) Note the attached status position on construction projects.
  - (c) Approve the adjustments to resources as detailed in paragraph 21.

### **Reasons**

8. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons: -
  - (a) The recommendations are supported to enable Members to note the progress of the 2017/18 Capital Programme and to allow the capital spend to be fully financed.
  - (b) To inform Cabinet of the current status of construction projects.
  - (c) To maintain effective management of resources.

**Paul Wildsmith**  
**Managing Director**

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth and**  
**Neighbourhood Services**

### **Background Papers**

- (i) Capital Medium Term Financial Plan 2017/18 – 2020/21
- (ii) Project Position Statement March 2018

Brian Robson : Extension 6608  
Claire Hayes : Extension 5416

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	There are no issues relating to health and wellbeing which this report needs to address.
Carbon Impact	There are no carbon impact implications in this report
Diversity	There are no specific implications for diversity
Wards Affected	All wards are affected.
Groups Affected	The proposals do not affect any particular groups within the community
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	The report does not represent a key decision
Urgent Decision	For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The Capital Programme referred to in the report supports delivery of the Sustainable Community strategy through appropriate deployment of the Council's resources
Efficiency	The recommendations support the effective and efficient use of resources.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

#### 2017/18 Capital Spend and Resources

### Information and Analysis

9. The Capital outturn for 2017/18 totalled £40.010M compared to £34.1M in 2016/17. **Appendix 1** analyses the 2017/18 capital spend by department, the proposed financing of the overall approved programme and corporate resources to be carried forward into 2018/19. The total of resources already approved to finance the outstanding capital programme including part finished projects is £60.573M therefore £21.560M will be carried forward into 2018/19 to fund completion. The Corporate Resources table shows the amount available to be utilised in future years to help finance the capital programme.
10. **Appendix 2** summarises the total approved departmental capital budgets of £150.281M, along with spend to date of £131.291M and the projected out turn position which is slightly lower than budget at £149.938M

11. The proposed financing of the 2017/18 expenditure is :-

	<b>2017/18 £M</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>40.431</b>
<b>Financing of Capital Expenditure</b>	
<i>Corporate resources</i>	
Corporate Unsupported Capital Expenditure (Borrowing)	2.007
Capital Receipts	5.534
<i>Externally funded</i>	
Capital Grants	13.349
Capital Contributions	1.716
<i>Departmental and Other Resources</i>	
HRA - Capital Receipts	0.985
HRA - Revenue Contribution	13.424
Departmental - Borrowing for Leasable Assets	0.421
Departmental – Revenue Contribution	2.995
<b>Total Capital Financing</b>	<b>40.431</b>

### **Project Position Statement**

12. Project management procedures require the production by project managers of a Project Position Statement (PPS) for all projects over £75,000. This report brings together the pertinent data from the current PPS with financial information from the Financial Management System (FMS) and approvals by Cabinet.
13. The Project Position Statement (**Appendix 3**) details the current live construction projects, up to the end of March 2018, by delivery area, and provides details on numbers, type and details of the key individuals responsible for the delivery of the projects. It also provides a statement on the current status position on each project, details of actions being taken, where required and any current issues. The statement excludes any completed projects or those on hold.

14. The overview of live construction projects is as follows:-

	Projects	Current Approved Budget £ / p	Projected Outturn £ / p	Variance %	Variance (Value) £ / p
(a) Economic Growth	12	19,761,554	19,352,757	-2.07	-408,797
(b) Neighbourhood Services and Resources	13	46,134,476	44,976,557	-2.51	-1,157,919
(c) People	7	3,705,550	3,669,946	-0.96	-35,604
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>69,601,580</b>	<b>67,999,260</b>	<b>-2.30</b>	<b>-1,602,320</b>

15. The table shown above includes a column for current approved budget. In certain cases this budget figure may be different from the original approved budget. This could be as a result of variances identified during construction or other variables not known at the initiation stage. The original budget and all subsequent changes have been reported to and approved by Cabinet.

16. The live projects are at the following stages:

Department	Brief	CP1	CP2	CP3	CP4	CP5	Total
Economic Growth	0	2	3	1	5	1	12
Neighbourhood Services and Resources	0	0	0	1	9	3	13
People	0	0	1	4	1	1	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>32</b>

- (a) **Control Point 1 (CP1) – Start Up:** is used to define the position of a project at its conception stage.
- (b) **Control Point 2 (CP2) – Initiate:** defines a project at feasibility stage and will likely include a desktop assessment of a project and the use of informed estimates.
- (c) **Control Point 3 (CP3) – Define:** the point that the project is progressed to RIBA Stage F, i.e. detailed design.
- (d) **Control Point 4 (CP4) – Construction Phase:** is the stage at which work begins on the project, i.e. for a construction project on site through to build completion.
- (e) **Control Point 5 (CP5) – Evaluate:** is the stage post completion of the project at which time the project is reviewed and lessons learned are discussed in order that they can be taken to the next or similar projects.

17. The status on live projects is as follows:

Department			
Economic Growth	0	10	2
Neighbourhood Services and Resources	0	12	1
People	0	6	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>

- (a) Star and triangle symbols are used to identify projects that have variances which are:-
- (i) More than £5,000, if the variance is also more than 5% of the approved budget for the project, or
  - (ii) More than £50,000 regardless of the percentage variance
- (b) Projects that are within these margins are symbolised with circles.
- (c) In addition to cost, the same symbols are used to indicate similar levels of variances in time and quality/outputs/outcomes.

### Reconciliation of Project Position Statement to Capital Programme

18. The table shown below reconciles the differences between the Capital Programme (CP) and the Project Position Statement (PPS). Differences occur because the Project Position Statement includes all construction projects over £75,000 in value funded from Capital and Revenue sources. Spending within the Capital Programme is not always of a construction nature, can be of any value and excludes Revenue funded schemes.

	Value £m
<b>Live Projects from Project Position Statement</b>	<b>67.999</b>
Schemes closed or on hold within CP but awaiting PPS post project review.	41.987
Annualised Programmes.	8.592
Non-construction projects not included in PPS report.	4.648
Capital schemes that were complete or nearing completion, before the production of PPS, are not included within PPS.	0.425
Capital schemes not yet integrated into PPS reporting.	24.341
Projects under £75k are excluded from PPS reporting.	1.840
Funding not yet allocated.	6.874
Schemes Included with PPS & CM Reporting	-6.768
<b>Capital Programme</b>	<b>149.938</b>

### Capital Programme Update

19. The following major areas of work have been undertaken in 2017/18.

(a) Children, Families and Learning

- (i) In June 2017 cabinet released £179,406 of School Condition Allocation funding. Together with a previously released underspend figure of £222,449 this provided a £401,855 programme of condition and health and safety related work in maintained schools and nurseries.
- (ii) The devolved formula capital grant of £49,815 is allocated to the LA on a formulaic basis based on pupil numbers in maintained schools. The LA then allocates the funding directly to schools for the schools themselves to support the other capital needs of their buildings.
- (iii) Cabinet allocated £300,000 capital receipt from the sale of the former Eastbourne Playing Fields to build multi-use games areas at Heathfield Primary and St Teresa's Primary. These schools were the nearest to the former Eastbourne School site and it was a requirement of the Secretary of State's approval to the disposal of the playing fields that a proportion of the capital receipt was invested in improving sports facilities at local schools.
- (iv) The St George's CE Academy expansion project was completed in October 2017. Cabinet allocated £1,200,000 of basic need grant in 2016 to a project to expand St George's CE Academy by 105 places. This basic need allocation is in advance of developer contributions which it is hoped will cover 100% of the project costs.

