

## **'Special' Environment & Health and Community Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny**

**Councillors:** J. I. Agnew, R. Alderson, A. Atkinson, D. Bennett, D. Broadley, M. Campbell, H. Christer, T. Clark, B. Cook, G. Coulson, E. J. S. Edwards, R. Ellis, B. Gray, R. Hemsley, D. Hicks, P. D. Hughes, J. C. Hunter, L. Marshall, I. McElhone, D. V. McMahon, S. E. Mellor, O. Milburn, P. Murray, J. Nicholson, R. Ord, T. Parry, W. Stelling, O. L. Temple, F. Todd, D. Walton, M. Westgarth, T. Westgarth, J. Wilson (Chair).

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is invited at a meeting of the 'Special' Environment & Health and Community Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny to be held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Consett on 3rd July 2008 at 6.00 p.m. for consideration of the undernoted agenda.



**MIKE CLARK**

**Chief Executive Officer**

## **Agenda**

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, identify the item on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.

### **1. MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the following meetings:

Environment & Health Scrutiny 10th April 2008 (Herewith 'A')

Community Safety & Strong Communities Scrutiny 18th March 2008  
(Herewith 'B')

Attached Documents:

[MINUTES \(B\)](#)

[MINUTES \(A\)](#)

3. **STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN  
DERWENTSIDE**

To receive a presentation on the above by Derwentside's Youth Panel.

A copy of the Strategy is attached (Herewith 'C')

Attached Documents:

[STRATEGY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN DERWENTSIDE \(C\)](#)  
[YOUTH STRATEGY](#)

4. **ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS / WARD CLEANING  
MATTERS**

To consider the attached letter received from Councillor I. McElhone on  
the above. (Herewith 'D')

Attached Documents:

[ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS / WARD CLEANING MATTERS  
\(D\)](#)  
[ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS / WARD CLEANING MATTERS  
\(Page 2\)](#)

5. **THE LOUISA CENTRE ANNEXE - FEASIBILITY STUDY**

The attached Feasibility Study has been included on the agenda at the  
request of the two Chairs. It is not intended to fully consider this item at  
this meeting but to seek the panel's views as to whether the Panel would  
wish to consider it more fully at a future meeting, and if so in what format.

Attached Documents:

[THE LOUISA ANNEX - FEASIBILITY STUDY](#)

6. **TRANSITIONAL PLAN - PROGRESS REPORT**

To consider the report of the Director of Corporate Administration & Policy  
(Herewith 'E')

Attached Documents:

[TRANSITIONAL PLAN - PROGRESS REPORT \(E\)](#)

[TRANSITIONAL PLAN - KEY DECISIONS](#)

## **7. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

To discuss the panel's future Work Programme.

Agenda prepared by Lucy Stephenson Democratic Services 01207 218249

email: [l.stephenson@derwentside.gov.uk](mailto:l.stephenson@derwentside.gov.uk)

Date: 24th June 2008



## **ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH SCRUTINY**

Minutes of meeting of the Environment & Health Scrutiny Panel held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Consett on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at 6.00 p.m.

### **Present**

Councillor J. Wilson (Chair)

Councillors J.I. Agnew, R. Alderson, A. Atkinson, M. Campbell, T. Clark, B. Cook, E.J.S. Edwards, R. Hemsley, D. Hicks, J Nicholson, S.J. Rothwell, W. Stelling, F. Todd, M. Westgarth.

### **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G. Coulson, W. Gray, P.D. Hughes, S.E. Mellor, O.Temple.

### **In Attendance**

Councillors D.I. Barnett, E.J. Williams, R. Ellis, D. Lavin and D.G. Llewellyn.

### **26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

### **27. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008 be agreed as a correct record.

### **28. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

With the advice of the Monitoring Officer the Chair advised that Item 6 on the agenda had been withdrawn from the agenda until further notice.

### **29. UPDATE ON SHOTLEY BRIDGE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

The Chair welcomed to the meeting David Gallagher and Debbie Edwards who were in attendance from the PCT to provide an update on Shotley Bridge Community Hospital.

David Gallagher introduced himself to the committee and updated on the following:

- Plan to transfer Shotley Bridge to PCT, an issue raised in the TRIBAL report with a view to getting a range of providers into the hospital to meet

- the needs of the public; he advised that there was already a certain level of mixed provision happening although it was hoped that this would be built upon to develop the services available;
- Deadline of the first of April had not been attainable – Capital Funding was available for PCT's but now had to be bid for rather than the block allocation system of recent years
  - The aim was now to have this implemented by 1 July 2008 – working alongside Foundation Trust to build on the recommendations as suggested in the TRIBAL report;

Councillor Rothwell added that in her opinion it was paramount that some assurance was obtained to ensure Shotley Bridge Hospital remained an asset, safe for the future. In response David Gallagher advised that in the medium term plan there was the need to protect assets such as Shotley Bridge Hospital, he advised that they were working very closely with the Foundation Trust to ensure services will be delivered from this site in the future.

Councillor Lavin made reference to the transfer of Peterlee Hospital, he asked if this had been successfully carried out. In response David Gallagher advised that this had been delayed for the same reasons as SBH, however it was anticipated that this would be carried through to completion shortly.

At this point David Gallagher introduced Debbie Edwards to the committee added the following comments on the subject.

She advised that in main she was in charge of overseeing the commission of Stanley Health Care Centre and making sure that along with Shotley Bridge Hospital they had to ensure that all the pieces fit together and the aspirations set out in the Tribal report are achieved.

She advised that a lot of groundwork had been undertaken for the transfer taking into consideration things such as the provision of Older People's Services, community and staffing and areas for development in service.

The Chair thanked both David Gallagher and Debbie Edwards for their update and added that he hoped all the work paid off to ensure the development of Shotley Bridge Hospital.

Councillor Lavin added that in his opinion the ownership of the site was essential and critical to the future of provision of services within the community.

David Gallagher in response advised that the PCT would follow through the service changes and developments irrespective of the ownership of the site and this should not be seen as something which would hold the project back.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the content of the update be noted.

**30. SCRUTINY OF RED RISK RATED BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 07/08**

The Performance Management Officer presented the report which informed the panel of the action planning initiatives in place for the best value performance indicators (BVPIs) rated as red risk for the first quarter of 2007/08 within the Environment & Health remit.

She advised that BVPI 213 which measures the number of households considered homeless who approached the local housing authority' advice service for assistance and had their situation resolved as a result. As this had previously been allocated a red risk rating it was therefore brought to the Scrutiny panel on a quarterly basis to report performance.

The Chair welcomed the Housing Options Manager and Trevor Smith from Derwentside Homes who was in attendance to update on the action planning initiatives in place to improve performance in the number of cases of homelessness within the area.

The Housing Options Manager advised that since the introduction of the Housing Advice Service in November 2007 55 cases of prevention of homeless had been achieved moving it out of the bottom quartile. He advised that already in this quarter, 5 definite cases of homelessness had been prevented with a further 11 cases currently being dealt with.

He advised that there had been some changes to services such as the provision of 52 appointments across 2 week periods and also two 3 hour drop in sessions on Friday mornings.

He made reference to the previous minutes where it stated that they were to be awarded a Homeless Grant of £45,000 by CLG per annum and advised that this had now been received. He advised that unlike other authorities this grant had been used for the homelessness only and not to fund staff etc.

He went on to advise that work had been established alongside Derwentside Landlords Association by making an agreement with landlords to waive the initial bond charge to tenants in the knowledge that Derwentside District Council would be liable for costs if anything were to happen in the first 12 months on tenancy.

He further advised that a policy was being developed in conjunction with Derwentside Homes to aid the prevention of homelessness.

Councillor Rothwell made reference to the increased worries over mortgage arrears and whether there was any advice available for persons in this situation. The Housing Options Manager advised that the team did work alongside CAB and mortgage companies to provide some advice although as this was fairly new to the service the benefits were not being seen.

Councillor Agnew asked what the times were for the drop in sessions; the Housing Options Manager advised that the drop in sessions took place between 9.30 a.m. and 12.00 p.m. on Friday mornings and gave advice on general enquiries.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the content of the report be noted.

**31. THE HEALTH ACT 2006 – REGULATION OF SMOKING IN SMOKE FREE PREMISES, PLACES AND VEHICLES.**

The Director of Environmental Services presented the report which updated Members on the Authority's progress in the implementation of the provisions contained within the Health Act 2006 regarding smoke-free.

He advised that an enforcement strategy for the regulation of smoke-free legislation was agreed by the Executive in June 2007 before the implementation on 1 July 2007.

He continued to run through the report which outlined the regulatory impact the legislation has had on businesses in the area, he advised that Enforcement Officers have worked closely with businesses to build compliance and since July the overall compliance within the businesses in the District had been found to be high.

He advised that over 22,000 North East businesses had been inspected between July 1<sup>st</sup> and the end of December 2008. 98.6% were found to be compliant with the new law and 92.7% displaying the correct signage.

He went on to advise that since the 1 July, 70 Fixed Penalty Notices issued to individuals smoking in smoke-free places which suggests that as in Scotland and Ireland the ban has been largely self enforced, he further advised that smoking rates amongst adults in England continued to decline.

In conclusion he advised that the post of Smoke-free Public Places Project Worker for the North Durham Partnership had now ended and therefore the Environmental Health Team within the Council remained the main point of contact for enquiries from the public and business sectors.

Councillor Stelling made reference to the knock on effect smoke-free has had on outdoor spaces. He added that outside many pubs now cigarette butts lay in the street thus increasing the need for street cleaners.

The Director of Environmental Services added that he agreed that the introduction of smoke-free had changed the complexion of the streets and this was a consequential impact of the ban. He advised that funding was in place to help raise awareness; free 'stubbis' were available for people to use which would allow the user to extinguish their cigarette in a pouch which could be sealed and kept until they could dispose of it correctly.

Councillor Stelling added that in his opinion some onus should be held on the premises to ensure their outside areas are kept clean and free from cigarette butts especially in areas where public are standing outside on the main streets and footpaths.

