THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON

HELD ON THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2005

Present: Councillor Mrs. J. Maitland (Chair)

Councillors S. Bishop, A. Burnip, P.J. Campbell, A. Collinson, Mrs. E.M. Connor, R. Davison, Mrs. J. Freak, K. Gallagher, J. Goodwin, H. High, A.J. Holmes, S. Huntington,

B. Joyce, R. Liddle, T. Longstaff, Mrs. S. Mason, D. Myers, A. Napier, Mrs. A. Naylor, C. Patching, G. Patterson, W.R. Peardon, G. Pinkney, B. Quinn, D. Raine, F. Shaw, Mrs. B.A. Sloan, P. Stradling,

D.J. Taylor-Gooby, R. Taylor, R.J. Todd and

P.G. Ward

1. USE OF RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

The Chair welcomed S. Nicklin, District Auditor and P. Heppell, Audit Manager from the Audit Commission who were in attendance to brief Members on the Use of Resources Assessment.

S Nicklin gave an overview to Members of the new consultation on the CPA framework. He explained that there were five options but all included a Use of Resources Assessment and Direction of Travel. The purpose of the presentation today was to discuss the Use of Resources Assessment.

P Heppell explained that an Annual Use of Resources Assessment would apply to all Councils from this year and was a key part of CPA. The Annual Assessment would be expressed as a score between 1 and 4 and would be strongly linked to the value for money opinion under the new Code of Audit Practice. This year self-assessments had to be returned by 30th September, 2005 with a draft Audit Commission Assessment in February 2006 and publication by 31st March, 2006.

The themes within the Use of Resources Assessment were:-

financial reporting financial management financial standing internal control value for money

In terms of Value for Money, the assessment would take an overall view about whether the Council as a whole provided value for money, how it compared to others, considering local context and quality of services and would take account of statements prepared by the Council for the Efficiency Review. Self-assessment would provide information on rationale for local decision-making and prioritisation. P. Heppell then proceeded to outline the scoring process and what was required to achieve level 2 - adequate performance to level 4 - performing strongly.

Key issues for the Councils were that the Use of Resources Assessment was more demanding and strategic and scores may decrease. There was a need to nominate a key Member and Officer to liaise with the Audit Commission. Completion of the Value for Money self-assessment was challenging and whilst there was no requirement for self-assessment for non-value for money use of resources elements it would provide the Council with a good insight into its procedures and provide the Audit Commission with an understanding of the Council's position.

Following discussion the Leader of the Council welcomed the opportunity to discuss the Use of Resources Assessment further with the Audit Commission.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

2. THE DARZI REVIEW AND COMMISSIONING A PATIENT LED NHS

The Chair welcomed Dr. R. Bolas, Chief Executive and H. Byrne, Deputy Chief Executive from Easington PCT who were in attendance to discuss the Darzi Review and Commissioning a Patient Led NHS.

(i) The Darzi Review

Dr. Bolas advised that in August 2004, Professor Darzi was asked by the Department of Health to provide advice to the Strategic Health Authority on how to maintain the fullest range of services at Hartlepool Hospital taking into account earlier review work and acute and primary care services on Teesside generally, issues relating to the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton and the impact of centralisation of specialist services at the James Cook University Hospital.

Currently, there were four hospitals within two Trusts, the North Tees and Hartlepool Trust and the South Tees Trust, serving seven main Primary Care Trusts and a population of 800,000 people. It was recognised that primary care was under developed in some areas with a greater than normal reliance on acute services.

He briefed Members on the factors driving the change which included the need to improve capacity and quality of services to support the delivery of the NHS plan, advances in medical technology were changing the way health authorities were working and there had been an increase in medical specialisation. Other factors included junior doctors' hours reduction, the European Working Time Directive and the shortages of key clinical staff.

Dr Bolas outlined proposals for the University Hospital at Hartlepool, the University Hospital of North Tees and the South Tees Trust. Further work identified was the continuation of crucial investment and development in primary care to make services even more local and reduce reliance on hospitals, looking at new ways of working and reviewing transport links. Some capital investment was needed to support service changes in the north of the Tees. Detailed work was also required on the development of the proposals, including costs, timescales and consultation.