(b) Housing

- (i) Adaptations – The provision of disabled adaptations including Flat Floor Showers, ramps, stair lifts, handrails, grabrails and other adaptations to over 170 Council Properties.
- (ii) Heating Replacement - The upgrade of heating systems including 'A' rated Combi boilers, radiators and heating controls and the progressing of Electric to gas central heating replacement programme including the installation of new gas services and pipelines. Work was carried out in 237 properties primarily in North Riverside and Harrowgate Hill
- (iii) Structural Repairs – Ongoing structural monitoring continues and as a result a number of properties had structural repairs carried out. Major structural works have been completed to the boundary wall at Heatherwood Grove site, and a retaining wall replacement also at Heatherwood Grove.
- (iv) Repairs before Painting – 1,300 Properties had joinery repair works as part of the cyclical external painting programme in Lacselles, Parkside, Hundens Lane, Harrowgate Hill, Skerne Park and Heatherwood Grove.

- (v) Roofing – 33 properties at Hilda Street, Mary Court, and Spring Court received replacement of roofs, fascia's, soffits and rainwater goods alongside the top-up of loft insulation where appropriate. Other adhoc properties received new re-roofing including 3 no Lamella type houses at Glebe Road, 2 no houses at Whitby Way, and 1 house at Skerne Park estate.
  - (vi) Garages - Improvements to the Council's garage blocks were carried out in the Lascelles and Middleton St George Wards
  - (vii) External Works - Responsive repairs across the borough and the planned replacement of fencing and paths to 111 properties. Newton Court Carpark and drying area, Tansley Gardens car park, Branksome estate planned maintenance to all properties (lift relay pavings, level access ect.) ongoing.
  - (viii) Pavement Crossings – 8 properties had pavement crossings installed in their properties across the borough.
  - (ix) Replacement Door Programme – 251 properties across Branksome estate received new composite doors as a replacement for poor condition existing timber doors.
  - (x) Communal Works and Door Entry Systems – Refurbishment to lift at Roxby Court. Upgrade communal flooring at Church Row Hurworth. Replacement Communal doors to Murrayfield Way Flats.
  - (xi) Internal planned maintenance – Kitchen, bathroom, rewires and boiler replacements to 216 properties identified on the 20 year investment programme. Work was carried out to properties in Skerne Park, Mowden Terrace and Firthmoor.
- (c) Transport
- (i) Darlington continues to deliver capital schemes in support of its Transport Strategy. The objectives of the Transport Strategy as set out in the Third Local Transport Plan include supporting employment, economic activity and sustainable development; tackling climate change; improving accessibility to jobs, education, training, health, and green spaces; and improving the journey experience. Capital investment sources to deliver the Transport Programme were provided by: the third Local Transport Plan (LTP3), the Local Growth Fund, the National Productivity Investment Fund and various grants awarded by the Department for Transport (DfT) including Challenge Fund, Incentive and Pothole funding.
  - (ii) LTP3 funding was spent on delivering a programme of maintenance schemes and integrated transport schemes. The integrated transport programme included: an upgrade of pay and display machines in car

parks located throughout Darlington; a programme of improvements to bus stops and the provision of dropped kerbs at various locations. The highway maintenance programme was based upon condition data and included:

- a) Structural maintenance schemes such as Redworth phase 1, the Inner Ring Road, Haughton phase 1, Piercebridge phase 1 and improvement works to the Tubwell Road / Crown Street roundabout.
- b) An additional £500k was allocated from the Council for a programme of micro asphalt schemes to address the declining condition of unclassified roads (mainly residential streets).
- c) The severity of the winter meant that the number of potholes increased prompting the DfT to release additional funding. During 2017/18 6,582 potholes were filled in, 336 more than in 2016/17.
- d) There was also a programme of assessments carried out on Darlington's bridges, parapets and other structures and some work was carried out to address identified issues.

(iii) In 2014/15 a bid was submitted to the Department for Transport's Maintenance Challenge Fund by the Council. In March 2015 it was announced that the bid was successful, securing an additional £5.792m to be spent between 2015 and 2018. The money was to fund two schemes:

- a) The strengthening of Stonebridge, which was completed in 2016/17 and reopened in September 2016;and
- b) Acceleration of the programme to convert all street lights to LED lighting and replacing street lighting columns that are over 40 years old. This was completed in March 2018 and across the three years, 4,091 columns have been erected with 12,102 LED lanterns installed. The Council benefitted from significant savings in electricity through the LED programme.

(iv) Funding was secured in June 2016 from the Local Growth Fund for three schemes as follows:

- a) Feethams Connections – completed in 2016/17
- b) The River Skerne Sustainable Transport and Heritage Corridor project – completion of a new walking and cycling route alongside the River Skerne from John Street to Albert Road. The scheme opened up access to the historic Skerne Bridge as well as providing a link to Northgate opposite North Road Station improving access between the Railway Museum and the historic bridge. The route was formally opened in September, 2017, with the unveiling of a Transport Trust Red Wheel plaque on the bridge.
- c) The Parkgate Connections Scheme – contributing to better connections between Central Park, Darlington Station and

Darlington town centre. The resurfacing and creation of an advisory cycle way on Park Place was completed in October 2017 and the footway / cycleway improvements alongside St. Cuthbert's Way to Park Place were completed in March 2018.

- (v) Funding was secured in July 2017 from the Department for Transport from the National Productivity Improvement Fund (NPIF) for improvements on the B6280 Yarm Road which links the A66 to Central Park Enterprise Zone and Darlington Station. This will improve resilience on the A66, performance on the local road network and improve access to Tees Valley national and international gateways. A subsequent bid for NPIF funding of £3.37m was successful enabling 3 key schemes to be delivered by March 2020:
  - a) Improvements to McMullen Road roundabout
  - b) The introduction of traffic signals at Lingfield Way/Yarm Road junction.
  - c) Improvements to the Haughton Road/Tornado Way junction (throughabout).
- (vi) All schemes will include improvements for cyclists and pedestrians, including a new section of cycle route alongside Lingfield Way.
- (vii) Tees Valley Combined Authority's Development Fund grant was awarded to initiate the design of a foot bridge / cycle bridge. This was undertaken by Esh Construction. A further sum, funded by local contribution, was spent on feasibility and options studies, site investigation and clearance and the erection of a Network Rail security fence. A successful bid to the Local Growth Fund Sustainable Access to Employment Programme will enable the bridge to be constructed and installed in 2018/19.