Councillor Cook asked what the definition of a 'public place' was with reference to outdoor drinking areas and alike, the Director of Environmental Services advised that smoking within enclosed spaces would be classed as a public place, smoking shelters were provided in some places and this was acceptable providing that 50% of the shelter was open, for example a bus shelter with 3 sides and a canopy roof would not be permitted. He advised that there were some areas that still were a little grey but it was hoped that through continued education this would be improved and a better understanding would be had.

Councillor Alderson made reference to recent planning applications made to the Development Control Committee for smoking shelters and added that there was some confusion over the exact guidelines for these type of structures, with regard to distance to windows, doors etc. The Director of Environmental Services advised that each Council had guidelines although some were varied from one another to suit the Council's individual requirements.

Further discussion then took place regarding the enforcement and the grants that had been made available; the Director of Environmental Services advised that enforcement would be dealt with in house by Environmental Health Officers.

**RECOMMENDED:** that the content of the report be noted.

### **Conclusion of meeting**

The meeting closed at 6.52 p.m.

**Chair.**

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY AND STRONG COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Safety and Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Consett on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at 6.00 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor L. Marshall (Chair)  
Councillor T. Parry (Vice Chair)

Councillors D Bennett, D Broadley, G Coulson, R Ellis, G Glass, R Hemsley, J Hunter, I McElhone, D V McMahon, S Rothwell, D Walton, T Westgarth.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Councillors W Stelling, J Williams, T Pattinson, I Agnew.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors M Campbell, H Christer, S Mellor, R Ord and F Todd.

### **20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest submitted.

The Chair advised due to the nature of item 3, this would be taken last on the agenda and it was further agreed that the presentation as outlined in item 5 would be taken after the consideration of Minutes.

### **21. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Community Safety and Strong Communities Scrutiny Panel meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007 were approved as a correct record.

### **22. THE ENGLISH INDICES OF DEPRIVATION 2007**

The Programme Developer Officer gave the presentation outlining the new Indices of Deprivation (IMD) 2007 for England and indicated what this means for

Derwentside. A Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) level measures multiple deprivation, a LSOA consists of a geographical area of between 1,000 and 3,000 population built up from the Census Output Area. The IMD is calculated from 38 indicators grouped into seven LSOA level domain indices that are then combined to form an overall IMD score for a LSOA. The seven domains are;

- Income
- Employment
- Health and Disability
- Education, Skills & Training
- Barriers to Housing & Services
- Crime & Disorder
- Living Environment

The last IMD was carried out in 2004, The Programme Developer Officer advised Members that comparisons show that throughout England, Derwentside has improved its rank position since 2004 and the only Ward within Derwentside to have worsened their position was Stanley Hall. Between 2004 and 2007 Derwentside had an actual improvement against all domains except Income and Barriers to Housing and Services. In conclusion she added that an information pack would be put together and left in the Members room with further information or alternatively Members could get information from [www.imd.communities.gov.uk](http://www.imd.communities.gov.uk).

Councillor Agnew who was in attendance at the meeting raised questions regarding how the Domains were measured in particular the income deprivation and the barriers to housing services, The Programme Developer Officer advised Members that many indicators are used to calculate the results, and that more work would be taken forward on investigating this. Members also raised concerns regarding the ranking position of their Ward, The Programme Developer Officer further advised that ranking was the only way to compare with 2004 results however as the scores of every other area affect an area's score, it is impossible to tell whether a change in score is a real change in the level of deprivation in an area or whether it is due to the scores of other areas going up or down therefore The NRF Research and Monitoring Officer will be conducting additional work, looking at each indicator individually in order to determine if there has been an actual improvement within a specific Ward. In conclusion she added, Members could contact the NRF Research and Monitoring Officer if they had any further concerns.

**RECOMMENDED:** Members noted the findings of The Indices of Deprivation 2007 and the conclusions drawn in the report.

### **23. BOWLING FACILITIES AT VIEW LANE PARK, EAST STANLEY**

The Divisional Head of General Services presented the report, providing an update to Members regarding the ongoing work and determination of replacement bowling facilities on Council land at East Stanley, outside of View Lane Park itself. An indicative proposal for a new bowls pavilion, bowling green, multi use games area, access road and car park was granted on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2006. At full Council on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008 it was agreed that officers should explore the potential of constructing the bowls facilities at East Stanley and budget provision was made. Formal consultation had commenced between officers and outside representatives to gauge the views of some of the key parties. This round of consultation was due to be concluded before the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008 and a full report ready for Council on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Further consultations will be carried out with the local community and further reports presented to scrutiny Members for consideration.

In response to Members questions The Divisional Head of General Services advised Members that all key parties involved in the consultation process had not yet come to an agreement but the views of each party was appreciated and had been taken into account when making a final decision, he also commented that the issue regarding the Restrictive Covenant is awaiting the opinion of the Legal Services Department as the replacement bowls facilities would contravene to the original Covenant. Members were concerned about the current situation within the site although they came to the agreement that as consultation regarding the site was still ongoing it would be beneficial for Scrutiny to look at it again after Full Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> April although they felt regular updates to scrutiny was also required.

The Director of Corporate Administration and Policy acknowledged questions received from Councillor Mellor and it was agreed her concerns had been considered throughout the earlier discussion.

**RECOMMENDED:** Members noted that:

- The consultation process had commenced and was ongoing.
- A scheme will be designed taking into account the results of the current consultation exercise.
- Further reports will be presented to Scrutiny Members.
- Further consultations will be carried out.

## **24. EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Councillor S. Rothwell seconded by Councillor D. Broadley that under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act (as amended)

**25. DERWENTSIDE TRUST FOR SPORT AND THE ARTS 2008-09**  
**SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN**

The Deputy Chief Executive presented the report advising Members that the report requests the consideration of Members upon the Service Delivery Plan of Derwentside Trust for Sport and the Arts (DTSA) – trading as ‘Leisureworks’ – for 2008/09. The Council’s Leisure and Arts services were transferred to DTSA in June 2007, Council Officers had been working closely with Leisureworks and given that an agreement had been reached on the issues set out in section 3 of the report, are satisfied with the 2008/09 Service Delivery Plan for DTSA. He advised that the views of Scrutiny Members are required on the plan and in particular any additional issues they believe need to be considered when DTSA develop their Service Delivery Plan for 2009/10.

The Chief Executive Officer of Leisureworks gave Members a further update on the Service Plan advising that the service plan contains four main components which are:

- A set of service objectives that give overall objectives to the trusts work.
- ‘Change Drivers’ – the anticipated areas of change to which the trust must respond during 2008/09.
- Improvement Action Plans – Setting out the planned response to the ‘Change Drivers’.
- Performance indicators that measure progress towards achieving the objectives, with performance targets set against the indicators.

Throughout discussion The Chief Executive of Leisureworks advised Members that Leisureworks aims to set a pricing policy which means ‘access for all’ as well as continuing work to gain external funding. In addition she advised Members that Leisureworks hopes to improve health and wellbeing in Derwentside and also develop opportunities for young people. Members requested that Scrutiny Members be issued with an update on the pricing policy as and when it was available.

**RECOMMENDED:** Members noted the content of the report.

**CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 7:10 p.m.

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Strategy for Children and Young People in Derwentside</b>
<b>TO/ON:</b>	<b>Community Safety &amp; Strong Communities and Environment &amp; Health Joint Scrutiny Panel - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2008</b>
<b>BY:</b>	<b>Gordon Elliott Director of Corporate Administration and Policy</b>

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of work undertaken with young people across Derwentside to develop a Youth Strategy and to seek views on its potential adoption by the Council. Members should note that members of the Young People's Forum will be in attendance at the meeting to present this strategy.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 This report and attached strategy captures a consultation with young people across Derwentside. The consultation asked young people what they wanted for their futures and is broken-down into six main areas; Education and Economy; The Environment; Feeling Healthy and Staying Safe; Having a Say; Things to Do and Housing.
- 2.2 There has been a delay in bringing this completed strategy to scrutiny for approval due to the (previous) Young People's Officer's sickness absence and subsequent resignation. The new Principal Youth Engagement Officer revisited this strategy some months ago with the Young People's Forum to check that this document still reflected young people's issues. An additional page was created at the back listing the young people's priorities for the remainder of the year.
- 2.3 Over recent years the Council has prided itself for the way it has engaged with young people – efforts that have been recognised through regional and national awards for the Council.
- 2.4 Clearly, as we approach Vesting Day, and as recognised in the Council's Transition Plan (contained elsewhere on this agenda) it is important that these efforts are not lost and there is a legacy for the new Unitary Council. This strategy, largely developed by the hard work of Youth Forum members will hopefully go some way to ensure that legacy is secured.
- 2.5 In considering whether to recommend adoption by the Council there will need to be some recognition that given its imminent demise, the District Council will not be able to ensure all of the priorities contained within the

Plan will be fulfilled by April, 2009 and a number will need to be taken up by the Unitary Council. However, as will be highlighted at the meeting, a number of the priorities are currently being addressed in partnership with the Youth Forum.

- 2.6 If Members are minded to recommend approval by the Council, the next steps would be to assist the Youth Forum to engage with the County Council and Local Children's Board to help ensure the priorities within it are addressed in the future.

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 Members are requested to comment as to whether the attached Youth Strategy should be approved by Full Council.

# Strategy for **children & young people** in Derwentside



# Introduction

The SPICE Project and the Derwentside Young People's Forum aim to make Derwentside a better place to live in as a young person.

They believe young people have the right to have their voices heard and that they should be involved in decision-making and the steering of services that are being provided for young people.

Over the past two years the Young People's Forum have been researching young people's issues and consulting young people across the district to gather their views for a children and young people's strategy.

Derwentside District Council asked young people aged between 8 to 19 years what they wanted from their area and for themselves in the future.

They came up with exciting ideas on every part of their lives from setting up drop in centres and youth cafés to more under 18's discos throughout the locality.