In response to a question Dr. Bolas assured Members that work on issues surrounding transport was continuing.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

(ii) Commissioning a Patient-Led NHS

H. Byrne advised that proposals on reconfiguration for the Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) and PCTs were being developed across the country. Regional SHAs, under the Commissioning a Patient-Led NHS report, must submit their proposals to the Department of Health by 15 October 2005. The Department of Health would then decide whether to proceed with consultation by the end of November 2005. Statutory consultation would be completed by the end of March 2006 and all reconfiguration should be completed by October 2006 and a full roll-out of Practice Based Commissioning by December 2006. Changes to PCT provision would be completed by December 2008.

She then proceeded to outline the criteria used to determine the new organisations. She advised that the Strategic Health Authority had been asked to submit proposals against the following criteria:-

- Secure high quality, safe services
- Improve health and reduce inequalities
- Improve the engagement of GPs and roll-out of practice based commissioning with demonstrable practice support
- Improve public involvement
- Improve co-ordination with Social Services through greater congruence of PCT and local government boundaries
- The delivery of at least 15% reduction in management and administrative costs
- £250 million saving

The role of PCTs in the future would be to improve the health of the community and reduce health inequalities, secure the provision of safe high quality services, engage with local people and other local service providers to ensure access to integrated health and social care services was provided and to act as a provider of services only where it was not possible to have separate providers.

Currently, PCTs were in discussion together and with the Strategic Health Authority about future options and early work was being done on the possible configuration of provider services. Easington PCT was working with partners to influence the future configuration particularly in relation to the allocation for 2006/2008, relationships with provider organisations and health inequalities.

Dr. Bolas re-assured Members that the PCT was committed to getting the best possible services for the people of Easington and would look at opportunities within these proposals for Easington District. To ensure that Easington did not lose out by not being a provider of service it was recognised that it needed to look at how it commissioned services. The PCT had decided to be part of a syndicate of Durham and Darlington PCTs and look at how the money secured for 2006/2008 could be directed towards Easington. A clear commitment had been received from the Strategic Health Authority that they were fully committed to helping Easington through this and the PCT would welcome the Council's support throughout the process. It was important to embrace the changes and get the best deal for the District. He felt that the PCT was in a strong position because of support from its partners.

On behalf of the Council the Leader of the Council conveyed support to Easington PCT. He felt that Members of the public needed a strong local voice to speak on their behalf. It was suggested that the meeting to discuss the Darzi proposals in October 2005 should also discuss commissioning a patient-led NHS.

The Executive Member for Health emphasised the importance of the PCT's commitment to service improvement and its continued work to expand the provision of community based services across the District.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted and the Council support Easington PCT throughout the process.

- 3. **THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON** held on 7th July, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were confirmed.
- 4. THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON held on 14th July, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

RESOLVED that the information contained within the Minutes, be noted.

5. THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON held on 21st July, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

RESOLVED that the information contained within the Minutes, be noted.

6. THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON held on 28th July, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

RESOLVED that the information contained within the Minutes, be noted subject to Minute numbered 3 being amended to read as follows:-

"3. HIGH HEDGES POLICY

RESOLVED that the duties relating to the high hedges complaints be determined by the Development Control and Regulatory Panel on behalf of the Council and the fee for this service be set at £300."

7. **THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE** held on 28th July, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

RESOLVED that the decision taken be noted.

8. **THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE** held on 10th August, 2005, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were submitted.

RESOLVED that the decision taken be noted.

9. PROPOSED TREE PRESERVATION ORDER AT 13 THE VILLAGE, CASTLE EDEN

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Planning and Building Control Services on a proposed Tree Preservation Order at 13 The Village, Castle Eden, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

The report asked Members to confirm a Tree Preservation Order in respect of land at 13 The Village, Castle Eden. A temporary Order had been granted on 2nd March, 2005 for a period of six months. During this period representations from interested parties had been invited and one letter of support had been received but no objections.

It was considered that the subject trees provided significant visual amenity within the surrounding area which was of particular importance within a Conservation Area. Furthermore, this amenity value tended to increase over time as trees became more mature.