(d) Miscellaneous Schemes

- (i) Hippodrome – £13.2M of funding has been allocated to the scheme from HLF grant, capital contributions and corporate resources. Total expenditure on the scheme to date is £11.5M and final accounts should be completed in 2018/19.

## Capital Programme

20. Paragraph 21 shows the movements in the Capital Programme since the approval of the 2017/18 Capital MTFP, some of which have not yet been approved by Members.

21. Adjustment to resources requested by Departments:-

**Virements**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value £</b>	<b>Reason for adjustment</b>	<b>Resource type adjusted</b>
Economic Growth	Former Feethams Bus Depot	(10,246)	Virement	Nil Effect
Economic Growth	Land sale commercials street	10,246	Virement	Nil Effect
Economic Growth	Former Feethams Bus Depot	(31,693 )	Virement	Nil Effect
Economic Growth	Dolphin centre M&E Works	31,693	Virement	Nil Effect
Economic Growth	Former Feethams Bus Depot	(11,251)	Virement	Nil Effect
Economic Growth	Carriage works funds	11,251	Virement	Nil Effect
Children Family's & Learning	Heathfield Primary School Expansion	(41,000)	Virement	Nil Effect
Children Family's & Learning	MUGA Heathfield & St Teresas	41,000	Virement	Nil Effect
<b>Total</b>		<b>Nil</b>		

**Adjustments needing approval release**

<b>Department</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Value £</b>	<b>Reason for adjustment</b>	<b>Resource type adjusted</b>
Neighbourhood Services & Resources	South Park	6,000	S106 Toddlers play area South Park	S106
Neighbourhood Services & Resources	Parks & Play Green Park	(5,132)	Funds no longer required.	Funds moved back to centre
Neighbourhood Services & Resources	Civic Toilet Refurbishment	(4,794)	Funds no longer required.	Funds moved back to centre
Children Family's & Learning	Borough Road Nursery Drainage 17-	(4,750)	Funds no longer required.	Funds moved back to capital

Department	Scheme	Value £	Reason for adjustment	Resource type adjusted
	18			maintenance
Children Family's & Learning	George Dent condition works 17/18	(7,953)	Funds no longer required.	Funds moved back to capital maintenance
Children Family's & Learning	Red Hall Fencing 17-18	(351)	Funds no longer required.	Funds moved back to capital maintenance
Children Family's & Learning	Red Hall Roof 17-18	6,383	To be funded from previously released funds	Release
Children Family's & Learning	George Dent Conservatory Works	22,000	To be funded from previously released funds	Release
Prudential Borrowing - Leasable assets	Various	420,876	Since 2004 the introduction of the prudential code has allowed assets otherwise leased to be purchased outright with the costs paid by the department from revenue over the useful life of the asset. Spending on leasable assets in 2017/18 is £420,876 and has been added to the Capital programme	Departmental unsupported borrowing

22. **Appendix 4** details the general fund capital receipts and corporate resources received and brought forward from previous years. These amount to £9.395M of which £5.533M has been utilised to finance capital expenditure as well as £0.667 of earmarked receipts to fund slippage, leaving a balance of £3.195M to carry forward into future years.

## **Conclusion**

23. The total capital spend incurred during 2017/18 was £40.010M. Overall a balanced programme has been achieved with a wide variety of capital improvements undertaken throughout the Borough during 2017/18.

## **Outcome of Consultation**

24. There has been no consultation in the preparation of this report.

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**Capital 2017-18 Spend Summary - Financing by Department**

Line		GF Corporate Resources £M	HRA Capital Receipts £M	Supported Borrowing £M	HRA Borrowing £M	Departmental Borrowing £M	Revenue Contribution £M	MRA £M	Capital Contributions £M	Capital Grants £M	Total £M
	<b>Capital Expenditure</b>										
1	People	0.388							0.513	2.653	<b>3.554</b>
2	Economic Growth	3.701				0.346	-		0.065	6.475	<b>10.587</b>
3	Neighbourhood Services & Resources	3.451	0.985			2.650	13.424		1.138	4.221	<b>25.869</b>
4	<b>Department Total</b>	<b>7.541</b>	<b>0.985</b>	-	-	<b>2.995</b>	<b>13.424</b>	-	<b>1.716</b>	<b>13.349</b>	<b>40.010</b>
5	Prudential Borrowing - Leasable Assets (not budgeted)	-	-	-	-	0.421	-	-	-	-	<b>0.421</b>
6	<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>7.541</b>	<b>0.985</b>	-	-	<b>3.416</b>	<b>13.424</b>	-	<b>1.716</b>	<b>13.349</b>	<b>40.431</b>
	<b>Resources</b>										
8	Approved	11.857	0.985	-	-	2.995	21.333	-	1.828	21.575	<b>60.573</b>
9	Recommended additional approvals	-0.005	0.000	-	-	-	0.986	-	0.001	0.015	<b>0.997</b>
9	Leasable Assets					0.421					<b>0.421</b>
11	<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>11.852</b>	<b>0.985</b>	-	-	<b>3.416</b>	<b>22.319</b>	-	<b>1.829</b>	<b>21.590</b>	<b>61.991</b>
12	<b>Approved / (Unapproved) Resources C/F (Line 12 - 6)</b>	<b>4.311</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>	-	-	<b>(0.000)</b>	<b>8.894</b>	-	<b>0.113</b>	<b>8.241</b>	<b>21.560</b>

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<b>Capital Programme Summary</b>							
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Budget 2017/18</b>	<b>Spend as at 31/3/17</b>	<b>Resources Available 2017/18</b>	<b>Spend 2017/18</b>	<b>Expected Outturn</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Resources c/fwd to 2018/19 (before para. 22 adj.) £M</b>
	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>	<b>£M</b>
			<b>(A - B)</b>			<b>(E - A)</b>	<b>(C - D)</b>
<b>People</b>	12.686	5.399	<b>7.287</b>	3.554	<b>12.852</b>	<b>0.166</b>	3.733
<b>Economic Growth</b>	61.133	42.398	<b>18.734</b>	10.400	<b>61.549</b>	<b>0.416</b>	8.335
<b>Neighbourhood Services &amp; Resources</b>	76.462	44.893	<b>31.569</b>	24.226	<b>75.537</b>	<b>(0.925)</b>	7.343
<b>Totals Excluding Leasable assets</b>	<b>150.281</b>	<b>92.691</b>	<b>57.590</b>	<b>38.179</b>	<b>149.938</b>	<b>(0.343)</b>	<b>19.411</b>
<b>Prudential Borrowing Leasable Assets</b>				0.421	<b>0.421</b>		0.421
<b>Total Capital Expenditure 2017/18</b>	<b>150.281</b>	<b>92.691</b>	<b>57.590</b>	<b>38.600</b>	<b>150.359</b>	<b>(0.343)</b>	<b>19.832</b>