*The following six areas have been identified as areas of concern and interest to children and young people:*

- 1. Education & Economy*
- 2. The Environment*
- 3. Feeling Healthy & Staying Safe*
- 4. Having a Say*
- 5. Things to Do*
- 6. Housing*

# 1. Education & Economy

**Young people want opportunities for learning and to be supported and encouraged to attain their highest aspirations.**

**Young people said they would like:**

1. To see more extra curriculum activities available to them in and outside of school.
2. To be respected in their school lives, both by teachers and by fellow pupils.
3. To be involved in making decisions about their school, in a format which they have control and which gives them genuine involvement in the working of the school.
4. The option to receive regular careers advice as early as Year 7 and 8.
5. To see a Job Centre especially for young people in the District.
6. To see the Youth Bus as a tool to access information on careers, etc.
7. To receive recognition for their achievements and a yearly celebration event.

***“If you aren’t on the school council you don’t get a say.”***

***“They sometimes ask us what we want but they never do anything.”***

## 2. The Environment

The environment is crucial if young people and local residents are to have respect for their surroundings.

***“All the parks are being taken down and there is no where now for us to play.”***

Young people would like to have:

1. Better street lighting and CCTV around parks.
2. Less Litter – More Bins.
3. More places for young people to go.
4. More trees and shrubs.
5. Off road tracks for motorbikes.
6. More involvement in plans for parks and other environmental improvements.
7. No Smoking in public places .
8. Graffiti Walls (run by professionals).
9. More Youth Shelters but only when linked to other facilities.
10. Better parks and more sports facilities.
11. Better bus shelters.
12. More recycling facilities.
13. More Skate Parks.
14. The environment to be respected by all.

***“We need an off road track so we can go and ride our bikes that’s free.”***

### 3. Feeling Healthy & Staying Safe

Young people want to be and stay healthy. They also want to feel safe in their communities and to be able to access safe exciting activities.

Research undertaken indicates that Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs are the main issues of concern for young people. Bullying, Poor Diet, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Crime, Peer Pressure, School Work, Dog litter, etc. are also an issue.

#### Young people:

1. Want more projects to help young people stop smoking.
2. Are concerned about their safety whilst hanging around on the streets.
3. Want more publicity on letting young people know what's going on in the area.
4. Want more Anti bullying campaigns and support for young people outside of school who are being bullied.
5. Want water to be available at school.
6. Want local Police to talk to them to make them feel safe.

***“There are lots of flyers and leaflets available but there is not much face to face stuff.”***

***“More gyms and exercise classes for young people.”***

***“Free fruit in all school.”***

## 4. Having a Say

Young people know they need to be taken seriously and are currently working with the Council to positively promote their image in Derwentside.

They are involved in a range of decision-making activities including the Young People's Forum and with a wide range of organisations working with young people.

Young people want to take pride in the locality and see it as a place that offers them the opportunities they deserve.

***“SPICE – It gives young people a voice.”***

***“Helps young people with problems in their area.”***



## Young people want:

1. To be encouraged to become more involved in decision-making.
2. To be recognised for their involvement in community activities.
3. Help so they and other residents can work together more for the benefit of the community.
4. More ways for them to be involved in consultation through events and the youth bus, etc.
5. A youth newsletter to be produced a few times a year with information of opportunities available to young people.
6. To explore ways to increase the number of young people taking part in elections.
7. To improve access to council services for young people.
8. An increase in the number of young people who feel they can influence decision making.
9. To continue to use the SPICE website to enable young people to vote on key issues, and increase their experience of and confidence in the democratic process.
10. To be shown evidence on how their views are taken forward and used.
11. To further develop the Young People's Forum and increase the number of young people involved as members.
12. The Civic Centre to be more young people friendly.



***“SPICE - Helping young people and schools to get new things.”***

## 5. Things to Do

**Young people in Derwentside want plenty of fun activities and places to go within their area. They also want to be able to enjoy themselves without it costing too much money.**

**These are some of the suggestions young people have come up with:**

1. More clubs and opportunities for 5 to 13 year olds.
2. Provide a Drop In Centre / Youth Café in both Stanley and Consett Town Centres.
3. Improve the youth clubs and provide more activities and better equipment.
4. Places to hang out:- More Youth Shelters but only when linked to other provision.
5. More parks, especially for teenagers.
6. More bigger improved Skate Parks.
7. Continue and expand the under 18's disco nights to Stanley.
8. Continue the existing Youth Bus and explore the opportunity for more buses throughout the locality.
9. An off road motorbike track.
10. More projects that are open to children with disabilities.
11. Cheaper activities / outings all year round.

***“Young people in Derwentside feel there are not enough services available on a weekend / evening.”***

## 6. Housing

**Young people should be given more information on leaving home and becoming an independent adult at an early age.**

1. Schools and organisations working with excluded or none attending pupils should make it a priority to include housing education into their curriculum.
2. Some young people prefer the idea of being given advice on being independent through managing money and being informed of the options open to them once they feel able to take on the responsibility of living away from home / parents. Some feel education and family values should be promoted better.
3. Young people living on their own have less experience and should be able to make mistakes knowing there is a support network available if they find it difficult to manage.
4. Young people are part of the community and should receive the same level of services from housing providers as every one else with fair and equal treatment.
5. Young people may have different housing requirements from other tenants and may need more support. However to create a balanced community there has to be a mix of different people.
6. There needs to be recognition across the whole community of homelessness problems amongst young people and less judgements made about individual young people who find themselves in the unfortunate position of having no where to live.

# Priorities & Targets

The Young People's Forum has prioritised the following targets for 2008 - 2009:

1. Would like to see more extra curriculum activities available to them in and outside of school.
2. Better street lighting and CCTV around parks.
3. Want more projects to help young people stop smoking.
4. To be encouraged to become more involved in decision-making.
5. To be recognised for their involvement in community activities.
6. More clubs and opportunities for 5 to 13 year olds.
7. Schools and organisations working with excluded or none attending pupils should make it a priority to include housing education into their curriculum.



Independent

Independent

"Empowering local people and communities - not political parties"

## Councillor Iain McElhone

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14 March 2008

Mr. Gordon Elliott  
Director of Corporate and Administration Policy Unit  
Derwentside District Council  
Medomsley Road  
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Co. Durham  
DH8 5TR

### **RE: ENVIROMENTAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS / WARD CLEANING MATTERS**

Dear Gordon

In regards to our recent conversation, may I pass onto you my concerns for discussion with the Portfolio holders et al at Monday 17 March's meeting. I will also be presenting futher evidence to back the validity of my requests and the concerns of ward residents.

#### **1) ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

There was a certain amount of action taken last year to engage the services of Two Enforcement Officers in certain Ward Areas throught Derwentside. Their role would of been to enforce control of problems such as Dog Fouling, Littering etc. Unfortunately there services were never secured due to recruitment and Police Check problems. The funding was then allocated towards education against littering and the project then petered out.

I have always been strongly in favour of the creation of such positions as I believe Education can only be partially successful, and have approached Mr. P. Reynolds on several occasions regarding the need for such positions to be part of our normal services to the residents of Derwentside. As you can see from Peters return letter to myself dated 11 February 2008 he is sympathetic to my concerns, although raises matters of funding and the upcoming Unitary Council as both hindering factors in their employment. However, at a recent meeting with Mr. Mike Clark - C.E.O. - it was pointed out by Mr. Clark that whilst not awash with funds, (and having a duty to use such funding responsibly) it was certainly possible that we could stretch to employing two Enforcement Officers if

Independent

Independent

"Empowering local people and communities - not political parties"

there was the political will to do so and the positions were seen as necessary. With this in mind, I would like to request the matter be debated today and further investigation into this subject take place - hopefully towards starting the process of recruitment for a much needed service within the Derwentside area.

It has also been pointed out by Peter that the matter of Dog Wardens may be addressed by the new senior officers and members of the upcoming Unitary Authority, but I would point out that this is still more than a year away before its initial inception, and in all honesty I feel the view on this matter would be it is of such localised and small significance, that it would stand little chance of being paid reasonable attention by an Authority with issues such as Education, Social Services etc to deal with and it also fails to cover the issue of Littering in any form. It is also of interest to hear from Peter that Easington District Council has an abundance of these Enforcement Officers, 16 I believe was the number quoted - we currently have **one** Dog Enforcement and Education Officer who is specifically tasked to issue fixed penalty notices in order to act as a control for Dog Fouling. We currently have no Enforcement capacity whatsoever to deal with Littering. This simply is not good enough for the people of Derwentside and I strongly urge yourselves to consider giving our residents the service that they require - whilst as a Council we still have the Authority to do so, or at the very least, to have this process ongoing so the Unitary Authority can continue with its implementation when we are subsumed by them.

## **2) WARD CLEANING MATTERS**

I am extremely concerned - as are my residents - about the standard of litter/rubbish picking in certain areas of our ward. The problem lies not with the cut grassed areas which are cleaned to a very good standard on the day, ( but which sadly are usually in an appalling state with litter a few days after cleaning - this is where Enforcement Officers would be invaluable!!) but with what could be called scrub-land or "woods" after the boundary of the cut grass. Essentially a walk around this area in the Woody Close, Greencroft Road, Lumley Drive, and Greenways locality PLUS the area from the bottom of Briardale, running along Castledene Road upto the Woodside Drive, Salem/Lambton Avenue locality shows a litter infested, badly maintained run down area which is an eyesore and detracts greatly from the kudos of the area. Broken fridges, old carpets etc are the norm and whilst I can call to have then specifically removed, this does nothing for the mountains of litter that accumulate between one "gutting out" of these areas to the next, which can be in the region of six monthly intervals. Having asked Alec Bland why these areas are in such a poor state and were not cleaned on a much more frequent basis, his reply was simply resources - eg money to do the job - I do not however hold this to be Mr. Blands fault, he is simply restricted by finance. A look at the enclosures will present to yourselves what a disgrace these areas have become. I would ask that you discuss the problem and seek to find a suitable remedy( an enhanced cleaning regime perhaps? ) to a problem that brings shame to the people who have to live here and looks disgraceful to visitors into our area.