It was therefore considered expedient to make this Order having regard to the amenity value of the trees, and having regard to the threat of felling which the trees were under.

RESOLVED that the District of Easington (13 The Village, Castle Eden) Tree Preservation Order 2005, be confirmed.

11. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK ADVISORY PANEL (LDF)

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Environment and Transport which sought approval for new arrangements to engage Members in the production of development plan documents in the Local Development Framework. A copy of the report had been circulated to each Member.

It was proposed that a Panel be set up which would engage Members in much earlier stages of LDF development plan preparation to guide the formulation of preferred options in response to community participation. A timetable of the proposed process was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) an Advisory Panel be set up to engage Members in the preparation of development plan documents at appropriate stages identified in the Council's adopted Local Development Scheme;
- (b) the Panel consist of the following Members:-

Executive Member for Regeneration

Executive Member for Environment and Transport Chair of Development Control and Regulatory Panel

1 Member of the Minority Group

1 Member of Scrutiny Management Board

Chair and 1 other Member of each of the Area Forums

12. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Personnel and Payroll which sought approval to the adoption of a Safeguarding Children Policy, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

The proposed Policy was attached to the report for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Safeguarding Children Policy be adopted;
- (b) the Head of Personnel and Payroll be nominated as the Authority's responsible Safeguarding Children Officer and the Health and Safety Manager be his/her nominated deputy;
- (c) Service Delivery Scrutiny Committee receive an annual report on Safeguarding Children activity as outlined in Section 4.3 of the report;
- (d) the Policy be made available to Parish/Town Councils and community groups and recommended as good practice with a possible template to help them develop their own arrangements for meeting their duty of care:

13. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONSULTATION ON SMOKING LEGISLATION

Consideration was given to the report of the Executive Member for Health which gave details of consultation on Department of Health Smoking Legislation, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

The report highlighted the issues raised in the Department of Health Consultation on the smoke-free elements of the Health Improvement and Protection Bill. The main part of the Department of Health Consultation Paper invited a response to a series of issues surrounding the Government's favoured option which was to make all indoor public places and workplaces completely smoke free with exemptions. The Department of Health sought detailed comments on their preferred choice as well as any general comments by 5th September, 2005.

The report considered the options in the context of Easington, and local evidence supported the view that the exemptions would make health inequalities worse, not better. Therefore it was recommended that a total ban on smoking in workplaces and enclosed public spaces be called for as outlined in Option 2.

A copy of the response was attached to the report for consideration.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the consultation from the Department of Health on the Smoke Free Elements of the Health Improvement and Protection Bill, be noted;
- (b) Option 2 be supported and the proposed response to the Department of Health, be approved.

14. URGENT DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE REPLACING THE PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL IT SYSTEM

The Chief Executive reported that the Executive, at its meeting on 5th July 2005 considered that the decision taken in respect of the above-mentioned report was urgent and should not be subject to the call-in process for the reasons given.

In accordance with the procedure set out in the Council's Constitution relating to call-in and urgency, the Chair of the Council, in consultation with the Chairs and/or Vice-Chairs of the Scrutiny Committees had agreed that the decision was reasonable and urgent and should not be subject to call-in.

RESOLVED that the decision taken be noted.

15. TO SEAL DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED that the action taken in affixing the Common Seal to the following documents, be endorsed:-

18761	Service Level Agreement made between EDC (1) and Crutes Solicitors (2) relating to Provision of Legal Services
18762	Deed of Rectification made between EDC (1) and June Dixon and Robert Surtees (2) and Halifax PLC (3) relating to 77 Hessewelle Crescent Haswell
18763	Conveyance made between EDC (1) and Iain Turnbull (20 relating to land at Quilstyle Road Wheatley Hill
18764	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between ECD (1) and Andrea Michelle Brown (2) relating to 103 Bruce Glasier Terrace Shotton Colliery
18765	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Michael Stephen Oram and Claire Louise Graham (2) relating to 34 Herton Close Peterlee
18766	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Keith and Margaret Wilkinson (2) relating to 14 Dawson Road Wingate
18767	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Kevin Burdon and Lynne Spurr (2) relating to 4 Tyne Street Seaham
18768	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Josephine Moore (2) relating to garage no 10 Derwent Road Peterlee