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<b>General Fund Capital Receipts &amp; Corporate Resources</b>		
<b>Line No</b>	<b>Sites</b>	<b>2017/18 £M's</b>
1	Brought Forward from 2016/17	3.218
	<b>Sales Completed</b>	
2	Overage Beaumont Hill	0.018
3	Allington Way	0.500
4	Alderman Leach	0.100
5	Alexander Street	0.027
6	Woodburn Nursery	1.456
7	Hartington Way	0.217
8	Faverdale	0.290
9	Forge Way	0.021
10	Springfield	1.253
11	Blackwell	1.974
12	Red Hall	0.321
13		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9.395</b>

<b>Capital Receipt Analysis</b>		
14	Brought Forward from 2016/17	3.218
15	Receipts received in 17/18	6.177
		<b>9.395</b>
16	Less receipts used to finance expenditure	(5.533)
17	Less earmarked receipts	(0.667)
18	<b>Capital Receipts carried forward to 18/19</b>	<b>3.195</b>

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**CABINET**  
**5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT 2018/19**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Sue Richmond,  
Adult Social Care Portfolio**

**Responsible Director -  
Suzanne Joyner, Director of Children and Adults Services**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. The purpose of this report is to request that Members release the capital resources available for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs), as set out in the Council's Constitution.
2. The report also advises Members of the capital resources available for DFGs during 2018/19 and makes the recommendation that these resources are utilised in accordance with Darlington Borough Council Disabled Facilities Grant Policy.

#### **Summary**

3. Disabled Facilities Grants assist people to live independently by helping to fund suitable adaptations to their properties. They are means tested and are available to owner-occupiers, tenants of private rented properties and Housing Association tenants.
4. Disabled Facilities Grants are governed by housing legislation and have set conditions for payment within these regulations. The Council commissions Durham County Council to provide a Home Improvement Agency service to provide guidance and practical assistance to people who are older, disabled or on low incomes to claim a Disabled Facilities Grants to repair, improve or adapt their homes. The Home Improvement Agency also provides support to people until the work is completed and the contractor has been paid.
5. With effect from 2017, funding for Disabled Facilities Grants has been included within the Better Care Fund.

## Recommendation

6. It is recommended that the Disabled Facilities Grant for 2018/9 be noted and the capital funding released.

## Reasons

7. The recommendation is supported to enable the adaptations for those individuals who are eligible to receive a Disabled Facilities Grant for 2018/19 to proceed.

**Suzanne Joyner,  
Director of Children and Adults Services**

## Background Papers

- (i) Funding for Better Care Fund 2016/2017- NHS England
- (ii) Darlington Borough Council Disabled facilities Grant Policy 2014-2017
- (iii) Home Adaptations for Disabled People - A detailed guide to related legislation, guidance and good practice- Home Adaptations Consortium

Jeanette Crompton: Extension 5855

S17 Crime and Disorder	This report has no implications for Crime and disorder.
Health and Well Being	Adaptations funded by Disabled Facilities Grants will improve the health and well-being of residents of Darlington.
Carbon Impact	Some of the adaptations funded by Disabled Facilities Grants will reduce energy usage and provide higher levels of thermal comfort for dwellings benefitting from these measures thus reducing carbon emissions.
Diversity	The adaptations provided via Disabled Facilities Grants will improve the accessibility of owner occupied, privately rented and social housing.
Wards Affected	All wards within the Borough of Darlington are affected.

Groups Affected	Disabled Facilities Grants are available to disabled applicants living in owner occupied, privately rented and social housing.
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision. The Grant is received from NHS England via the Better Care Fund for the sole purpose of providing adaptations for disabled individuals.
Urgent Decision	For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this is not an urgent matter.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This links to theme 3 'Healthy Darlington' specifically addressing health inequalities to narrow the gaps in health and wellbeing.
Efficiency	Adaptations enable people to remain independent in their homes for longer and therefore reduce the need for larger packages of support or admission to residential care. They also can be effective in preventing hospital admissions.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	There is no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

8. The purpose of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) is to fund adaptations to owner-occupiers, tenants of private rented properties and Housing Association tenants to enable people with a disability to remain in their own home and live independently across the Borough.
9. DFGs are national mandatory grants and the grants are available to adults and children with a disability, when works to their home are judged "necessary and appropriate" to meet their assessed needs, and when it is "reasonable and practicable" to carry them out having regard to the age and condition of the dwelling.
10. Works that are eligible for a DFG include:
  - (a) facilitating access to and from and around the dwelling

- (b) access to a family room
- (c) access to a room for sleeping
- (d) access to a lavatory
- (e) access to a bath or shower
- (f) facilities for the preparation of food
- (g) improvements to heating systems.

11. The maximum grant payable is £30,000 per application and is subject to a statutory means test to determine if the individual is able to contribute to the cost of the works. Means tests do not apply to grant applications for disabled children.
12. Durham County Council Home Improvement Agency provides support to individuals applying for a DFG under a contract. This service includes: the completion of the grant application; the seeking of quotes for the necessary works; selection of a suitable contractor; over sight of the works up to completion, and payment of the grant. The agency will also support individuals to source charitable funding where the cost of works is in excess of £30,000, and also provides advice to those who are ineligible for a grant but still wish to proceed with the adaptation, using their own funding.
13. The proportion of people who will need work carried out to their homes to enable them to continue to live independently is likely to increase. This is due to an ageing population, where the numbers of people 65 or over will increase by 20.7% by 2019, growing to 23% by 2025 and the prediction that the number of older people with disabilities will increase.
14. Demand for adaptations has also been accelerated by medical advances which have allowed people of all ages with varying levels of disability and complex needs, to lead more independent lives in the community. Similarly more children with disabilities are living longer into adulthood, which means families need to adapt their homes to meet their changing needs.
15. Adaptations to a person's home can also reduce and /or delay the need for care and support and also prevent/delay the admission to residential care. In addition, a DFG can support a preventative approach by reducing risks within the home and assisting individuals to live and manage independently in a safe and accessible home environment.
16. From 2015/16 DFG funding allocations were transferred from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to the Better Care Fund but were still ring fenced for expenditure on Disabled Facilities Grants. Adult Social Care continues to award the DFGs in accordance with the current Disabled Facilities Grant Policy. (The Housing Division also currently fund adaptations to council owned properties up to the mandatory limit of £30,000).

17. In recognition of the increase in demand for DFGs, which has outstripped the grant allocation made to some local authorities and the significant contribution that they make towards supporting individuals to remain in their own homes, there has been an increase in the allocations made to local authorities since 2016/17. This increase has been maintained and for 2018-2019, the allocation made to Darlington Borough Council via the Better Care Fund is £868,491, a significant increase from the £437,000 allocation in 2015-16.