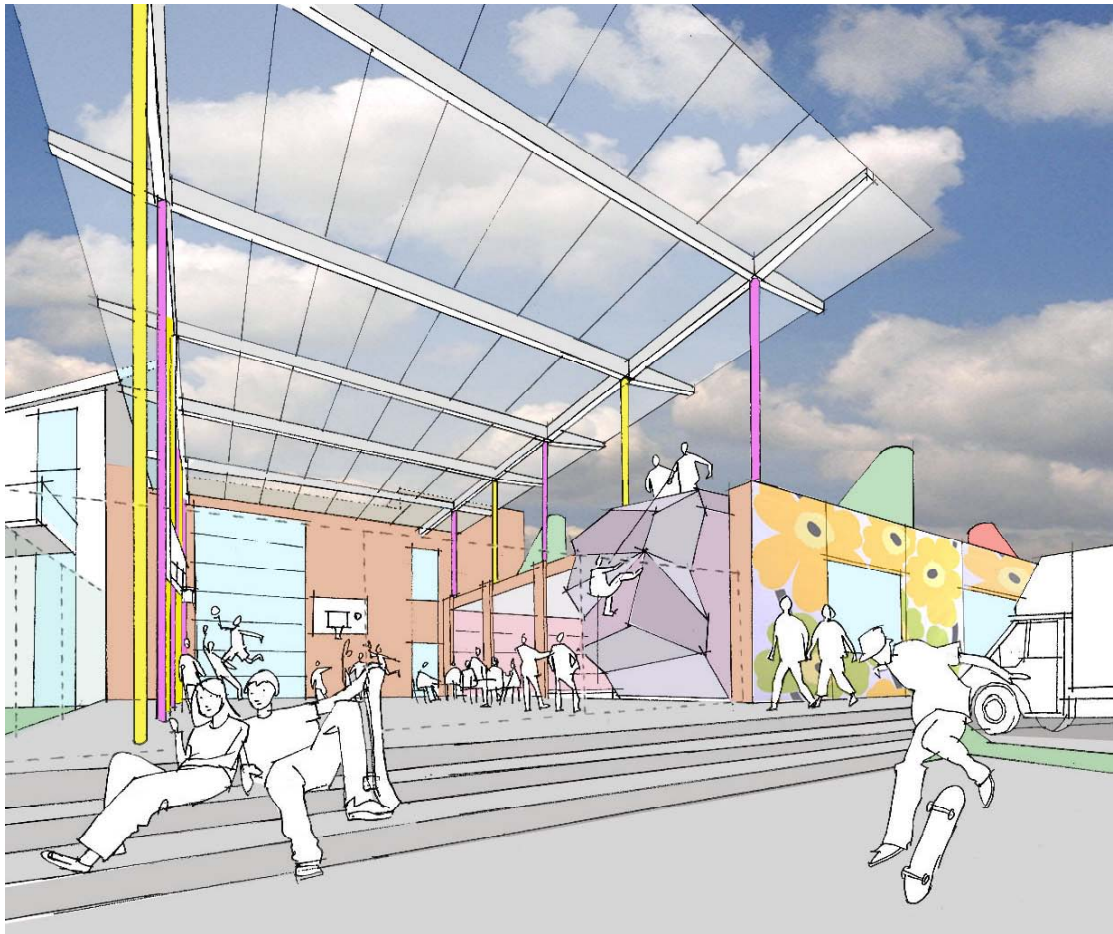
Yours Faithfully

Iain McElhone

Councillor Iain McElhone - Delves Lane Ward

# Feasibility Study of Louisa Annex

Stanley, County Durham



Completed by Redesign YOUTH CIC Ltd. May 2008

# The Louisa Annex- Feasibility Study

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### Executive Summary.

The aim of this report is to ascertain if the Louisa annex building adjacent to the Louisa sports centre could be turned into a resource centre for young people. The buildings last tenant was Derwentside College, who paid £32,000 per annum rent to the District Council and who have now vacated the building; it currently stands empty.

Previously, consultation has been carried out with young people who identified a need for a place to go and hang out and this has been incorporated into the Youth Strategy for Derwentside. This is supported by Derwentside District council, the County Council, Police service and others, all of which are very supportive of obtaining such a resource.

Our method for appraising such a facility is that it -

- Meets the needs of young people, which is a place to hang out
- Meets the requirements and targets of the local authority and government which is to reduce young people not in education or training plus the five outcomes for young people and value for money
- Meets the needs of parents and adults in the community, we identify these as young people staying safe, structured activities and reduction of nuisance caused by young people hanging out in Stanley.

These three groups aims clash so we have come up with a compromise solution that provides a youth café in the heart of the building, surrounded by space for more structured activities. In order to maximise the results of young people coming into contact with responsible adults, space is provided for support agencies working with young people. The building is large enough that this is possible without compromising either's operation. The design would use a zoning system which allows use of parts of the building.

There are two proposals put forward. Scheme One is the more basic with alterations to the building to site the support agencies at the front and the youth café at the rear. The back wall is removed to create a better connection with the outside area and replaced with fully glazed doors and the provision of outside seating and facilities.

The second option is a much more comprehensive proposal which removes all the buildings internal walls and provides a new flexible office accommodation layout for support agencies that can be altered as needed. The building is radically remodelled with strange looking light funnels on the roof and the walls covered in a funky energy reduction cladding system. At the rear there would be a double height atrium which would feel like public space but have the benefit of being weather tight. The aim of this section is to appeal to the hard to reach young people who dislike anything that feels institutional (and reminds them of places where they have already failed) and to assuage concern from nearby residents around noise issues. The whole centre will act as a beacon of good practice, for both low energy sustainability and co-

ordinated partnership working between agencies involved, with young people. Opening times would be longer and young people would benefit from there being somewhere for them to go where they are safe, can obtain support and advice and meet and make friends.

### Scheme One Costs

Capital Cost estimated £189k to £274k

Yearly operational costs are £193,400 including increased hours in holidays

Opening times – six days per week (closed Monday's), weekdays from 4pm to 9pm, Saturday's 9am to 9pm, Sundays 12 noon to 6pm

Benefits – potential to reduce young people on the streets and provide easy access to support and advice. Structured activities on site around healthy living issues are developed from the original starting point of a youth cafe.

### Scheme Two

Capital costs based on £1,200 per square metre x 460 = £552k

External building cost @ £1,800 square metre x 300 = £540k

Estimated capital cost £1,092,000

Yearly operational costs are – £223,300 including increased hours in holidays

Opening Times – seven days per week, weekdays from 12noon to 2pm and 4pm to 9pm, Saturday's 9am to 9pm, Sundays 12 noon to 6pm

Benefits – Same as above but more likely to draw young people from a much larger catchment area. Innovative design adds prestige to the area and the building becomes a local landmark. It also introduces young people to ecological design and enhances the council's reputation as a cutting edge provider of services for young people.

The issues that will affect the development of this building are –

- An educational use restriction on the building, due to the council receiving a grant for the buildings development. More research needs to be carried out if this grant would have to be repaid or if informal learning would be an acceptable use to the funders.
- Local people in Stanley are concerned with young people hanging around the town centre which leaves them feeling less safe and this has been recorded in the town centre re-development research.
- Young people naturally gravitate towards town centres, moving them to the outlying areas and adopting an out of sight out of mind solution is short sighted. If the sports centre can run successfully in the town centre there is no reason why a youth facility can't repeat this.

Any new building has to help change the relationships between the community and young people. Both schemes could substantially improve them but scheme 2 also has the potential to raise the profile of Stanley by providing a landmark building.

The next stage might be to explore the potential of the governments 'My Place' grant scheme for innovative youth provision. There may also be potential for cost savings when both councils amalgamate through a reduction of services at Stanley youth centre.

## Introduction

This is a feasibility study for the development of a youth café within the Louisa Annex in Stanley, County Durham. The building is attached to the Louisa Sports centre and has an internal connection as well as its own front access and car park. It has planning class D1 education activities. It lies directly behind the Lamplight theatre, another council owned facility.

It is a single storey building of brick construction with a steel frame, of approximately 460 square metres. The building has been completely over engineered with a steel frame holding up a flat roof. However it lends itself to ease of alteration as long as any new works sit within the existing frame and it also allows a potential use of the roof above. The drawings attached show all work within this integrity to reduce costs.

The building was originally constructed in 1998 and has a stipulation for education use. This is because the council received a grant for its construction for educational purposes and not because of any planning restrictions. The council's legal department will need to research further if there will be a claw back or whether informal learning such as a youth centre will count as educational use. This does impact on the financing of the project but this information is not currently available.

The Centre has been used as an extended teaching facility for Derwentside College and is currently surplus to their requirements. They have now surrendered the lease and the building is currently empty. Approximately five years ago the college made enquiries at planning as to whether a building extension would be likely to obtain planning consent and this was deemed acceptable.

The planning department have said the building they are sympathetic to the idea of a young person's facility –with some stipulations. Their concerns are about young people hanging out in the town centre and they are keen to avoid that. They have indicated that facilities like skate board parks would not receive a favourable response and would prefer facilities to be inside the building.

The original suggestion for a youth café came about after extensive research with local young people in the Stanley area into what they want. The views obtained from this research were incorporated into the 'Youth Strategy' for Derwentside. The Youth Strategy was developed from a partnership between the SPICE Project (The Special Programme for the Implementation of Children's Elections) and Derwentside Young Peoples Forum.

The need for a youth café is widely supported by key partners within the area as they have identified Stanley Town Centre as problem area for youth nuisance. A partnership has been formed consisting of these key partners

and local young people with the view to obtaining a suitable resource for this venture.

A youth café is generally taken to mean a safe, secure and alcohol free place where young people can relax and socialise. Importantly it lies somewhere between public space and formal youth clubs because it has little formal operating structure.