18769	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Janet Darby (2) relating to 74 Eastlea, Thornley
18770	Transfer of part of registered titles made between EDC (1) and Janice Lawson (2) relating to 12 West Crescent Easington
18771	Lease made between EDC (1) and S Robinson (2) relating to 68 York Road Peterlee
18772	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Anthony Paul and Gillian Hume (2) relating to 76 Gloucester Place Peterlee
18773	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Shaun and Shirley Egan (2) relating to 37 Tweddle Crescent Blackhall Rocks
18774	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Paul Andrew and Kimble Watson (2) relating to 48 Quantock Place Peterlee
18775	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and lain Doherty and Tracey Doherty (2) relating to 13 Pentland Close Peterlee
18776	Deed of release and variation made between EDC (1) and Alfred Henry Peacock and Dorothy Peacock (2) relating to land at Rear of 8 Bevan Crescent Wheatley Hill
18777	Deed of grant made between EDC (1) and Alfred Henry Peacock and Dorothy Peacock (2) relating to rights of way over land being 1,2,3,4,9,14,15,16 Bevan Crescent Wheatley Hill
18778	Cancellation of entries relating to a registered charge relating to 49 Cleveland Place Peterlee DU89769
18779	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Emma Davison (2) relating to No. 71 Chapel Hill Road, Peterlee
18780	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Robert Richard and Karen Deakin (2) relating to No. 55 Westmorland Rise, Peterlee
18781	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Lisa Maria and Andrew James Ord (2) relating to No. 11 Wesley Way, Seaham
18782	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Teresa Filon (2) relating to No. 2 Shinwell Crescent, Thornley
18783	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Janet Aspinall (2) relating to No. 37 Peterlee Cottages, Wheatley Hill
18784	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Julie Ann Keighley and Christopher Bewick (2) relating to 18

	Bailey Rise, Peterlee
18785	Lease made between EDC (1) and Mr Neil Watson (2) relating to 33 Oakerside Drive, Peterlee
18786	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Mary Ann Anderson (2) relating to 17 Bruce Crescent Wingate
18787	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC(1) and Beverley and Christopher Longstaff (2) relating to 66 Newholme Estate, Station Town
18788	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Paul and Julie Morgan (2) relating to 35 Heathway, Seaham
18789	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Jacqueline Stanger (2) relating to 32 Dawson Road, Wingate
18790	Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 for the prevention of obstruction of those streets set out in the Order – 21 July 2005 Seaham Carnival
18791	Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 for the prevention of obstruction of those streets set out in the Order – 21 July 2005 Seaham (Docks open day)
18792	Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses act 1847 for the prevention of obstruction of those streets set out in the Order – 21 July 2005 Peterlee (Peterlee Show)
18793	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Carole Hammond and William Dobson (2) relating to 12 Ambleside Close, Peterlee
18794	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and James Colin and Mary Richardson (2) relating to 48 Kingston Avenue, Seaham
18795	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Emma Dodds (2) relating to 17 Weston View, Peterlee
18796	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Stephen Jones(2) relating to 4 Sledmere Close, Peterlee
18797	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Alan and Sharon Hardy (2) relating to 33 Williamson Square, Wingate
18798	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Catherine Campbell and Malcolm Macauley Campbell (2) relating to garage at 3 Christchurch place, Peterlee
18799	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Carly Milsom (2) relating to 5 Beck Place, Peterlee
18800	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and