### **Financial Implications**

18. Members are required to formally release the monies available to the Council for DFGs for 2018/19 as it is a capital resource. Table 1 below details the DFG capital resources available.

**Table 1: DFG Capital Resources 2018-2019**

Disabled Facilities Grants	£000's
2018/19	£868,491

### **Outcome of Consultation**

19. No formal consultation has taken place with regard to the request to release the capital funding for the DFGs to be awarded for 2018-2019. However, consultation did take place in 2013 as part of the development of the Disabled Facilities Grant Policy. The release of the capital funding will enable DFGs to continue to be made in accordance with the approved policy.

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**CABINET  
6 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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**TEES VALLEY COMBINED AUTHORITY  
DEVOLUTION OF ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Bill Dixon, Leader  
Responsible Director - Paul Wildsmith, Managing Director**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This report seeks the consent of Cabinet to enable legislation to be made to transfer responsibility for the Adult Education Budget to the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

**Summary**

2. The Tees Valley Combined Authority was established on 1 April 2016 with the support of the 5 Tees Valley Councils. In September 2016 the first tranche of funding of £15m was transferred to the Combined Authority as a flexible revenue grant directed to the Tees Valley's priorities. On 4 May 2017 the inaugural mayoral elections took place.
3. The powers of the Combined Authority have been established by the devolution of powers from central government and formalised by a number of statutory instruments which prescribe and delineate the powers granted. The process followed in the making of a statutory instrument requires the consent of the local authorities within the area of the combined authority before an order can be made.
4. We have been advised via the Combined Authority that a statutory instrument has been drafted, with the purpose of devolving the Adult Education budget from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to the Combined Authority.
5. The Secretary of State is now seeking consent from the Combined Authority and all of the constituent local authorities to enable the process of laying a statutory instrument before Parliament to progress.

## **Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that:-

- (a) Cabinet consents to the making by Parliament of a statutory instrument to enable responsibility for the Adult Education Budget to transfer the Tees Valley Combined Authority.
- (b) Subject to this being agreed, authority is delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to give the Council's consent to the final Order being made when requested by the Secretary of State.

## **Reasons**

7. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons:

- (a) To enable the Tees Valley Combined Authority to have responsibility for the Adult Education Budget.
- (b) Consent from the constituent councils of the Tees Valley Combined Authority is required by Government before legislation to enable this can be laid before Parliament.

**Paul Wildsmith, Managing Director**

## **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

Luke Swinhoe: Extension 5490

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no specific impacts on Crime and Disorder
Health and Well Being	There are no specific implications for Health and Well Being
Carbon Impact	Not applicable.
Diversity	There are no specific diversity impacts resulting from this report.
Wards Affected	The report impacts on all wards equally
Groups Affected	The report impacts on all groups equally.
Budget and Policy Framework	The report does not impact on the overall budget and policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is an urgent decision. The constituent Local Authorities are being asked to consent to the proposed draft statutory instrument by early July 2018.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	No specific impacts
Efficiency	Devolution of the budget is likely to be of benefit to local decision making
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	The report does not impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

#### Adult Education Budget

8. The Adult Education Budget is part of national skills funding that is provided to equip adults over the age of 19 with the skills and learning they need for work, apprenticeships or further learning. This includes provision for statutory elements such as a first full level 2 (equivalent to 5 GCSE's A-C), maths and English qualifications.
9. The budget includes provision for formal learning and qualifications primarily delivered by Further Education Colleges, community learning primarily delivered by Council Adult learning services, a small element of vocational learning in Sixth Forms and a wide range of learning provided by independent training providers.
10. The Adult Education Budget is currently administered by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The Tees Valley, and other devolution areas, sought full devolution of this funding in order to raise local skill levels, promote reform and improved performance and strengthen the links between training and local job opportunities.

11. Full devolution of this budget could take place for academic year 2019/20 which will enable the Combined Authority to allocate funding directly to skills providers, determine the outcomes to be achieved and manage performance of these providers.
12. A funding formula for calculating the size of the grant to combined authorities will take into account a range of demographic, educational and labour market factors. An indicative and working budget of £30.5m p.a. has been suggested by the Department for planning purposes. It is likely that this figure will reduce as is predicated on previous performance and allocation confirmation in the autumn statement.
13. The benefits of devolution of the budget to the Combined Authority include;
  - (a) Aligning skills provision directly to Tees Valley employers skills needs
  - (b) Implementing simpler commissioning processes for providers
  - (c) Implementing payment models directly related to outcome achievement rather than number of learners engaged and qualifications achieved
  - (d) Enabling more flexible approaches to funding awards, including lengthening the contract period
  - (e) Introducing more flexible eligibility criteria for learners
  - (f) Creating a skills funding system that rewards progression in learning
  - (g) Directly aligns adult (post 19) education to post 16 learning routeways
14. The greatest benefit to the Tees Valley in enabling devolution of this element of the skills system will demonstrate the potential for achieving greater success linked to greater alignment of skills provision directly to the future Tees Valley economic needs of business and the traction to achieve greater economic growth for future devolution.

#### Legislation to devolve the budget

15. The primary legislation which established Combined Authorities made provision to enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from the 19+ adult skills budget.
16. The Devolution deal agreed with Government in 2016 included: “The Government will enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from the 19+ adult skills budget starting in academic year 2016/17; and will fully devolve budgets to Tees Valley Combined Authority from academic year 2018/19 (subject to readiness conditions). These arrangements do not cover apprenticeships.”
17. In the intervening period joint working with the Department of Education and the Combined Authority has taken place. A decision was taken to delay the devolution of this budget to August 2019 in preparation for commissioned activity to be in place for the academic year 2019/20.

18. In November 2017 the Combined Authority Cabinet approved arrangements to continue joint working with the Department of Education and the Education Skills Funding Agency for the transition year 2018/19.
19. In order to enable full devolution of this budget a statutory instrument must be laid before Parliament.
20. On the 11 May 2018 we were advised by the Combined Authority that the Order granting the Combined Authority devolution of the Adult Education Budget will be laid before Parliament in July 2018. Before this can be done, consent from the Combined Authority Cabinet and also the constituent local authorities of the Tees Valley must be given.
21. The draft statutory instrument is not currently available as it has not yet been cleared by Parliamentary Counsel.

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**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

**ITEM NO. ....**

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## **REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES 2018/19**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member - Councillor Bill Dixon, Leader**

**Responsible Director – Paul Wildsmith,  
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. To consider this Council's representation on other bodies for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, to which Cabinet appoints.