Different young people will use the café in different ways -

- To enjoy other peoples company
- To meet their friends
- To participate in activities
- To use computers and other facilities
- A place to be that's neither home, school nor public space

There is no set formula for a youth café rather a range of alternatives. Our research has included both visits and detailed conversations with existing youth cafés and are listed in Appendix 1. These show some of the scale of provision that can be offered under the term youth café. The core target group are usually young people 14 to 18 with specific nights for 11 to 14 year olds. The other important aspect of youth cafes is they are usually open at weekends when young people need somewhere to go.

The purpose of this report is to explore the potential of using the annex or part of it as a space for a young people's resource centre. We have looked at the local authorities requirements, government priorities and young peoples preferred options in order to identify all the outcomes required and to prioritise them. Once we have clear outcomes we can look at which activities can help to reach them. From here we can suggest a management operation to deliver the service and then produce an outline design scheme that makes best use of the existing building and facilities. All this will be costed (approx. without using a quantity surveyor) and compiled into a profit and loss spreadsheet. The design scheme aims to allow phased development according to funds available and the chosen priorities.

#### Local facilities and surrounding area

There are a range of facilities close by which we need to consider when planning further facilities in the area, to ensure we are not duplicating activities and are contributing to a good balance of provision.

Local schools are -

Stanley School of Technology 0.5 miles away

Tanfield school of Science and Engineering 1 mile away

Greencroft comprehensive 2 miles away

Youth facilities consist of -

Louisa Sports centre is run by Leisureworks Trust

- Facilities include - swimming pool, Squash courts, Large sports hall, Badminton, 5-a-side, Room hire
- Stanley youth centre – provides structured activities for two hours per night from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Activities are formal project work and are usually accredited - apart from a Thursday night which is on a more drop-in basis
- Southmuir youth club - the boys club
- Disco's in Concett at 'Trades' which had lots of trouble and eventually closed.
- Skateboard park Stanley hall and in Concett started by SPICE
- Oxhill sports centre – currently closed
- Lamplight theatre has cinema, meeting rooms, café open couple of hours per day, dance class

#### Summary of local facilities

At first glance there seems a considerable amount of local facilities for young people but these need to be examined in more detail. Stanley youth centre only operates for two hours five days per week. That is ten hours per week usage for a building, a staggering under-use of facilities. The Southmuir club is open even less. The lamplight theatre provides classes on a Saturday morning for young people consisting of an art class for five to ten year olds and a drama class for 10+. During the week there is a private dance school in operation.

The Louisa sports centre seems to be a well maintained and run centre but with all the usual costs for using facilities in a sports centre. For a young person to participate in three activities per week would cost in the region of £6 which seems good value but unaffordable for many.

#### Policy and Research

The Derwentside District Council youth strategy: research involved over 2000 young people (8-19 yrs) being consulted on what they wanted from their area.

Identified as areas of concern and interest were Education and Economy, Feeling Healthy and Staying Safe, Environment, Having a Say, Things to do and Housing.

Specific to this project a need for a youth café was identified. This facility could potentially provide a solution to most of the above concerns. Such as providing a safe and fun environment, links to advisory services, links to outdoor and sporting activities, the chance for young people to be involved in the design, planning and running of the venue.

This strategy itself successfully fulfils key themes and objectives from the 10 year Aiming High strategy for Positive Activities. For example:

- Empowering young people by encouraging participation and partnership in developing the youth strategy
- Increasing the number of local places young people can go to with the development of a youth café

Key challenges to be considered are inclusion of NEETS (Not currently Engaged in Employment, Education or Training), quality provision and long term durability.

What needs to be considered is the main focus of Aiming High - to increase young people's participation in *constructive* leisure-time activities (more specifically to secure participation of the 25% minority currently NOT participating). This is in response to new evidence that demonstrates the impact of participation on young people's later life outcomes. The Harvard Family Research Project found preventative outcomes in participation to be linked to: avoidance of substance abuse; decreases in anti social behaviour; increased knowledge and practice of safer sex; and increased skills for coping with peer pressure.

However, evidence shows that disadvantaged young people are less likely to participate in such activities. A key challenge is how NEETS will be reached. This may mean a radical rethink in the design and facilities of the youth café. Another key challenge is the importance of quality provision and effective delivery as bad practice can lead to negative outcomes. With poor management the café could become an attractive venue for substance misuse.

The Derwentside Youth Strategy is linked to a wider Children and Young Peoples Plan developed by Durham County council (which will amalgamate Derwentside District council in March 2009). This plan has drawn its priorities from the five outcomes of Every Child Matters.

For the purposes of this report we will highlight those priorities that have a clear relevance to the proposed Youth Café in this way we can ascertain whether the Café can achieve the desired outcomes.

1. Being Healthy

Tackling issues such as smoking, obesity, teenage pregnancy, substance abuse and providing access to services that support and promote emotional well being.

2. Staying Safe

Keeping young people safe from bullying, crime and antisocial behaviour as both victims and perpetrators of crime

3. Enjoy and Achieve

Children and Young people access safe play, learning and recreational facilities that provide opportunities for personal and social development and enjoyment.

4. Make a Positive Contribution

Children and Young People and their parents are engaged in shaping and improving their communities and their own life choices.

A positive image of children and young people is promoted, whereby they feel respected in their communities and by service providers. NB It's noted that the SPICE project is an example of good practice in this area

5. Achieve Economic Well Being

Increase levels of participation in suitable learning opportunities – improving employability

Our conclusion from these various policies are –

Although the Youth strategy and wider Children and Young Peoples plan link well with the current Government priorities, key challenges are to ensure that this venture will successfully reach the most disadvantaged youth. There is also an emphasis to ensure that facilities offer positive structured activities which will engage and are relevant. This later part creates a conflict with a youth café because this aims to be more drop in than a place to participate in structured activities.

### Our Strategy

Our method for designing a facility for young people is to keep in mind that the facility is really for the whole community, not just young people. We use an approach that recognises the three important groups that make up the local community. By defining what each of their preferred outcomes are we can then look for shared values in order to create the design brief.

The groups to consider are -

- The needs of young people
- The needs and targets of government both local and nationally
- The parents and adults that make up the local community.

Failure to build links and shared outcomes between these groups will undermine the facilities and worse could generate outright conflict between them, further undermining social cohesion. Any new building has to help change the relationships between the community and young people. It has to provide somewhere for them to go and then it has to house and express the series of relationships happening within.

The outcomes for the government locally and nationally have been covered but we also need to put these outcomes into national context. The number one focus for councils shown in their Local area agreements according to the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) is cutting the number of NEET's. Second was cutting the under-18 conception rate and behind this was the obesity rate of young people.

The regeneration team for the Stanley town centre development recently surveyed local adults and this shows that a real concern was fear of young people hanging around creating a feeling of intimidated. This will undoubtedly lead to a call for the siting of any facilities to be away from the town centre. The problem as already mentioned is that young people want to be seen.

Every town centre in the developed world attracts young people. It is the heart of the community and to exclude a group is outright provocative. It is obviously a real problem for local authorities to balance the needs of adults and young people but it can be done. For instance if we said we're going to

expand the sports centre so more young people can participate in sports most people will think it a good idea. However, if we say we're providing a drop in café in the centre of town, most people will assume the town centre will be less safe. This is probably one of the biggest problems to overcome especially as the planning department are also very alert to this problem. The whole issue does need to be tackled and worked out with both the planners and the community.

One possible solution is if we provide somewhere for young people to go with the compromise they're kept out of sight and adult supervision provided. This is far more likely to succeed than building centres in the middle of estates or on the fringes of town. The latter often consists of skate parks etc and because they are so far from adult supervision can actually increase young people's bad behaviour. Young people might not be able to verbalise what they feel but somewhere in their psyche they know they have been sent to the margins of society. The alternative is including them and providing a facility they actually want and feel ownership of, this will also provide a bargaining chip in future dealings i.e. the police can move young people on and give them an alternative location. Also you can insist on early closure of the centre if bad behaviour is persistent.

#### Parents and Community

When Clubs for young people asked parents what they wanted to see from youth provision the number one requirement from parents was that their children would be safe. The second most important aspect was the activities provided with most parents preferring some skills being taught rather than just chilling out facilities.

There are the people that live close to the centre and will be concerned with the impact of more young people. Any new facilities must assuage their concerns which are a mixture of the real and the psychological i.e. sports centre versus youth centre argument.

When we think of facilities for young people we tend to think of youth clubs, sports centres, libraries etc. but the main facility used by young people is public space. The older the group the more they feel the need to build their identities by hanging out together, in places where there is less adult supervision. This would suit all the three groups if it wasn't for the fact that this public space needs to be located somewhere where young people are seen. After all you can't build an identity without other people to bounce off. You need others in order to feel different. Therefore town centres are always popular and sometimes an area can be popular for generations. Trying to find this public space can be the role of youth cafés and to stop them feeling institutional there needs to be 'ownership' of the facilities by young people. When encouraging young people to participate this is more likely to come about by practical roles in the operation, which encourage the less academic than just committee meetings and management input.

To meet these various needs the Clubs Mission Statement might be – *'To reach the most disadvantaged, young people through innovative design and services. Ensuring a positive and safe environment which delivers a mixture of structured and non-structure activities.'*

### Research into Youth Cafes

We have looked at a number of similar youth cafes and other research and have identified key points that we have incorporated into the design solution. These are –

1.1) a youth café is a cross between a public and semi public space, you can drop in as you want. It has adult supervision but this varies enormously ranging from adults providing the service to young people being interviewed and appointed to cover all the staffing roles. The key to the later success is paying for the more demanding roles such as chef and kitchen assistants.

1.2) the age group most suited to this type of facility is 14 to 18 year olds but 11 to 14's can be included and if necessary on predetermined evenings.

1.3) although a drop in or chill out facility is often asked for, a complete lack of activities doesn't help to integrate young people from different groups, either to work or socialise with each other.

1.4) once the initial novelty wears off attendance can fall just as in any café. Other complementary activities are needed to sustain interest in the club.

1.5) first and foremost centres must be fun. Most local authorities want to provide activities and information that meet their needs i.e. reducing NEET's. There is a real danger of contamination even when a venue doesn't look institutionalised it can feel it and we have seen an example of a great venue but which is empty in the evening because it is seen too much as a job centre.