	Malcolm and Catherine Campbell (2) relating to 24 Christchurch Place, Peterlee
18801	Lease made between EDC (1) and Steven Andrew Smith and Julie Craggs relating to residential flat situate and known as 100 Acre Rigg Road, Peterlee
18802	Transfer of part of registered Title(s) made between EDC(1) and Robert and Doris Hall (2) relating to 116 Hatfield Place, Peterlee
18803	General Vesting Declaration made between EDC (1) and Easington Colliery (Butler Street, Boyd Street and Bolam Street) Peterlee, Compulsory Purchase Order (in duplicate).
18804	Deed of Rectification made between EDC (1) and Julie Alice Blades (2) relating to 3 Watkin Crescent, Murton.
18805	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Kenneth and June Payne (2) relating to land at rear of $17-20$ Seaton Crescent, Seaham.
18806	Deed of Rectification made between EDC (1) and Charles Woollett Honnor and Elizabeth Honnor (2) relating to 17 Turnbull Crescent, Murton.
18807	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and William Anthony Liddicoat and Nancy Liddicoat (2) relating to garage no 3 Firemans Houses, Seaham.
18808	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Stephen and Christine Hardy (2) relating to 8 Gully Road, Wingate.
18809	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and James Martin Kristenson (2) relating to Garage Number 9 Sophia Street, Seaham
18810	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Gary and Julie Elliott (2) relating to 22 Hawthorn Crescent, Horden
18811	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Paul Thomas Walton (2) relating to 12 Gore Hill Estate, Thornley
18812	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Suzanne and John Taylor (2) relating to 26 Blackdown Close, Peterlee
18813	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Philip Ritson and Pauline Robson (2) relating to 9 Davies Walk, Horden
18814	Cancellation of Entries relating to a Registered Charge relating to 186 The Avenue, Seaham, Title Number DU265545
18815	Deed of Grant in Triplicate between Persimmon Homes and EDC

	(1) to Northern Electric Distribution Limited relating to Electric Lines and Apparatus at Thornlaw North, Thornley
18816	Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Millicent Rose Black (2) relating to 11 Dawdon Crescent, Seaham
18817	Transfer of Part of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Leslie Coxon (2) relating to 3 Lincoln Walk, Peterlee
18818	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and George Hewitt Richardson (2) relating to No. 5 Hazel Crescent, Easington
18819	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Martin Joseph Cave and Susan Mace (2) relating to No. 35 Southway, Peterlee
18820	Cancellation of Entries relating to a Registered Charge relating to 100 Princess Road, Seaham - Title No. DU 47452
18821	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Graham Alan Ashcroft and Jacqueline Ashcroft (2) relating to 51 Attlee Avenue, Blackhall
18822	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Brian Stokoe (2) relating to 6 Ruskin Crescent, Thornley
18823	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Tracey Veitch and Tracy Miller (2) relating to 20 Jasmine Crescent, Seaham
18824	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Karen Taylor (2) relating to 24 Hessewelle Crescent, Haswell Plough
18825	Contract (in duplicate) between EDC (1) and Frank Haslam Milan and Co Ltd (2) relating to Decent Homes Scheme at Northlea Phase I
18826	Transfer of Whole of Registered Title(s) made between EDC (1) and Paul Lincoln and Leslie Waugh (2) relating to Land at Margaret Terrace, Deaf Hill, Trimdon Station
18827	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Judith Anne Foster (2) relating to 13 Gloucester Place, Peterlee
18828	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Helen Louise Cockcroft (2) relating to 31 A J Cook Terrace, Shotton
18829	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Lee Whiting and Lesley Anne Bradley (2) relating to 10 Ferndale Close, Station Town
18830	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Louise Evans (2) relating to 19 Duddon Close, Peterlee

18831	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Helen Eliza Forsyth (2) relating to 12 Sledmere Close, Peterlee
18832	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Darren Ridden and Joanne Louise Ridden (2) relating to 30 Market Crescent, Wingate
18833	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and John Bates (2) relating to 50 Hazel Drive, Hesleden
18834	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Matthew Roy Littler (2) relating to 15 Cook Crescent, Murton
18835	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and Joseph Edward Kamara and Natasha Elizabeth Frater (2) relating to 141 Basingstoke Road, Peterlee
18836	Transfer of part of registered title(s) made between EDC (1) and David Wilson and Zoe Wilson (2) relating to 13 Kilnhill Walk, Peterlee
18837	Agreement made between EDC (1) and Lift Able Limited (2) relating to Contract for Provision of Stairlifts to 4 Nr Properties (in duplicate)

JE/PH com/dist/050902 27th September, 2005