#### **Recommendation**

2. It is recommended that the appointments to the other bodies, as detailed in paragraph 6 of the main report, for the 2018/19 Municipal Year, be approved

#### **Reasons**

3. The recommendation is supported to comply with the nominations received from the Political Groups.

**Paul Wildsmith,  
Director of Neighbourhood Services and Resources**

#### **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Lynne Wood : Extension 2287

S17 Crime and Disorder	The report contributes to the prevention of crime and disorder, in a number of ways, through the involvement of local elected representatives in a number of outside bodies.
Health and Well Being	The appointment of local elected representatives to various outside bodies will enable the health and well-being of the people of the Borough to be highlighted through the work, policies and decisions of those bodies.
Carbon Impact	The appointment of local elected representatives to a range of key local and national bodies, will enable carbon impact to be considered in the development of policies and other decisions through those bodies.
Diversity	The report contributes to diversity in a number of ways through the involvement of local elected representatives on a range of key local and national bodies, and the development of policies and other decisions through those bodies.
Wards Affected	This report does not immediately affect any wards within the Borough.
Groups Affected	This report does not have any affect on any particular parts of the community.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council's budget or policy framework.
Key Decision	This is a not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	The report contributes to the delivery of the objectives of the community strategy in a number of ways through the involvement of local elected representatives on a range of key local and national bodies, and the development of policies and other decisions through those bodies.
Efficiency	There are no direct efficiencies to the Council from the information contained within this report. There is cost to the Council in attendance to meetings of bodies outside Darlington.
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers.

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

4. Listed below are details of nominations made to other bodies which have, for ease of reference, been listed in alphabetical order.
5. In accordance with this Council's Constitution, a number of appointments have been made by Annual Council at its meeting held on 17 May 2018, and listed below are those appointments to be made by Cabinet.
6. The details show nominations received from the Labour, Conservative and the Liberal Democrat Groups for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

<b>Name of Body or Organisation</b>	<b>Labour Group Nomination(s)</b>	<b>Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Nomination(s)</b>
Association of Rail North Partnership Authorities		
Rail North Ltd.	Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)	
Transport for the North	Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)	
North East Rail Management Unit	Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon)	
Charitable Organisations for the Blind (COB)	Councillor Newall	-
Community Library (Cockerton) Limited	Councillor Baldwin (Cockerton Ward Member)	
County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust – Board of Governors	Councillor A J Scott (Councillor S Richmond as named substitute)	-
Creative Darlington	Councillor Wallis (Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio) and Councillor Carson (Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee) as named substitute	

<b>Name of Body or Organisation</b>	<b>Labour Group Nomination(s)</b>	<b>Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Nomination(s)</b>
Darlington and District Youth and Community Association (2002)	Councillor Baldwin	Councillor Curry
Darlington Cares	Councillor McEwan (Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio)	
Darlington Partnership Board	Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon); Cabinet Member with Housing, Health and Partnerships Portfolio (Councillor A J Scott); and Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes)	Councillor Mrs Scott (Leader of the Opposition)
Darlington Railway Museum Trust	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)	-
Durham County Pension Fund Committee	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker) and Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor I G Haszeldine)	-
Durham Tees Valley Airport Limited - Board	Councillor McEwan (Director) (Councillor Carson as substitute Council Director)	-
Durham Tees Valley Airport Limited - Consultative Committee	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)	-
Family Help Organisation	Councillors J Taylor and Newall	Councillor Curry
Family Placement Panel	Councillor Crumbie	-
Maidendale Nature and Fishing Reserve (Associate Member)	Councillor Dixon (Ward Member)	-
North East Ambulance Service	Chair of Health and Well Being Board (Councillor A J Scott)	

<b>Name of Body or Organisation</b>	<b>Labour Group Nomination(s)</b>	<b>Conservative Group and Liberal Democrat Nomination(s)</b>
North East Child Poverty Commission	Cabinet Member with Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes)	
North East Regional Employers Organisation	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker), Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor I G Haszeldine) and Vice Chair of Efficiency and Resources Scrutiny Committee (Councillor Crumbie)	-
Executive Committee	Cabinet Member with Efficiency and Resources Portfolio (Councillor Harker)	-
North East Strategic Migration Partnership	Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio (Councillor C L B Hughes) (Leader of the Council (Councillor Dixon) as named substitute)	-
Northern Housing Consortium	Cabinet Member with Housing, Health and Partnerships Portfolio (Councillor A J Scott)	-
Northumbrian Regional Flood and Coastal Committee	Councillor Carson (Councillor McEwan as named substitute)	-
Poor Moor Fund	Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio (Councillor McEwan)	
RELATE North East	Councillor Regan	Councillor Cartwright
Tees Valley Local Access Forum	Councillor Carson (Chair of Place Scrutiny Committee)	-
Tidy North Regional Consultative Committee	Cabinet Member with Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio (Councillor Wallis)	-

## **Outcome of Consultation**

7. No consultation, other than with the political groups, was undertaken.

**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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## **PROPOSED RESIDENT'S PARKING CLEVELAND AVENUE - OBJECTIONS**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Nick Wallis,  
Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Ian Williams, Director of Economic Growth**

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### **SUMMARY REPORT**

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

1. To advise Members of an objection received to a resident parking proposal in Cleveland Avenue and seek a decision on whether to proceed with the proposal.

#### **Summary**

2. A request was received from a resident of Cleveland Avenue to introduce resident's parking restrictions to resolve a problem of commuter/student parking for extended periods of time outside the resident's properties.
3. The property is close to Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form College and the town centre. The properties affected do not have off street parking. Commuters and students are parking for most of the day restricting residents from parking close to their home.
4. A resident only bay 24 metres in length was advertised to prevent commuter parking and give residents an option to park 8.00am – 6.00pm. (see plan at **Appendix A**)
5. An objection to the proposal has been received from a resident who is a neighbour of the person who requested the proposal. The objector thinks the proposal is unnecessary and there is always space on the opposite side of the road.
6. Officers recommend setting the objection aside and proceed to introduce the resident's parking.

#### **Recommendation**

7. It is recommended that Members consider the objection and set it aside and authorise officers to proceed with the proposal to introduce resident's parking as advertised.



## Reasons

8. The recommendation is supported to improve the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth**

## Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

Chris Easby: Extension 6707

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no direct implications
Health and Well Being	There are no direct implications
Carbon Impact	There are no significant carbon impact implications in this report
Diversity	There are no direct implications
Wards Affected	College
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	No significant implications.
Efficiency	The proposal will prevent commuter parking
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	Does this report impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

9. A resident of Cleveland Avenue made a complaint that the unrestricted space outside his property was parked up Monday to Friday 8.00am until 6.00pm by commuter/student parking.
10. Officers have observed the parking and consider that the majority of the cars that do park in this area belong to commuters and students. The parking is therefore long term on a daily basis.
11. A resident from the same stretch of Cleveland Avenue has made an objection to the proposed residents' parking bay. The reason for this objection is he thinks the proposal is unnecessary and there is always space on the opposite side of the

road. The displaced parking will only exacerbate the pressure on free parking in other areas necessitating a need for more resident parking.