1.6) we need to provide settings rather than 'rooms'. These settings can be indoors, entirely outdoors or somewhere in-between and allow a gradual approach to inclusion, for the hard to reach young people.

1.7) we don't want young people to be passive recipients of services where they come in the door pay a small fee and expect something to be provided for them. Young people also don't aspire to this. All young people are striving quite naturally for independence. We need to encourage this and encourage peer to peer learning. The design has to allow ease and unobtrusive supervision by adults.

1.8) the key to good quality facilities is ease of operation for the staff. What will a youth worker know about running a café? Employing someone part-time with a catering background who could support young people in the running of

the café and maybe deliver cookery classes makes more sense. Youth workers probably need to have a background in outreach work for this type of facility, if you want to encourage the hard to reach.

1.9) regular staff are essential to build relationships with the users if you don't have this you will end up with the following, quote from a café worker - 'in youth cafés, youth workers are minders and bouncers'

2.0) generally people choose which cafes to go to for two reasons, location and ambiance. The annex being in the town centre is ideal and to create the right ambiance needs the involvement of young people. This should be in conjunction with designers who can give support in order to avoid costly mistakes.

2.1) the key item to come out of field research is the problem of alcohol and drugs. If you open at the weekend you will have young people trying to come in while under the influence. Some clubs open at weekends and some don't. One used to open but they were so popular they closed! We have to make the decision right at the outset and design accordingly.

We came across two opposite approaches to dealing with young people who had been drinking. The first is if staff smell drink on anyone's breath they ask them to leave. The second approach is 'its better they are here than anywhere else' and we will inform parents if need be. The first approach is obviously the easiest one but the later actually involves working with the young people and influencing them, the point of youth work. To reduce the weekend difficulties it is common to restrict Friday and Saturday entry to different age groups.

2.2) avoid adrenaline fuelled activities such as loud banging music but combine some physical activity if at all possible, it helps boys stay calm.

2.3) it's important the facility feels like it belongs to the young people. It maybe helpful to have an agreement on which parts you can and which parts can't be let out to other groups. If the facility is shared by a range of groups no one will feel ownership.

### The Cafes Operation

The hard to reach young people won't attend most youth clubs as they often have problems with authority. Facilities that have an institutional feel will be anathema to them. Usually hard to reach young people will be on the fringe of society both psychologically and which is mirrored physically. In order to encourage their attendance we need the design to incorporate aspects of public space.

The more hours of operation, the more value for money the building delivers. Ideally a five or six day operation and open at weekends will provide a real sense of support. Knowing there is always somewhere to go where they can

talk to responsible adults they trust should reduce tensions. Young people can't sit on problems for days at a time if you're not open, they will act out and if you want to get tangible results such as a reduction in crime, then you need this consistency. It would help every young person in the district to know there was a one stop shop where they could turn for help covering their needs from a friendly youth worker to careers advice through to counselling. Currently all the facilities in Stanley are very structured either sport at the Louisa centre or project work at Stanley youth centre.

To open at weekends also has the benefit of increasing the numbers of those in attendance considerably. Ultimately this will help future funding when applying for grants. It also reduces your cost per visit. Judging from similar locations (with similar populations) and using the figures as supplied by Stanley youth centre we estimate the following numbers of young people.

#### Potential users of youth cafe

Day of operation (longer opening for scheme 2 including holidays)	Possible themes	Numbers at one time
Monday – closed (open scheme 2)		
Tuesday 4pm to 9pm	General programme	20-30
Wednesday 4pm to 9pm	General programme	30-40
Thursday 4pm to 9pm	General programme	70-80
Friday 4pm to 10pm	Music evening (karaoke?)	100+
Saturday 9am to 9pm	Sports programme	70+
Sunday 12 midday to 6pm	Chill out day	30-40

What is much harder to predict is if we open a bigger centre will it encourage more young people by acting as a beacon for outlying areas. For this reason we have used the same number of users for each projection in the evenings but we would assume a full time operation during the holiday period for scheme two.

The activities provided would benefit from having a link to the general theme of a café and socialising. The final choice should be subject to negotiation with young people.

For instance -

- Cooking and possibly growing vegetables in the greenhouse for kitchen use
- Newsletter and graphic design
- Computer/ web link
- TV
- Public speaking / discussion groups (organisations such as Toastmaster will run a club free for you)

- Sports facility next door but if at all possible there should be some facility for physical activity on site. I would suggest a climbing wall at the rear subject to views of young people
- How you look, such as hair and beauty, fashion etc

The Design Approach - incorporating the research shown.

The problem to be resolved is how you can provide a drop in facility for young people when all the research says the outcomes of unstructured facilities are poor (IPPR 2007). It can be done by zoning the facility into structured parts and the non structured café element.

In the centre we can provide the youth café which is 'their's' but surrounding it provide more structured activities that young people can dip into. One exceptional aspect of this site is its location next to the sports centre and the fact it has an adjoining door. The sports centre could act as an annex for the youth facility and it will hopefully be possible for youth workers to take groups and supervise them using the centre facilities. Even assuming full payment for this per person it would still be far cheaper than having separate facilities with the consequent capital and operational costs. For only the entrance fee you potentially have a youth centre with a huge range of sports facilities within it; subject to negotiations.

Another zone are the activity rooms and the third needs to be either outdoor or 'public' space which the design incorporates at the back of the building. Ownership of this land belongs to the council and is not currently used. The planners have indicated they won't agree to unstructured activities such as a skate park outside but something like a climbing wall (as it has to be supervised) could be ideal and this could also be shared during the day by the Louisa centre users or local schools. Alternatively just a seating area and patio outside would be very attractive especially for summer use. Currently there is a conservatory on part of this site which can provide a good transitional area between inside and outside (formal / informal).

The youth café design takes the concept slightly further than normal by including a training capacity within the kitchen (to provide structured activity). There is a lounge area, a separate dining area, a computer web link area, a TV room, two activity rooms and the capacity to open up the facility for performance or disco type events.

The entire annex could be filled with more activities but this sprawl can reduce the energy of a club if there are lots of rooms but with no clear designation or theme. Currently the proposed layout occupies just over half the floor space and has been designed so that the building is split to allow half of it used for office accommodation. The two halves are separate and capable of individual operation. The front half would allow an independent letting for office use but preferably let to youth organisations.

The idea of a one stop shop for young people's services has been used extensively by Kids Company, in London. Camila Batmanghelidjh who runs the organisation specialises in very hard to reach young people. She insists that a large part of bad behaviour in young people can still be resolved with nothing more than practical help and support. Making it easy to access a range of information is key but coupled with practical support from youth workers in implementing it.

Two schemes -

The design solution provides two options, a low cost facility which uses some of the grounds outside the building or a more comprehensive solution which would make the club a real landmark in the community.

Option One-

can be developed on a sliding scale according to funds available but there is a minimum amount of work that should be undertaken to ensure success. We need to be clear that this is an ugly and institutional looking building and we have to transform some aspects of it –the front entrance which is truly appalling and looks like it should be in Beirut.

3.0) the shutters need a design on them to lighten up the feel and give the message of a building for young people

3.1) the internal ceiling tiles need to be removed

3.2) the walls need striping and then painted and designed with user input flooring needs changing from institutional carpet to a wood laminate or similar

3.4) the rear wall next to the conservatory should be removed and sliding glass doors installed to provide a link with the outside, all which could still be protected by shutters

3.5) general landscaping around the building and a fence to protect the perimeter, along with outdoor seating

3.6) climbing apparatus

Option Two –

4.0) the proposal retains the existing building but transforms it internally and externally.

4.1) internally; new roof-lights allow plenty of natural light into the centre of the building and dramatically raise the ceiling height and sense of space. The cafe is at the heart of the building and is shown as part of a larger space that could incorporate different activities and encourage informal participation.

The different size, colours and orientation of the roof-lights would create different types and feelings of space within the larger space.

4.2) Externally; the building would be re-skinned in a new multicoloured facade, possibly designed by an artist that would be distinctive, durable and could insulate and improve the thermal performance of the building.

4.3) the existing building would be re-roofed with a green roof to reduce solar gain and water run off. Externally the roof-lights would be visible from afar and would announce the building and its transformation from the street.

- 4.4) a curving brightly coloured wall weaves its way from inside to out and becomes the climbing wall. This forms a backdrop to the main space and allows for cellular rooms to be created behind which could be combined or divided as needs suit.
- 4.5) the same floor finish extending from interior to the outside would further tie the two spaces together.
- 4.6) the new external covered space allows the cafe to open out on pleasant days and has a basketball hoop and a climbing wall. All sorts of activities could be accommodated here and are always visible from the interior through the glazed sliding folding doors.
- 4.7) the external space is two storeys high and allows for the climbing wall to climb onto the roof of the existing building which also allows South light to penetrate the space.
- 4.8) a perimeter fence is shown for security but it may be that with the right material the space could be further enclosed. This requires further development beyond the scope of this initial feasibility.

The main aim of scheme two is the informal yet enclosed outdoor space that is ambiguous in its function and resembles public space.

One thing to consider with this latter scheme is it would be quite an increase in capacity but with expected amalgamation of the two councils, staff at Stanley youth centre could perhaps be involved in delivery of specific session work at the annex.

Importantly the larger scheme 2 maybe eligible for the latest round of big lottery grants. The government is looking for innovative youth centres to fund which must cost between £1-5million. Grant applications have to be submitted before August subject to further research. Their guidance for organisations applying is to use Bolton Boys and Girls Club as an example of what they are looking for. This club is open seven days per week twelve hours per day and also runs a mini bus service bringing young people to the club from outlying areas. If you are to apply for this grant a fuller operation will have to be included. The parts of the Bolton club that we have noticed work less well is young people's involvement in the centre operation, which we would hope to remedy i.e. young people delivering catering services and reusing this profit.

## Drawing Scheme 1 – Ground Floor Plan

## Drawing Scheme 2 – Ground Floor Plan

## Drawing Scheme 2 – First floor Plan

## Drawing Scheme 2 - Visual

### The Centre Management

We have assumed a staffing ratio of 1 member of staff per ten young people. This is generous, as most youth cafes/centres don't use as many or will use unpaid volunteers in order to staff their centres.

The profit and loss sheet show actual staff roles and expected earnings which have been based on the current mobile operation.

Activities should be taught utilising peers where possible but in a structured manner not as cheap labour. In particular it is important to involve young people but most clubs shy away from this when it comes to money claiming they have a duty of care. It could work with a budget set each year for stock with profit staying in the club to reward this peer to peer learning and pay for other staff roles undertaken by young people.

### Potential Partnerships

The building would be ideal to share with other organisations involved with young people. The front half of the building is available approximately 190 square metres and would probably work best with a shared entrance and reception. As young people would pass these offices every day coming into the centre it should achieve the ideal of support but not contaminating the youth café at the rear. Late working of these organisations on some evenings would make it even more accessible to them.

It should be borne in mind setting up a new facility always carry risks. People and organisations are often cautious in committing themselves especially if it's an ideal on a piece of paper. To help with discussions with other organisations we suggest a model and further drawings are used to supplement this report.

### Financial Sustainability

The number one question we have to answer when planning new facilities is what changes if we spend money, also is it good value and equally important how does it compare with other similar facilities.

The profit and loss projection shows an expected cost breakdown of running costs. The assumptions are –

Staff costs are similar to those paid to the youth bus facility

Existing rental figures for the annex are used i.e. £32k per annum plus service charge.

The financial information obtained from other centres is incomplete due to its sensitivity but we are able to make some useful deductions. Another issue is that people tend to exaggerate how many visits they receive a week. The other aspect is obviously the quality of youth work and the activities provided. Bearing all this in mind, I have broken down the operational cost into cost per young person's visit –

a) Centre a £15.50 per visit

b) Centre b £28 per visit

c) Derwentside £10.50 per visit scheme 1 at 340 visits per week –without hols

## Profit and Loss Scheme 1

## Profit and Loss Scheme 2

### The Building Costs

When pricing both schemes it is important to realise that a kitchen can cost £1500 from Ikea or £100,000 from Smallbone. It is all about the finishes which need to be specified and then subject to a proper costing by a quantity surveyor. Our estimate doesn't include a fit out of the office section in the front of the building, which is usually met by the tenant. They do assume a fully functioning building at present.

#### Scheme 1 Capital costs

Item Capital costs	Capital Price
Landscaping, paving, outdoor furniture & fencing	£10k-£15k
Tower climbing facility	£25k-£35k
Networking computer suite of twelve desktop computers, printers and server for graphics	£12k
External works shutters and entrance	£5k
Internal building alterations including rear garden access and decorations	£55k -£95k
Lounge and dining area furniture & flooring	£20k
Audio equipment, lighting rig, TV etc	£10k
Kitchen fit out including one sink and oven / hob for disabled use	£35k-£65k
Kitchen equipment	£12k
CCTV and alarm separation	£5k
	£189k - £274k

#### Scheme two – capital costs

Refurbishment cost interior @ £1,200 square metre x 460 = £552k

External building cost @ £1,800 square metre x 300 = £540k

Estimated cost £1,092,000

## Conclusion & Recommendations

In conclusion the building would make an ideal facility for a young person's resource for the following reasons –

5.0) it is located in the centre of town which is where young people naturally gravitate towards. Town centre areas usually have the additional benefit of not belonging to one particular group or gang. Facilities on estates or near villages tend to 'belong' more to one particular group who usually try and restrict its use to their members and friends

5.1) it has an external area which is essential if you want to stop it feeling too institutional or formal

5.2) Having a sports centre next door which is also linked internally could act as though its facilities were part of the youth centre. Youth workers could book an activity and then take groups in to participate, under their supervision. This would greatly reduce having to pay capital and operational cost for their own duplicated facilities. The same maybe true of the lamplight theatre and using their facilities at a small charge for drama and related courses

5.3) the building's construction with its steel columns and presumable steel frame make altering internal walls relatively easy.

5.4) The centre is large enough to provide a one stop shop of youth activities delivered by the youth service and support agencies that work with young people (such as connexions). This will give greater value for money than separate facilities and is inline with current government thinking of joined up service provision. However, I suggest research on which organisations you invite to work with you to get the maximum benefit. Two similar organisations I would discuss this with are Kids Company, London and Slough young people's centre, Berkshire. Lastly as the potential rental income for the front half of the building is only £16k it maybe worth offering it rent free to obtain the right partners

5.5) scheme two is a much more ambitious project, which proposes a large enclosed outside space that would blur inside and outside. Its aim is to replicate public space which is where the hard to reach young people are. Although it costs considerable more it may be eligible for more grant funding due to its innovative nature than scheme one. Currently the design is only indicative and was worked out with our architectural partners Pitman Tozer. More work would need to be completed on this. Scheme one is ready for discussion with others and a fuller costing exercise.

The drawbacks to the building are –

5.6) the location, as viewed by local people who may well be unhappy at the thought of more young people in the centre of town, as the planners have already indicated. Their concerns need to be listened too and resolved in a step by step manner while holding the line that long term solutions are about facilities for all and not marginalising young people by moving them out of sight. Discussions with planners indicated that some schemes would be acceptable

5.7) either scheme one or two will need up to date information on the previous grant stipulations of the annex building being for educational use only. It maybe informal learning outcomes are exceptable to circumvent repayment or if scheme two was the preferred option it could be cost effective to knock the annex down and start again. Wasteful as this may seem renovation and new build costs are about the same. If demolition avoided the repayment clause it would definitely be financial advantageous.

Possible funding solutions may come from having a joint facility with Stanley youth centre and the consequent cost savings of closing and or selling Stanley youth centre. There is also the possibility of grant funding particularly under the governments big lottery capital fund.

Finally this is a very ugly building particularly as seen through the eyes of young people but it can be radically altered to provide an exciting scheme. In order to sell its potential and ensure success for the community, it needs to have a proper budget for alterations and not undertaken with only the bare minimum.

## Appendix 1

Venue	Background
<b>Good Taste</b> , youth café 01276-707464	This is an existing café in Camberley high street, Surrey which is hired by the safer Surrey Health partnership. Coffee bar staff are supported by two youth workers. Aim: A safe environment Opening: Friday evening only Age range: Average attendance: 45 with a 60/40 split favouring girls Activities: No formal activities of any kind Comments
<b>Starbucks</b> , Epsom, Surrey	Same method as above
<b>Red Café, Mumbles</b> Swansea Chris Mathews, Manager 01792-362122 <a href="mailto:info@redcafe.org.uk">info@redcafe.org.uk</a>	Opened in 2001 in response to a community survey highlighting the need for a quality provision for teenagers. Operated by the church. Aim: Safe, supportive and comfortable environment to learn and develop social skills. Opening: Two evenings per week Age range: Average attendance: Activities: Size: Comments: The café also provides support for individuals who have been excluded from school during the day. A young persons and parent group one day per week and holiday activities for under 16's.
<b>Real McCafe</b> Ilfracombe Manager Keith Rickwood Devon youth services 01271-865824	Aim: Safe, supportive and comfortable environment with specific aim of removing young people hanging out on the sea front. Was originally a café on the sea front that closed. Free entry been in operation approx. 10 years Opening: Monday 7.30pm-9.30pm Wednesday 1pm-3pm for NEETS 4pm-6pm connexions worker attend. Friday 7pm-10pm Saturday 7pm-10pm Age range: Average attendance: Mon 30, Wed 10-12, 20, Fri 40-70, Sat 40 Activities: Has a pool room and a separate lounge area with a bar serving food Activities: Youth achievement award, youth

	<p>challenge, Red Cross babysitting</p> <p>Size: Approx 120 sq. metres</p> <p>Comments: This is very much a centre where staff know the young people and their parents. The town size is very similar to Stanley</p>
<p><b>Barcode</b></p> <p>Weston-super-mare</p> <p>Kate barcode_youth_cafe @hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>Aim: Safe, supportive and comfortable environment, original inspiration was friends the TV programme. It was a bar and nightclub previously and still retains that feel. Free entry. Been in operation approx 11 years</p> <p>Opening: Tues-Fri 5.30pm-9.30pm Sat 12 noon-9.30pm Holidays Tues-Sat 12-9.30pm</p> <p>Age range: 11-18 but informal arrangement of different ages for different nights split, 11-15, 15-18</p> <p>Average attendance: Tues 5, Wed 30, Thurs 20, Fri 150 (11-15's), Sat 20</p> <p>-first year of opening had circa 40,000 attendances</p> <p>Activities: Generally informal, few structured activities. Planned facilities include disco on Friday night (£3 entry fee), bands on Sat and karaoke on Wed.</p> <p>Size: Approx 270 sq metres (not including office etc)</p> <p>Comments: Very large place to hang out with leather settees, games consul and music video's emphasis on informal. No information / advice etc. but planning for book area and computer link. During the day the local sixth form college use it as their common room</p>
<p><b>Elgin</b> youth café</p> <p>Elgin Scotland</p> <p>Run by a charity</p> <p>013435-48300</p>	<p>Aim: Somewhere for young people to hang out. No other local youth clubs nearby.</p> <p>Opening: Tues, Wed, Thurs with around 70 in attendance during winter and 50 in summer</p> <p>Has a pub style of appearance and has table tennis and pool. It also has Sky TV and wee. There is a chill out area and a large hall for activities</p> <p>Size: 120 sq metres approx</p> <p>Is let during the day to other organisations</p>
<p><b>The Base</b> Tooting</p> <p>London Borough of Wandsworth</p> <p>020 8682-1181</p>	<p>This is a café drop in facility on the main high road with an emphasis on support for young people. There are no table tennis tables / pool and inside there are permanent support workers, offering help with personal problems and or obtaining</p>