12. The Ward Councillors were consulted and they did not make any comments on the proposals.
13. The proposed restrictions will improve the amenities for residents and enable parking during the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm.
14. Subject to Cabinet approval, the restrictions will be introduced in accordance with the Councils powers as set out in Part 1 of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984.

### **Financial Implications**

15. The proposal will be funded from the traffic management budget.

### **Legal Implications**

16. The traffic orders have been statutorily advertised for the required period.

### **Consultation**

17. Officers have consulted the residents of 32-44 Cleveland Avenue (seven properties) with the proposed resident parking restrictions. The proposal has also been statutorily advertised in the press, following delegated authority to progress a traffic order.

### **Outcome of Consultation**

18. One resident of Cleveland Avenue has objected as he does not consider the restrictions to be warranted as he rarely has a problem finding parking. He considers that the restricted parking will exacerbate the pressure on unrestricted parking in the area which will necessitate more resident parking. Four of the residents that were consulted are in favour of the proposed restrictions.



 <p><b>DARLINGTON</b> BOROUGH COUNCIL</p>	Cleveland Avenue	
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**CABINET  
5 JUNE 2018**

ITEM NO. ....

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**PROPOSED RESIDENT'S PARKING MOWDEN TERRACE  
WESTBROOK TERRACE AND MOWDEN STREET – OBJECTIONS**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Nick Wallis  
Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Ian Williams, Director of Economic Growth**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To advise Members of an objection received to a resident's parking proposal in Mowden Terrace, Mowden Street and Westbrook Terrace and seek a decision on whether to proceed with the proposal.

**Summary**

2. A request was received from residents of Westbrook Terrace, Corporation Road and Mowden Terrace to introduce resident's parking restrictions to resolve a problem of commuter parking for extended periods of time outside the residents' properties.
3. The properties are in close proximity to the Odeon Cinema and Corporation School and commuters working in the town centre have started to park in the area. The properties affected do not have off street parking. Commuters and staff are parking for most of the day restricting residents from parking close to their home.
4. Resident's parking bays in Mowden Terrace, Mowden Street and Westbrook Terrace were advertised to prevent commuter parking and give residents an option to park 8.00am – 6.00pm. The proposal also included no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) at the junctions of the area to keep them clear of vehicles and aid visibility (see plan at **Appendix A**).
5. Two objections were received to the proposal. One from a resident at 17 Mowden Terrace who had canvassed other residents of Mowden Terrace for their opinion on the proposed scheme and ten residents signed a letter he had prepared. The objector was unhappy as he feels the whole street should be resident's parking and either free or considerably less than the £40 for a permit. He felt the scheme favoured commuters by giving them free parking in the street and making residents pay. The other objection felt the whole street should be made resident parking or none at all especially as there was no resident only bay directly outside his

property.

6. The Stonemason's asked if it was possible to include a length of limited waiting parking so their customers could park nearby. This request was incorporated into a second proposal.
7. There were no objections to the double yellow lines at the junctions.
8. The second proposal removed a section of resident's parking from the north side of Mowden Terrace and included the limited waiting bay on Westbrook Terrace. This received objections from residents who had previously signed the letter from the main objector of the scheme (no.17) who wanted the resident bay reinstating (see plan at **Appendix B**)
9. The final proposal included longer resident's bay on the north side of Mowden Terrace, the initial objector from number 17 was still against the proposal (see plan at **Appendix C**)
10. Officers recommend setting the objection aside and proceed to introduce the residents' parking.

### **Recommendation**

11. It is recommended that Members consider the objection and set it aside and authorise officers to proceed with the proposal to introduce resident's parking and no waiting at any time as advertised:

### **Reasons**

12. The recommendation is supported to improve the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

**Ian Williams**  
**Director of Economic Growth**

### **Background Papers**

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Chris Easby: Extension 6707

S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no direct implications
Health and Well Being	There are no direct implications
Carbon Impact	There are no significant carbon impact implications in this report
Diversity	There are no direct implications
Wards Affected	College
Groups Affected	All
Budget and Policy Framework	This decision does not represent a change to the budget and policy framework
Key Decision	This is not a key decision.
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	No significant implications.
Efficiency	The proposal will prevent commuter parking
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report does not impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

13. Residents of Mowden Terrace, Mowden Street and Westbrook Terrace complained that the unrestricted space outside his property was parked up Monday to Friday 8.00am until 6.00pm by commuter/staff parking from the school.
14. Officers have observed the parking and consider that the majority of the cars that do park in this area belong to commuters and staff. The parking is therefore long term on a daily basis.
15. Two residents from Mowden Terrace has made an objection to the proposed resident's parking bay scheme. The reason for this objection is he thinks the proposal is unnecessary and that if we do implement a scheme it should be for the entire street and permits free of charge and there is always space on the opposite side of the road. He felt the Council were favouring commuters by giving them free parking and asking residents to pay. The other objector commented that the entire street should be made resident parking or none at all. He also felt as there was no bay directly outside his property and the scheme will make it more difficult to park outside is home.
16. The Ward Councillors were consulted and Councillor Kane was in favour of the proposal.
17. The proposed restrictions will improve the amenities for residents and enable parking during the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm.
18. Subject to Cabinet approval, the restrictions will be introduced in accordance with the Councils powers as set out in Part 1 of the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984.

## **Financial Implications**

19. The proposal will be funded from the traffic management budget.

## **Legal Implications**

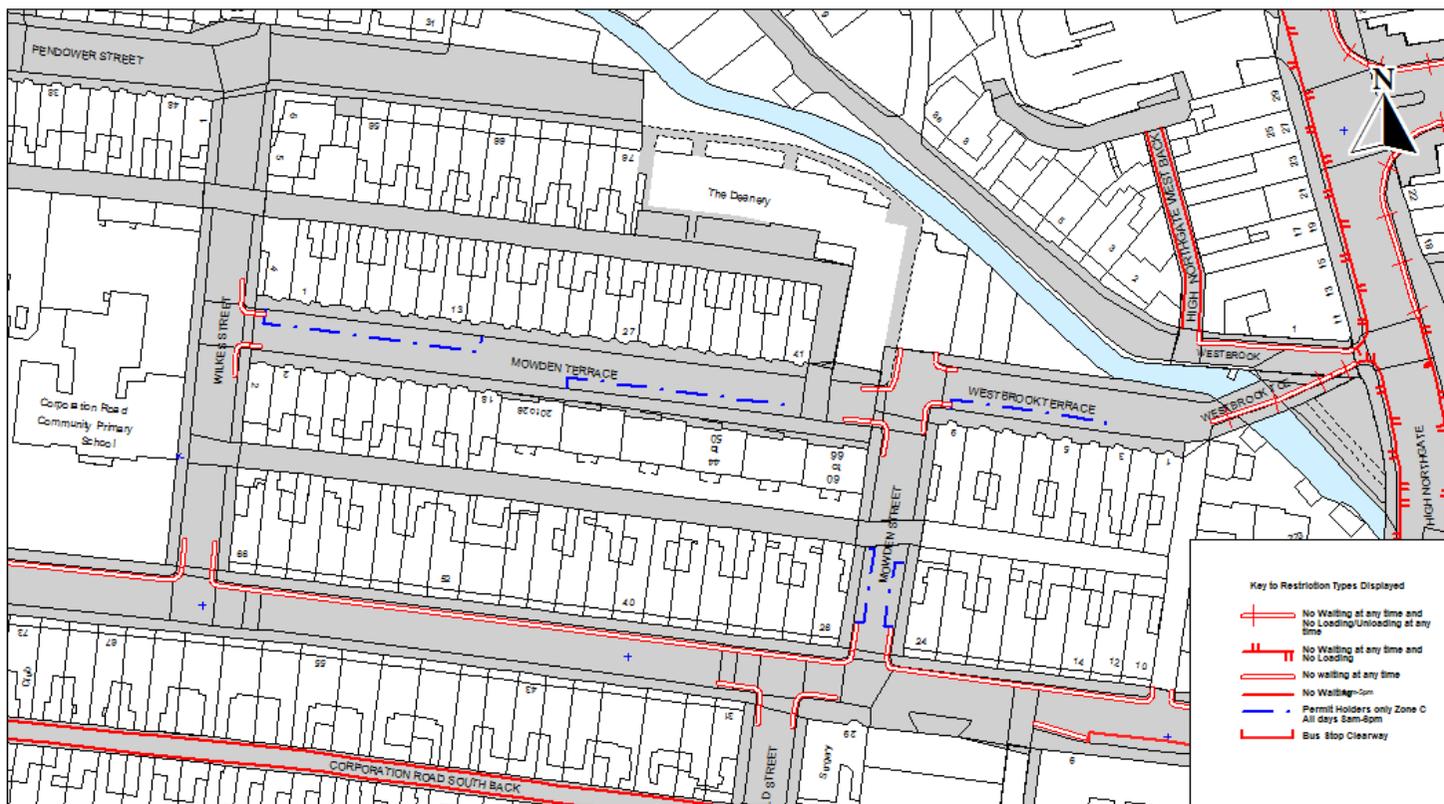
20. The traffic orders have been statutorily advertised for the required period.

## **Consultation**

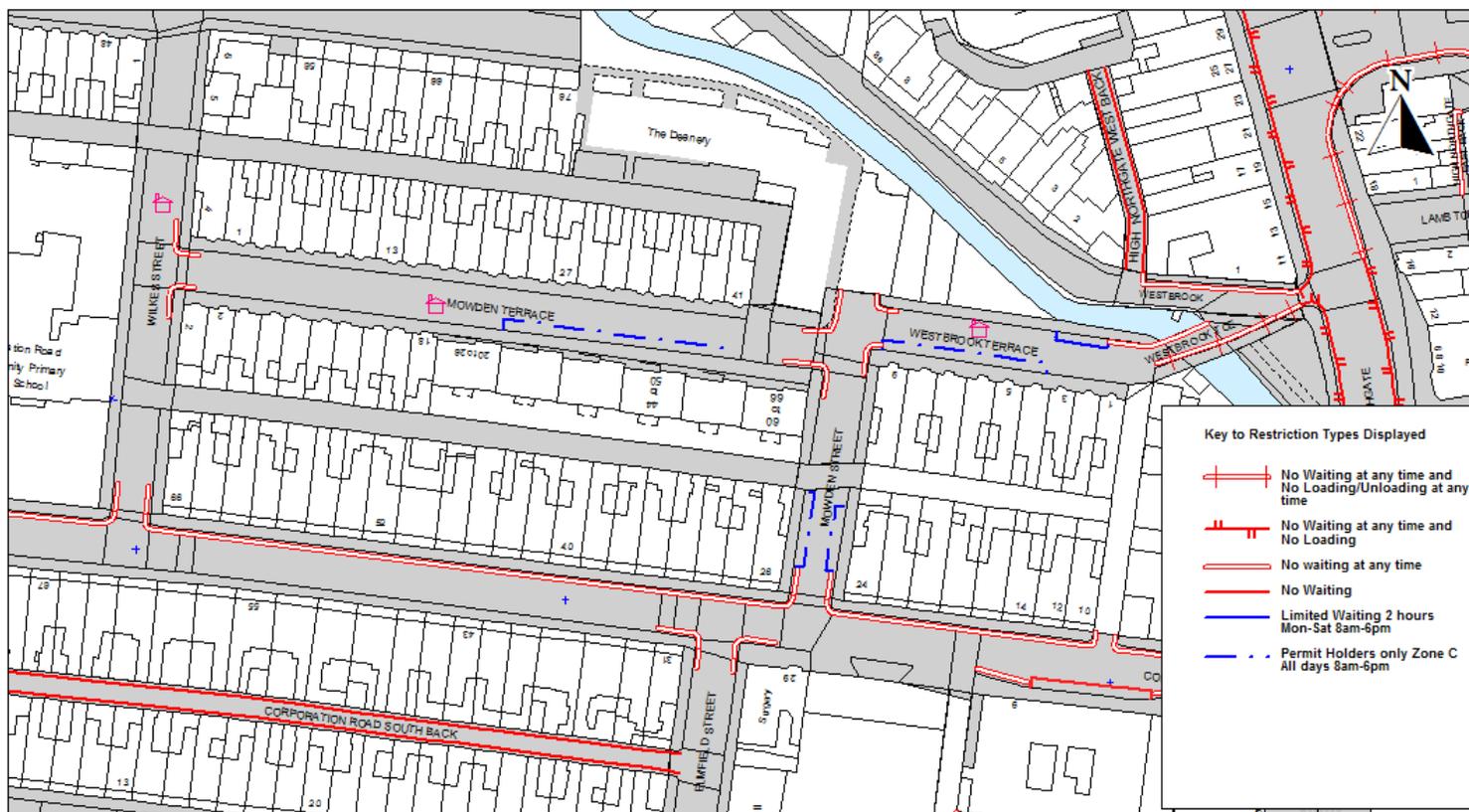
21. Officers have consulted the residents of 1 – 41, 2 – 66 Mowden Terrace, 2 – 4 Wilkes Street, 1 – 9 Westbrook Terrace and 12 – 24 Corporation road with the proposed resident parking restrictions. The proposal has also been statutorily advertised in the press, following delegated authority to progress a traffic order.

## **Outcome of Consultation**

22. Two residents of Mowden Terrace objected to the scheme. One resident does not consider the restrictions to be warranted and that if we do implement a scheme it should be for the entire street and permits free of charge and there is always space on the opposite side of the road. He feels the Council are favouring commuters by giving them free parking and asking residents to pay. The other resident wanted the whole street to be made resident only parking or none at all. Ten residents are in favour of the proposed restrictions.



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