	<p>employment. The front window is full of job vacancies.</p> <p>Opening: Monday to Friday 1.30 to 9pm.</p>
<p><b>SYPC</b> - Slough Young People's Centre Slough, Berks.</p>	<p>Aim: This isn't technically a youth café but is a drop in centre offering career advice, counselling, normal youth centre facilities and a lot of accredited courses. It is a large centre within an old post office sorting centre with a good town centre location.</p> <p>Opening: Mornings YP can drop in for counselling only. 2.30pm-5.30pm drop in to play pool etc and chill out 5.30-9pm courses only</p> <p>Age range:</p> <p>Average attendance:</p> <p>Activities:</p> <p>Size:</p> <p>Comments: Very good staff involvement with this project. The whole attitude is one of supporting young people with their problems not just getting them through a number of courses. The amount of counselling organised through the centre is quite staggering.</p> <p>Budget:</p>

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Council Transition Plan – Progress Update</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Community Safety &amp; Strong Communities and Environment &amp; Health Joint Scrutiny Panel - Thursday - 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2008</b>
<b>BY:</b>	<b>Gordon Elliott Director of Corporate Administration and Policy</b>

## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 This report updates the Scrutiny Panel on progress with the Council's Local Government Review Transition Plan.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 In common with the other Durham Districts, the Council recently agreed a Transition Plan to aid the process of transferring responsibility for its functions and localities to the County Council by Vesting Day on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2009.
- 2.2 Within the plan, a number of key issues were detailed categorised around the Council's Corporate Aims. Those issues contained within the report were included to meet one of the following objectives:
- (i) to highlight projects/initiatives with a future funding shortfall to the County Council;
  - (ii) to highlight best practice;
  - (iii) to ensure community views are communicated to the County Council and that there are robust community engagement mechanisms post the District Council;
  - (iv) set out priorities for the forthcoming year;
  - (v) highlight on-going partnership arrangements for the County Council.

## **3. Matters for Consideration**

- 3.1 Implementing the Transition Plan will clearly be critical for the District Council. In order to assist in this process, this joint panel has been tasked with monitoring its progress, and attached to this report is a brief summary of the current position against the various targets within the full document. Copies of the full plan are available in the Members' Library

as well as being included in the Full Council agenda of 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2008.

3.2 In presenting the Plan to the panel, it is intended to focus on:

- (i) explaining any delays in targets;
- (ii) explaining any unclear targets;
- (iii) seeking the panel's views on how it might add value to key issues contained in the Plan;
- (iv) seeking views on any potential additions to the document.

#### **4. Recommendation**

4.1 Members are requested to note the content of this report and to comment on the issues highlighted in Section 3.

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
<b>Corporate Administration &amp; Policy Directorate</b>						
CCTV Network	Executive	June 2008 Contract extension  Sept 2008 Evaluation Report	In consultation with Genesis  Delay in collating information and issues with regard to staffing resources	Lee Spraggon	July 2008  CCTV 'Evaluation Officer' now leading on Place Survey as part of LGR process and this has resulted in a delay in the CCTV evaluation  Revised target date – Dec 2008	Community Safety pg 11
Community Engagement Mechanism	Executive  CYP Challenge Board	To be determined  September 2008	  Progressing to target	Angela Harrington	  On target	Strong Communities pg14
Derwentside Partnership	LSP Executive Board	July 2008 Priorities and resource allocation	Priorities for use identified, funding to be identified and allocated	Berni Whittaker	On target	Strong Communities pg16

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
Stanley Green Corridor	LSP Executive Board	July 2008 Update on succession plan	Progressing	Berni Whittaker	On target	Strong Communities pg 17
Customer Services	Executive	June 2008 Accreditation	Reviewing approach by all 7 districts and county with regard to which accreditation will be adopted	Lee Spraggon	Accrediting the County Control Centre rather than all Districts is under consideration. If approved (by government) report to Exec will not be required	Strong Communities Pg 18
Play Partnership & Play Strategy	Durham CYP Programme Board	December 2008 Future delivery of play	Progressing	Gordon Elliott	On target	Strong Communities Pg 19
Careline	Executive	June 2008 Partnership approach	A risk assessment has been completed for a partnership the result of which was that this was not feasible to progress.	Lee Spraggon	Careline provision across the County to be considered by the Access to Services W/stream	Health Pg 21
	Executive	November 2008 Feedback on warden relocation	Access to Services Workstream currently reviewing future options for the service		On target	

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
Reducing Health Inequalities Beacon Award	Adult, Wellbeing and Health Services Programme Brd	September 2008	Progressing	Berni Whitaker	On target	Health Pg 22
Community Health Facilities – Shotley Bridge Hospital	Executive	Various updates throughout year – no specific dates given	Progressing	Gordon Elliott	Progressing	Health Pg 25
	Adult Health and Wellbeing – Improving Health Workstream	Report	Progressing		On target	
Contractual arrangements with partner organisations	Executive  Corporate Support Prog, Legal Democracy and Finance	August 2008 Transfer arrangements  Report highlighting implications for Unitary Council	Legal advice has been sought with regard to this matter and details of arrangements have been fed into the respective LGR workstreams	Gordon Elliott	Awaiting legal advice with regard to contractual arrangements.  Revised target date to be agreed	Excellence Pg 43

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
<b><i>Development &amp; Asset Management Directorate</i></b>						
Consett Sports Project	Full Council	June 2008 – Confirmation of preferred development content	Options on preferred development content to be reported to Members for decision on 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	John Pearson	On target	Health Pg 26
Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI)	Economic Inclusion and Area Based Regeneration Workstream	Ongoing	Ongoing consideration. Subject to decision on service structures by Unitary Authority	John Pearson	Ongoing	Economy Pg 30
Derwentside Industrial Development Agency (DIDA) Merger Proposal	Business and Economic Workstream	Ongoing	Ongoing consideration. Subject to decision on service structures by Unitary Authority	John Pearson	Ongoing	Economy Pg 31
Tanfield lea Business Centre	Executive	September 2008 Contract progress report	Progressing	Peter McDowell	On target	Economy Pg 32

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
<b><i>Environmental Services Directorate</i></b>						
South Moor Park, Stanley	Executive  Play, Leisure and Positive Activities for Young People Workstream	May 2008 Request for resources to meet funding shortfall  June 2008 – Report – Update (dependent on outcome of Full Council decision in May 2008)	Options Report presented to Full Council on 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2008 – Council agreed, in principle, to support the South Moor Park revitalisation project subject to a further report detailing cost implications of the project.	Peter Reynolds	Completed	Health Pg 28
Disposal of woodland to Groundwork West Durham & Darlington	Executive	September 2008 Business case for consideration	Consultation with ward councilors is currently taking place with regard to the disposal of the woodland assets at an under value.	Peter Reynolds	On target	Environment Pg 34

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
	Natural and Built and Environment Workstream – Environment Neighbourhoods Board	September 2008 Report – Update			On target	
	Unitary Executive	February 2009			On target	
Village and town centre initiatives	Executive	September 2008 Update	Individual reports with regard to each project that supports the town and village centre initiatives will be brought to Executive throughout the year within the profiled capital spend 2008/09	Peter Reynolds	Progressing through 2008/09	Environment Pg 36
	Executive	February 2009	Currently updating Empty Property Strategy	Malcolm Mather	February 2009	

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
<b>Finance Directorate</b>						
Revenues & benefits Voice Software – Voice Risk Analysis	Executive	October 2008 Evaluation report on pilot	Progressing	Ian Ferguson	On target	Health Pg 27
Contributions to Parish Councils	County Executive	July – December 2008	Progressing	Dave Watson	On target	Strong Communities Pg 15
<b>Executive Directorate</b>						
Stanley Town Council	Executive	December 2008	Progressing	Mike Clark	On target	Excellence Pg 42
Family Intervention Project	Corporate Services Programme Brd	May 2008	'Business as usual' form submitted	Kath Heathcote	On target	Community Safety Pg 10
DISC Remain Safe project	Unitary Authority Executive	May 2008	Mapping work currently being undertaken by Strategic Housing and Community Safety workstreams to determine extent of existing services and level of mainstream funding (if any)	Kath Heathcote	If any, December 2008	Community Safety Pg 12

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
Derwentside Care & Repair	Unitary Authority Executive	February 2009	Financial assistance Policy group established including mapping work of current HIA role/funding. Group to recommend requirement for and content of report.	Kath Heathcote	On target	Health Pg 23
Countrywide Handyperson Service	Corporate Services Programme Board	Report required as part of budget setting process for 2009/10	'Business as usual' form submitted	Kath Heathcote	On target	Health Pg 24
Disposal of land to Derwentside Homes	AMG CMT Executive if required		Legal advice note received 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2008	Kath Heathcote	Ongoing	Environment Pg 35
Future Supporting people commissioning priorities	To be determined	To be determined	Group established to identify sites for a teenage parent scheme in the north of the County and young persons homeless unit in the south of the county, and to progress with Derwentside woman's	Kath Heathcote	Ongoing	Environment Pg 37

## Transition Plan 2008/09

### Monitoring of Key Decisions – Quarter 1

Key Decision	Committee	Anticipated date – Committee Report	Update with regard to progress	Responsible Officer	Revised Target date	Corporate Aim
			refuge reprovision. Adult and Community Services commissioning team to lead. Report may be required for Executive if DDC proposing to transfer land to RSL at reduced value.			
Craghead Housing Interventions Project	DDC CMT Possibly Unitary Authority Executive	To be determined - Legacy report required.  February 2009	Project progressing on target in line with project plan. Continuity of project beyond 2009 being progressed by Strategic Housing Workstream.	Kath Heathcote	Decision taken - February 2009	Environment Pg 38
More than a roof project	Executive	To be determined Consultants to be commissioned	Consultants commissioned to review & evaluate service, SP agreed funding at lower level than present, review to complete September 2008	Kath Heathcote	Ongoing	Environment Pg 39
D.D.C. Comprehensive Strategic Housing Service	Not applicable	Not applicable	This information informs broader reports as part of the LGR transition process.	Kath Heathcote	Not applicable	Environment Pg 40